



CHAARUSHENA DEB—THE TECH

HackMIT, one of the largest college hackathons, draws undergraduate students from all over the country. This year, two of the top eight teams were disqualified after an investigation by HackMIT organizers.

Two HackMIT teams disqualified for misrepresenting their hacks

Prizes for second-place MIT sophomore team 'Seamless' revoked after an investigation into plagiarism accusations

By Jennifer F. Switzer and Kath Xu

Two of HackMIT's top eight finalists were disqualified last month after it was discovered that they had "misrepresented" what they accomplished, according to a HackMIT blog post. One of the teams, a group of three MIT sophomores calling themselves Seamless, originally came in second and were awarded \$3,000. The other team, AgileAssault, did not make the top three, but received a \$1,000 prize for placing in the top eight.

Seamless presented code that could allegedly animate still images and smooth the transition between looping videos, basing their work on a Microsoft paper published last year. The team consisted of Kevin Kwok '17, Nikhil Buduma '17, and Guillermo Webster '17. The contestants claimed to have implemented an algorithm that was originally the result of the collaboration of multiple people at Microsoft Research and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

HackMIT, which with 900 participants

was among the largest hackathons in the country this year, was prompted to investigate the possibility that Seamless had cheated when other participants pointed out that the demo videos they presented as their results were identical to those published by Microsoft Research.

The competition operates under an "honor code" according to its organizers — participants are not allowed to work on projects before the hackathon starts and must state any borrowed code. "When an issue comes up like this, HackMIT's policy is to give the team the benefit of the doubt," HackMIT Director Katie Siegel '16 said in an interview with *The Tech*. "We sit down and talk it over with them, and try to get a better sense of what is going on. That being said, we also don't want to reward people who misrepresent their accomplishments."

"They did implement everything they said, but going over it there was some confusion as to what kind of results they actually got," said Siegel. "It was difficult to see if their implementation was cor-

rect, so they agreed to voluntarily step down." Her statement seemed at odds with a HackMIT blog post that said the organization "disqualified" two projects.

The videos presented onstage were taken from the Microsoft researchers' webpage, Siegel said, though she added that the Seamless team only "used them in the context of showing the power of the algorithm."

However, in a recording of their final HackMIT presentation, which is available online, the Seamless team members are seen indicating multiple times that the looping videos were generated by their own implementation of Microsoft's algorithm.

During their presentation, Buduma stated, "Now our algorithm then operates... to remove that cut to make that, again, a seamless loop. The way this works is we identify regions of various periodicities, based on the methods that were described in that Microsoft paper."

HackMIT, Page 11

IN SHORT

There is no class Monday and Tuesday for the Veteran's Day holiday. *The Tech* will not be publishing on Tuesday.

Drop date is on Wednesday Nov. 19. Be sure to finish submitting your changes to <http://studentformsandpetitions.mit.edu> by 11:59 p.m. that night!

It's On Us Campaign will hold a kick-off from Nov. 12-14 to promote sexual assault awareness at MIT. The campaign will also have a booth in Lobby 10.

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

'It's On Us' campaign kicks off Wednesday

National initiative for college sexual assault awareness comes to the Institute

By Patricia Dominguez
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

MIT will hold a kickoff next week for the "It's On Us" campaign, a national initiative to promote sexual assault awareness on college campuses.

In September, the White House contacted representatives from the Undergraduate Association (UA) and the Graduate Student Council (GSC), inviting MIT to become one of the national campaign's campus partners. The invitation was then approved by MIT's Title IX Investigator, Sarah Rankin, and the Title IX Working Group, a committee made

up of student representatives of various organizations, including the UA, the GSC, the Interfraternity Council (IFC), the MIT Panhellenic Association (Panhel), Dormcon, Stop Our Silence, Queer West, and many others.

The Title IX Working Group will be promoting the campaign in Lobby 10 next week. Free "swag" will be distributed to students, including t-shirts, stickers, and water bottles. A photo booth will also be available, with the idea that the pictures will then be spread on social media sites to publicize the campaign.

Title IX, Page 9



VIVIAN HU—THE TECH

A group of friends help a novice skater at last Friday's Spooky Skate. The annual event, hosted by SaveTFP, held a costume contest and had snacks for the skaters.

First free bitcoin reaches undergrads after launch of MIT study

Students receive \$100 in bitcoin after registering, Bitcoin Club eager to see how the distributed currency moves

By Katherine Nazemi
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The much-anticipated MIT Bitcoin Project launched last week, giving students one week to register as participants. Students who signed up and completed a survey by midnight last Sunday will receive \$100 in bitcoin over the next month as the distribution phase of the project begins, though bitcoin has been distributed to some students already.

Part research endeavor, part attempt to bring innovation in digital

currency to MIT, the MIT Bitcoin Project aims to create an "ecosystem" for bitcoin at MIT and to study how students use the bitcoin they receive.

The project has been approved by the Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects, and neither Dan Elitzer nor Jeremy Rubin, the project's creators, were allowed to comment on the research during the data-collection phase. However, members of the MIT Bitcoin Club speculated that researchers might gather data from the Blockchain — the public ledger

of all bitcoin transactions.

"I would want to know where most of the money ends up," said Jonathan Harvey Buschel '18, member of the MIT Bitcoin Club. "And to see how much stays in MIT."

Researchers may also get additional data from the digital wallets who partnered with them on the project, which include Circle and Coinbase. For students who signed up with these wallets and chose to make their wallet addresses public, it may be possible to see how bitcoin moves around.

The total number of undergraduates who signed up is confidential, but the unofficial tally is "a lot," said Jinglan Wang, a Wellesley student and member of the MIT Bitcoin Club. And while some of these students may be experienced with bitcoin, others will also be first-time users.

For these students who are less familiar with the digital currency, the best way to get comfortable with it is to "explore by doing," said Chelsea Barabas, graduate student and MIT Bitcoin Club member. "Get your feet wet," she advised.

"Get a wallet, transfer some bitcoin, and see how fast and easy it is."

"People are aware on a very vague level that bitcoin exists," said Buschel. "The goal is to get people educated about it."

And for those students who do have experience using and developing for Bitcoin, the project hopes to see innovative new applications spring up now that their peers will have access to bitcoin as well.

"Throw a cool concept at a bunch of smart people — something cool is bound to happen," said Buschel.

DIVESTMENT AND KOCH BROTHERS

Put some space between MIT and the Kochs. **OPINION, p. 4**

TRADITIONAL WISDOM

Doesn't keep you from hitting the snooze button. **FUN, p. 5**

MFA AFTER HOURS

A different way to see the museum for students before Halloween. **ARTS, p. 7**



THE REAL STORY OF TIM THE BEAVER

A tale of how far some students will go to pass 7.012. **FUN, p. 5**

INTERNATIONAL ARTS EVENT

Infinite Record project comes to MIT. **ARTS, p. 7**

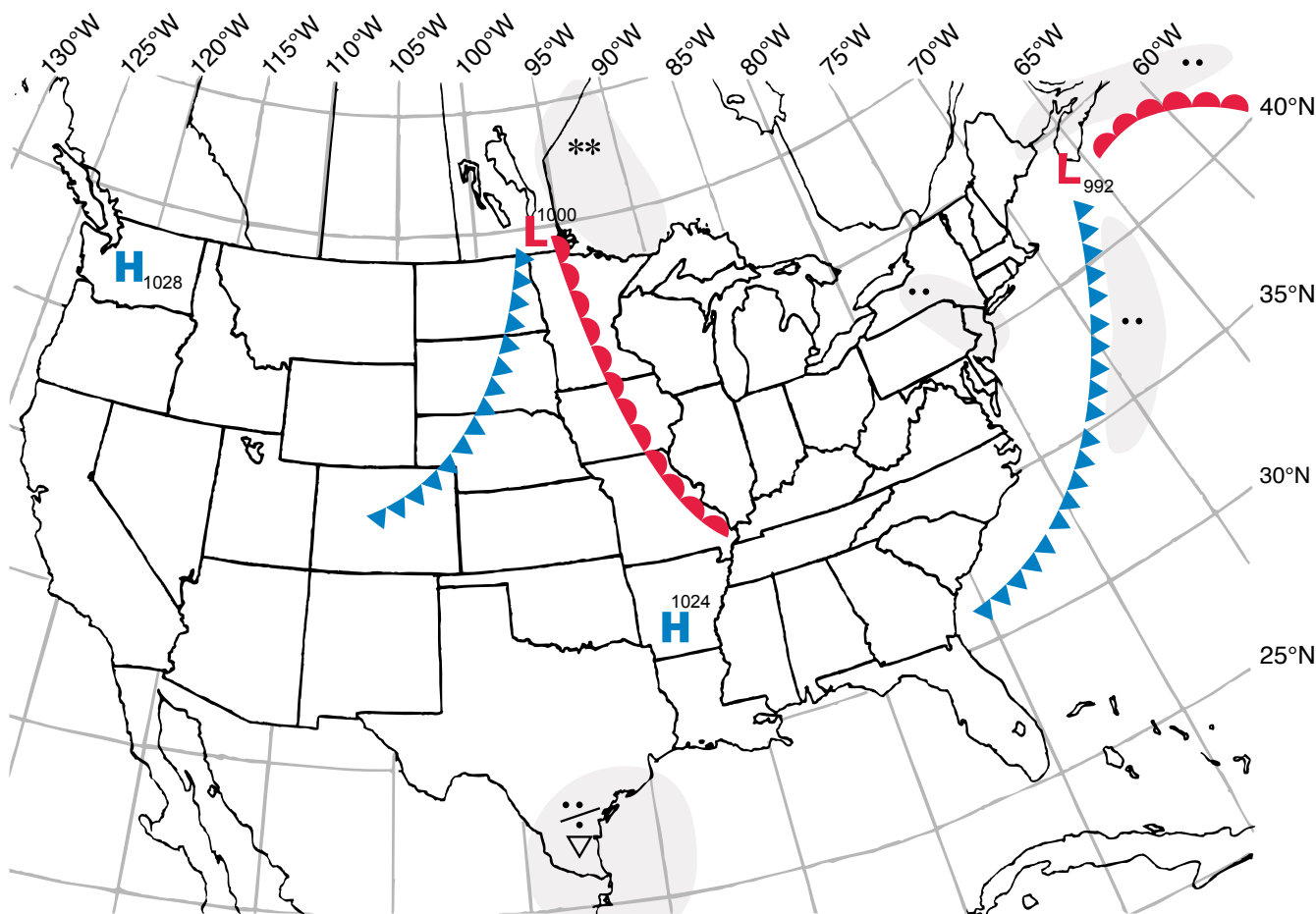
SECTIONS

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One more shot of warm weather

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The main story is the potential for a rather long-lived blast of frigid air by the end of next week. Most weather models are hinting at a highly amplified jet stream that will allow polar air to plunge southward, leading to temperatures well below average for this time of year. Students new to the northeast have one last chance to gear up for winter weather!



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Friday, November 7, 2014

Weather Systems		Weather Fronts		Precipitation Symbols			Other Symbols	
 High Pressure	 Trough				Snow	Rain	 Fog	
 Low Pressure	 Warm Front	Showers				 Thunderstorm		
 Hurricane	 Cold Front	Light				 Haze		
	 Stationary Front	Moderate				Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and <i>The Tech</i>		
		Heavy						

Today: Mostly cloudy, with a high of 51°F (11°C). Northwest winds at around 15 mph with gusts to 25.
Tonight: Partly cloudy, with a low of 32°F (0°C). West winds at 15 mph gusting to 30.
Tomorrow: Sunny, with a high around 50°F (10°C). Winds from the southwest at around 10 mph.
Sunday: Mostly cloudy, with a chance of showers in the early morning . High in the low 50s°F (10°C)
Monday: Partly cloudy, with a high temperature in the mid 50s°F



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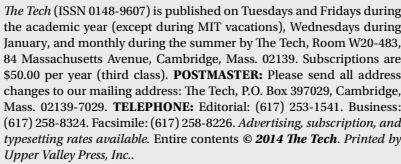
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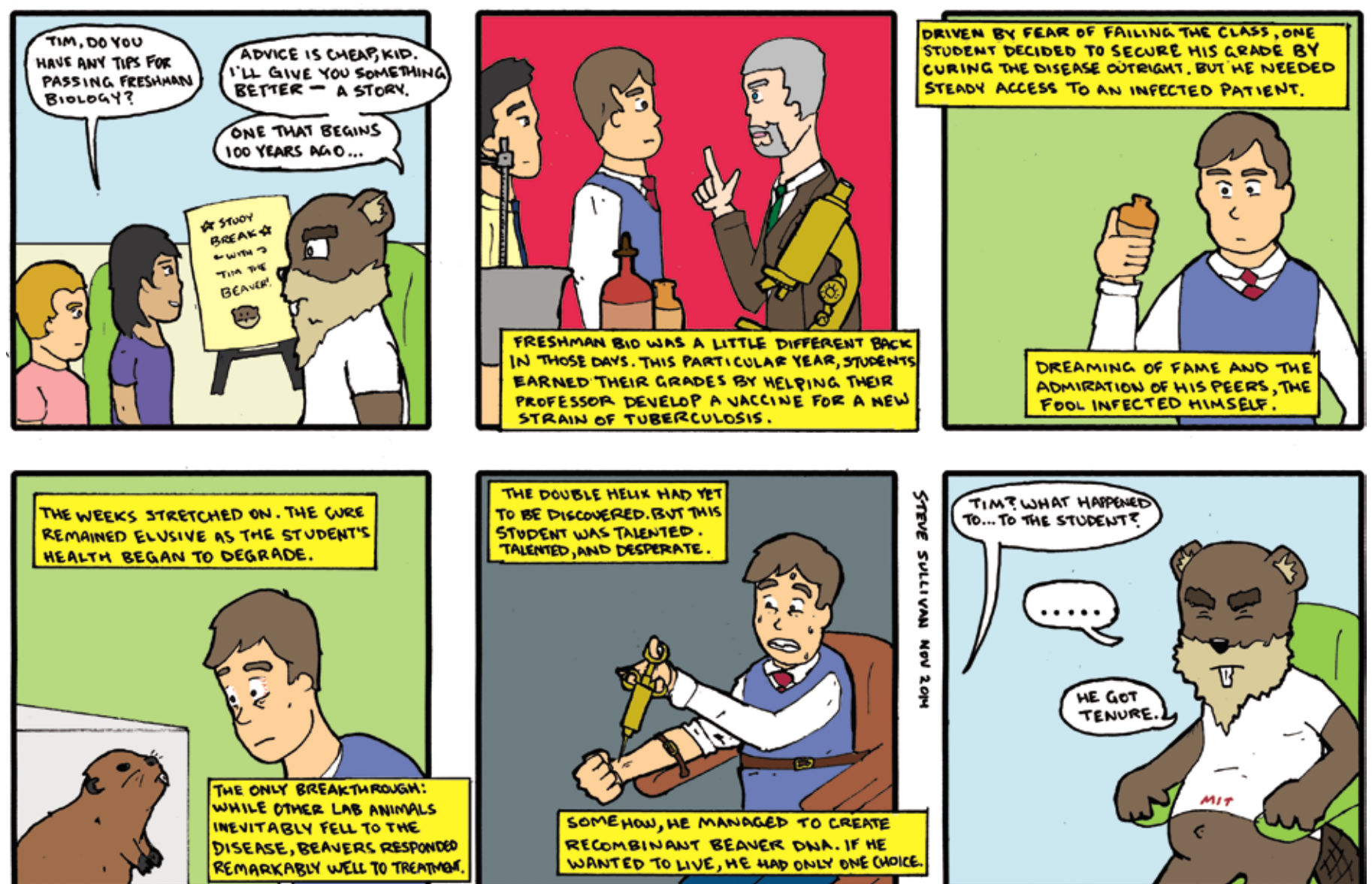
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Q.E.D.

BY ERIKA TRENT



UPPERCUT by Steve Sullivan



Solution, page 9

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.

Solution, page 9

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.

Solution, page 9

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.

Solution, page 9

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.

Solution, page 9

- 1 "Better late __ never"
- 5 Drains of energy
- 9 Prescription safety agcy.
- 12 Job around the house
- 13 Triple-decker cookie
- 14 Regulation
- 16 On a need-to-know __
- 17 Not as much
- 18 A big fan of
- 19 Piece of candy
- 21 Pie nut
- 22 Line of stitches
- 23 Ones who get away
- 25 Cul-de-__ (dead end)
- 28 High-ranking army officers
- 30 Chinese menu declaration
- 32 Doc for dogs
- 33 Urge to scratch
- 37 __-European languages
- 38 Hotel-room cleaners
- 40 Parcel (out)
- 41 Lima's country
- 42 Santa __, CA
- 43 South Korea's capital
- 44 Emotionally moving

DOWN

- 1 Start to melt
- 2 Hydrant attachment
- 3 Ram of the zodiac
- 4 Rainy-day money
- 5 Deeply earnest
- 6 Region
- 7 Kept bothering
- 8 Distress signal

9 Onion rings, for example
10 Blockhead
11 Wedding platform
12 Network with an eye
logo
15 Extremely long time
20 Ginnie __ (mortgage
agency)
21 Chum
24 Winery tubs
25 Sound of scissors
26 First-rate
27 Naval rank below capt.
29 Perrier competitor
31 Minestrone, chicken
noodle, etc.
34 Hammer or wrench
35 Whodunit hint
36 Clasped
38 Injure severely
39 Infuriating
43 Church tower
45 Cheerios grain
46 Stands up
47 Convent dweller
49 Light-bulb measure

50 Hawaiian greeting	57 Digital music player
51 Taken-back cars	58 Butterfly catchers
53 Have a fainting spell	59 Double-curve letter
56 Abhor	61 Sheep sound

CAMPUS ARTS

Infinite record: archive, memory, performance

MIT will host a prominent international arts conference

By Denis Bozic
ARTS EDITOR

On November 14 and 15, MIT will host *Infinite Record: Archive, Memory, Performance*, an international artistic research project led by Østfold University College/ Norwegian Theatre Academy. The project is done in collaboration with York St. John University in U.K, Muthesius Kunsthochschule in Germany, and MIT, which was chosen to host the final installment of the series. This will be one of the most significant events for MIT's arts community, as it will bring some of the most prominent international artists on campus and expose research in performance arts to the student population.

The primary purpose of the two-day conference, hosted by MIT's professor Jay Scheib and senior lecturer Anna Kohler, will be to discuss and question the role of archive in the sphere of live art. With the increasing use of recording technology in performance arts, it is very important to understand how these archived documents shape the world of live performance and how they can be used to store memory about seemingly ephemeral experiences on stage. The conference will therefore be a combination of exhibition, performance, and symposium, where artists and research scientists will present on the relationship between memory and live art. Attendants will be able to witness performances by artists like Joan Jonas and Anna Kohler in addition to participating in discussions led by research scientists such as MIT's Professor John Gabrieli.

The Tech met with Anna Kohler to discuss the details and significance of this event. "We have so many international

people coming to speak or to perform," says Kohler "that I don't want anyone to miss it. This is a unique, first-time ever opportunity." She adds that it is very important to her that MIT students participate in this event because this is a rare opportunity for them to understand the connection between performance arts and research.

"Norwegian Theatre Academy started the project and raised the money to create this international conference in four installments," she continues "and the final, conclusive one, where it all comes together, is happening at MIT." According to Kohler, it is very special that the last conference will be related to memory since MIT's institutions, like the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory, cultivate scientific research projects that have a very important influence on performance arts. "The question that the conference will be asking is — how can we as artists and spectators deal with this huge heap of memory that exists in performance arts?"

Kohler describes this philosophical phenomenon in detail by drawing a comparison between "chronists" and "anemophiles", hypothetical groups that have opposing opinions on the role of memory in performance arts. "Chronists" support the idea of live art being stored and permanently recorded, while "anemophiles" embrace the fleeting spirit of performance arts. "It is based on the essay 'Dictionary of Winds,' by Ivetta Gerasimchuk," she adds "So it's really a discussion about these ideas."

The conference is focused on performance arts, a field of live art that doesn't have a strong presence at MIT since the Theater Arts Department places heavier emphasis on scripted work. However, Kohler thinks that this is a great opportunity



PAULA COURT

The original cast of "Chang in A Void Moon", whose writer and director John Jesurun will present at MIT during the Infinite Record conference.

nity for MIT students to experience working in a novel environment and gain additional skills.

In addition to discussions about the theoretical role of memory in performance arts, many famous artists will perform at the conference and present their work. MIT's Professor Emeritus Joan Jonas will perform "Ask Me, I'm Still Here, Part II" together with Kohler, and John Jesurun will present on his renowned, long-running play "Chang in A Void Moon."

"It is elementary for us to show MIT students that in theater, you also do research," Kohler says about the significance of this

event. "It's not about doing plays over and over again. You research what the future of your field can be and what the future of artistic expression can be. This is why the conference is important — students never had the opportunity to witness something like this."

The conference takes places on November 14 in Rinaldi (Building E33) and on November 15 in Killian Hall (Room 14W-III). Students are encouraged to participate or help in any way. To register, visit <http://mitmta.eventbrite.com>. For schedule and additional information, visit <http://bit.ly/YePcBW> or send an e-mail to infiniterecord@mit.edu.

EXHIBITION REVIEW

MFA after dark

College students flood the Museum of Fine Arts

By Ray Wang
STAFF REPORTER

Last week, the MFA hosted College Night: MFA After Dark, a chance for college students to visit the MFA after dark and take in the spooky sights before Halloween. Appropriately, the keynote exhibit of the night was Francisco Goya's "Order and Disorder," a collection of over 170 works from the Spanish artist famous for his boundless imagination and extreme variety.

Goya's characteristic medium is aquatinted etching, in which a plate is engraved with acid and then inked. The transfer of the inked plate to paper creates colorless but tonally rich works. Humans, buildings, and nature, are composed entirely of faint, disparate lines of ink, giving each piece an airy

quality.

True to Halloween form, a room of the exhibit is dedicated to Goya's most frightening paintings, many of them pulled from his fantasies and dreams. Perhaps the strangest of that series is "Witches' Sabbath," depicting a coven of witches surrounding the devil in disguise as a garlanded goat, as bats fly above in an abysmal background. The painting is one of many similar works on loan from Madrid that clearly show Goya's inner turmoil and mental disturbance later in life.

What I found most disappointing about the MFA's event was the choice of live music playing in the Shapiro Courtyard. I had expected dark, brooding classical music, and maybe even some of my favorite Halloween pieces, along the lines of Saint-Saëns' "Dan-

se Macabre," Mussorgsky's "Night on Bald Mountain," or Rachmaninoff's "Isle of the Dead." Instead, I left the Goya exhibit to the electric sounds of the local indie-folk rock band Grey Season, breaking the mood of an otherwise excellent exhibit.

Drawing a majority of the students to the contemporary art section of the museum was free gelato being served at the Taste Café. Students finished their cups before exploring another special exhibit in the Foster Gallery entitled BRIGHT MATTER by Shinique Smith.

BRIGHT MATTER contains all rectangular pillars of bundled clothing scattered about the stark, white-walled gallery, and other irregularly shaped masses of fabric hang from the ceiling, their shadows strikingly eerie in an otherwise vibrant exhibit.

Smith's signature style for her paintings seems to be long-flowing calligraphic swirls that seem to contain words but, on closer inspection, are devoid of literal meaning. She often combines fabric into her paintings, attaching thin tulle, ribbons, or clothing to them. The contrast of colors is important — many works are neon and symbolize movement, while others are haunting black-and-white, the characteristic swirls sending different messages depending on the hues.

The MFA's After Dark was a chance for college students a little weary of the museum to experience it in a different setting, while it was an intriguing first experience for initiates. Goya's exhibit is a must-see in any case, but the MFA's idea of attracting students to it the night before Halloween was genius.

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Who Builds a Skyscraper without Drawing Blueprints?

Wednesday,
November 12, 2014
MIT Stata Center
Bldg 32-123/
Kirsch Auditorium
4:00-5:30PM

Abstract:
Architects draw detailed plans before construction begins. Software engineers don't. Can this be why buildings seldom collapse and programs often crash?

A blueprint for software is called a specification. TLA+ specifications have been described as exhaustively testable pseudo-code. High-level TLA+ specifications can catch design errors that are now found only by examining the rubble after a system has collapsed.

Biography:
Dr. Lamport received a doctorate in mathematics from Brandeis University, with a dissertation on singularities in analytic partial differential equations. This, together with a complete lack of education in computer science, prepared him for a career as a computer scientist at Massachusetts Computer Associates, SRI, Digital, and Compaq. He claims that it is through no fault of his that of those four corporations, only the one that was supposed to be non-profit still exists.

He joined Microsoft in 2001, but that company has not yet succumbed. Dr. Lamport's initial research in concurrent algorithms made him well-known as the author of LaTeX, a document formatting system for the ever-diminishing class of people who write formulas instead of drawing pictures. He is also known for writing:

"A distributed system is one in which the failure of a computer you didn't even know existed can render your own computer unusable."

which established him as an expert on distributed systems.

His interest in Mediterranean history, including research on Byzantine generals and the mythical Greek island of Paxos, led to his receiving five honorary doctorates from European universities, and to the IEEE sending him to Italy to receive its 2004 Piore Award and to Quebec to receive its 2008 von Neumann medal. However, he has always returned to his home in California. This display of patriotism was rewarded with membership in the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Sciences.

More recently, Dr. Lamport has been annoying computer scientists and engineers by urging them to understand an algorithm or system before implementing it, and scaring them by saying they should use mathematics. In an attempt to get him to talk about other things, the ACM gave him the 2013 Turing Award.

Formerly 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.

The Dertouzos Lecture Series has been a tradition since 1976, featuring some of the most influential thinkers in computer science, including Bill Gates, Steven Jobs, Donald Knuth, John McCarthy, and Mitchell Kapor.

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



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KENSHO

‘It’s On Us’ campaign comes to MIT Wednesday

Title IX working group supports efforts; latest push in sexual assault awareness at MIT

Title IX, from Page 1

To demonstrate their personal commitment to preventing sexual assault on campus, students will be able to accept MIT’s It’s On Us pledge by signing a large wooden rendering of the word “us,” which will be displayed as an art installation on campus to continue to create awareness about sexual assault at MIT. The installation’s location has yet to be determined by Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart PhD ’88 and the Title IX Working Group.

The Title IX Working Group has recently finished a website detailing the It’s On Us mission and pledge, as well as providing a list of student resources that directly address sexual assault at MIT. During kick-off week, the group will launch a video with the campaign, according to Jacqueline “Chacha” Durazo ’14, who also co-created “project dx/dt,” a film produced by MIT students to share the story of individuals who have been affected by sexual assault at MIT.

“We wanted our campaign to be more unique, more MIT,” said Durazo in an interview with *The Tech*.

The original pledge provided by the U.S. government was customized to reference MIT’s campus culture and incorporates MIT’s motto, “Mens et Manus.”

According to Rankin, the video will feature students primarily from the Title IX Working Group discussing the importance of the It’s On Us

program (VPR). According to UA President Shruti Sharma ’15, “The chairs of our Committee on Student Support and Wellness, Chrysonthia A. Horne ’15 and Morgan K. Moroi ’16, will join Barnhart on the panel on Wednesday that will follow the opening ceremony that we will all join.”

To demonstrate their personal commitment to preventing sexual assault, students will be able to accept MIT’s It’s On Us pledge by signing a new art installation.

initiative at MIT. The video will also encourage living groups to make their own videos showcasing the issues introduced by the campaign from their own perspectives. Any other videos made will be featured on a Youtube channel documenting the It’s On Us initiative at MIT.

It’s On Us at MIT will begin its kickoff week with a community forum next Wednesday, Nov. 12, led by Rankin and Kate McCarthy, Senior Program Manager for Sexual Health and an advocate for the Violence Prevention and Response

Sexual Assault at MIT

Since 2013, the MIT administration has taken several steps aimed at addressing sexual assault on campus. Last year, MIT appointed Rankin as the Title IX Investigator and clarified its sexual misconduct policy to define, among other things, “effective consent” as “informed, freely and actively given, mutually understandable words or actions which indicate a willingness to participate in mutually agreed upon sexual activity.”

MIT student groups have also

taken on a large role in combating sexual assault. Representatives from multiple student groups organized the Title IX Working Group and held its first meeting in February, according to a statement from the group.

Last week, President L. Rafael Reif and Barnhart released the results of the Community Attitudes on Sexual Assault (CASA) survey sent to all graduate and undergraduate students in April. About 35 percent of students responded to the survey.

The survey results reported that 17 percent of female undergraduates who responded said they had experienced behavior defined as sexual assault at MIT. The campaign task force hopes that it will keep the MIT community mindful of the issue of sexual violence and also reassure students that there are many resources available to address this issue.

“While the It’s On Us campaign encourages individuals to do what they can to address sexual assault at MIT today, steps are being taken to develop long-term solutions to end sexual violence on campus in

the near future,” said Horne, the co-chair of the Committee on Student Support and Wellness in an interview with *The Tech*. According to Horne, these long-term solutions will be developed primarily by the Sexual Assault Education & Prevention Task Force, which is currently analyzing the results of Chancellor Barnhart’s CASA survey.

The campaign aims to bring about an attitude shift among those who do not acknowledge that there is a problem of sexual assault on campus, added Durazo.

“The It’s On Us MIT campaign is about mobilizing the entire community to step up and do our part to solve the problem of sexual violence. Symbolically, it’s a reminder that it takes the entire community rising up in collective action to address the complicated endemic of sexual assault,” Rankin wrote in an email to *The Tech*.

MIT students and affiliates can learn more about the MIT It’s On Us campaign through its website, <http://itsonus.mit.edu>. Those who have any questions about the campaign or want to know how to get involved can contact tix-com@mit.edu.

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Solution to Scandium

from page 6

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

Solution to Tellurium

from page 6

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

Solution to Silicon

from page 6

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

Solution to Thorium

from page 6

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

Solution to Crossword

from page 6

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

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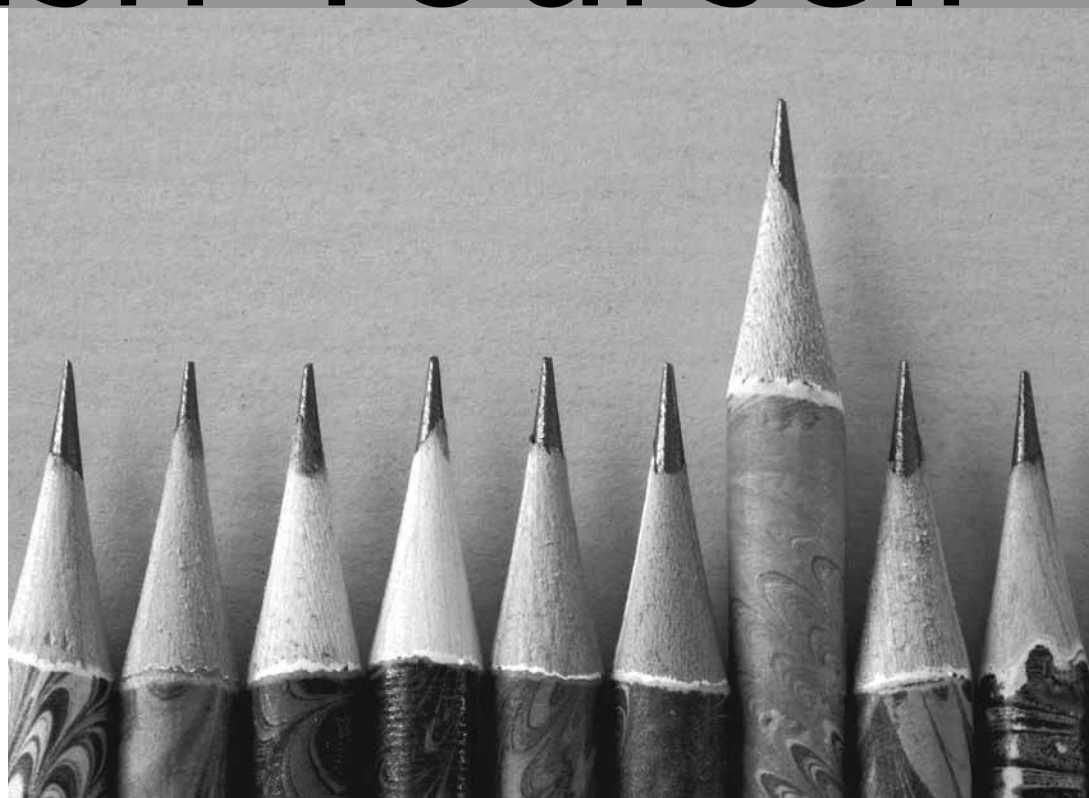
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2 HackMIT teams out after cheating accusations

‘Seamless’ and ‘AgileAssault’ team members investigated for misrepresenting hacks

HackMIT, from Page 1

We are able to reconstruct that using the graph-cutting algorithm to make this seamless product.” The seamless product that he refers to is Microsoft’s looping video of drummers.

At another point in their presentation, Buduma again refers to “our algorithm,” while displaying Microsoft’s looping video of a dancer.

In addition to winning second place, Seamless was also awarded a sponsor prize from Rough Draft Ventures for “creating ‘ooh’ inspiring moving images,” according to the firm’s Twitter account. They were invited to pitch at Rough Draft Ventures for the opportunity of

up to \$25,000 in funding, but this prize was revoked in light of their disqualification.

However, Siegel still maintains that Seamless wasn’t explicitly found guilty of any cheating. “Basically, Seamless chose to step down rather than going through the process of proving their code worked,” Siegel said. “I want to make it very clear that they weren’t incriminated or found guilty of anything.”

According to the copyright notice on Microsoft’s online publication of their “Automated video looping” research paper, “Permission to make digital or hard copies of part or all of this work for personal or classroom use is granted without fee provided that copies are not made or distrib-

uted for profit or commercial advantage and that copies bear this notice and the full citation on the first page.” However, Seamless seemed to present Microsoft’s videos as their own, without explicitly citing the Microsoft paper as their source.

The Seamless team members did not respond to requests for comment.

According to Siegel, the second disqualified team, AgileAssault, “used a project that was presented at another hackathon a week before. They wrote different code but the idea behind it was the same. In a discussion about their results afterwards it was decided that the two projects were too similar, and they agreed to step down.”

AgileAssault was created by Matthew Duran, a student at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. During his final presentation, he described his project as an application that provided a “gamified approach to learning how to program and practicing programming through real-time competition with your peers.” AgileAssault had been submitted to HackUMBC the week before, where, according to Duran’s LinkedIn page, it had placed in the top 10.

HackMIT was notified that Duran’s project had previously been presented when they were contacted by HackUMBC organizers.

After watching the presentations of the top eight teams, judges and

audience members determined the top three finalists by vote. To help prevent future misrepresentations, HackMIT plans to focus on improving their judging model.

In the same blog post that announced the disqualifications, Anesh Agrawal ’17 wrote, “We’ll be revamping our judging model for next year and keeping special note of potential code of conduct violations.”

“This year, we realized that ‘the rules’ aren’t entirely clear to everyone, which leads to subjective interpretation and honest mistakes,” said Richard Ni ’16, an organizer for HackMIT. “Next year, we plan to clearly communicate what’s expected of participants and exactly what constitutes a valid entry.”

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New England Patriots comfortably roll past the Denver Broncos with 43-21 win

The New England Patriots routed the Denver Broncos 43-21 to claim the top spot in AFC as Tom Brady improved his record to 11-5 against longtime rival and reigning MVP, Peyton Manning. Manning-Brady encounters have always served up mouth-watering matchups, from the Manning-inspired Colts comeback in the 2006 playoff game, to Brady helping the Patriots overcome a 24-0 deficit at half time to win in overtime in Foxborough last season.

Last season ended on humiliating notes for both teams, with the Broncos steam-rolling the Patriots in the AFC championship game and then getting outplayed themselves from the first snap itself in Super Bowl XLVIII. This led to what Broncos General Manager, John Elway, described as an 'arms race' in the offseason. Broncos signed former Patriots cornerback Aqib Talib as a free agent and went on to add Pro Bowlers, safety T J Ward and veteran pass-rusher Demarcus Ware.

There were a lot of question marks on the

What was perhaps underplayed going into the game was the impact the special teams would have on the outcome. Stephen Gostkowski scored a 49-yard field goal defying the winds to put the Patriots on board, and then followed it up with another 29-yarder to draw Patriots within a point of the Broncos at the end of the first quarter. Peyton Manning is not just a touchdown-throwing machine; he is also widely regarded as being one of the most intelligent players in the game with an incredible ability to read defensive coverages. Thus it was no surprise when the Patriots defense came with tight coverages on the outside. He used the slant route to good effect with slot receiver Wes Welker and tight-end Julius Thomas in his arsenal.

The impact of special teams was even more stark as Julian Edelman, having just scored a touchdown in the previous Patriots drive, returned a punt for an 84-yard touchdown, his fourth and a franchise record. In the ensuing Broncos drive, kicker Brandon McManus hit the upright with while attempting a 41-yard field goal. This miss had an impact on future plays. In the next drive with Broncos down 7-20 and halftime fast approaching, Manning went for it on fourth and 6 from the Patriots 34 yards line rather than attempt a field goal. Recently acquired Patriots linebacker, Akeem Ayers sacked Pey-

Those betting on a spectacular Manning-led comeback would have been excited to first see Brady throw an interception in the Patriots' first drive after halftime and then Manning responding with a touchdown to Julius Thomas. However, the Broncos' comeback mission took a near fatal turn when former Patriot Wes Welker failed to hold on to a Manning pass, which was picked off by the ever-alert Brandon Browner.

Brady found LaFell for a touchdown to take full advantage of the turnover and take a whopping 23-point lead. While Emmanuel Sanders notched up 151 yards in reception, cross 100 yards for the 5th time this season, the moment of the match belonged to the Gronk. Brady, facing the rush, moved out of the pocket and targeted Gronkowski under double coverage; Gronkowski leapt for a superman-like one-handed grab and almost took it to the end-zone, but was ruled down-by-contact at the one-yard line. In the very next play he set up wide as if expecting a fade but would come inside for an easy touchdown.

What was brewing to be an epic turned out to be a rather one-sided affair, revenge for the Patriots for the AFC Championship game loss last season perhaps. However, there is a strong possibility of these two heavyweights clashing in the playoffs again. The Patriots may have just won home-field advantage (or maybe not), but there is plenty of drama to unfold between now and January!

Saturday, November 8

9 a.m., Charles River

2 p.m., DuPont Squash Courts

4 p.m., DuPont Squash Courts

TBA, Steinbrenner Stadium

TBA, Briggs Field

12:30 p.m., Zesiger Center Pool

1 p.m., Rockwell Cage

2 p.m., DuPont Squash Courts

Sailing vs. Crews Regatta

9 a.m., Charles River



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