

20,000 visitors are expected to attend Institute open house

The April 23 event celebrates MIT's move to Cambridge 100 years ago

By Editors

Nearly 80 departments and labs will host a total of 380 activities in 170 spaces around campus for 20,000 visitors on April 23 in an open house to commemorate the 100th anniversary of MIT's move to Cambridge. The activities will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Open House Planning Committee has made a point of advertising the event zealously, on buses, at MBTA stations, in the Boston Globe, and even on the facade of 77 Massachusetts Avenue. The effort may explain the high levels of attendance that the organizers expect.

Program director Michael S. Berry '10 expects the event to help showcase MIT to the outside world, but he said it should also help students, faculty, and staff to "learn about what happens at this Institute outside of their own bubble."

"This is disneyland for nerds,"

Berry told *The Tech*. He said it's so easy to be focused on daily to-do lists that people at the Institute "lose sight of the magic behind the doors of MIT."

Berry said the event is not targeted at any group in particular — it's goal is not to solicit applications from prospective students.

It's "an opportunity for MIT and its neighbors to engage in a cooperative exploration of the important and fun work done on MIT's campus and how it impacts the world," he said.

"I want visitors to walk away with a sense of wonder and appreciation for the work that goes into genome sequencing or 3D printing ice cream. I want them to see the work done by groups like D-Lab and realize that technology isn't about the next big app or million dollar idea, but a tool to improve lives."

Open House, Page 8



LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH

A tombstone was erected on the grounds where Bexley used to stand late Saturday night. Bexley Hall was closed in 2013 due to structural problems and demolition was approved in early 2015. In place of Bexley Hall, there is now a small park.

IN SHORT

The deadline to submit summer UROP proposals for direct funding is today at 5 p.m.

A DormCon meeting will be held today at 7:30 p.m. in East Campus.

Together in Service will take place Tuesday, April 19. Student, staff, faculty, and alumni volunteers will meet at 9 a.m. on the North Court.

No classes will be held on Monday, April 18 or Tuesday, April 19.

DormCon elections will be held Thursday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m. in W20 Private Dining Rooms 1 and 2.

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

Six MIT students win Lemelson-MIT prize

The Lemelson-MIT Program awarded its annual Student Prize Tuesday, recognizing promising inventors from across the United States. Six MIT students were among the winners announced.

Winning undergraduate teams will receive \$10,000 while teams of graduate students will receive \$15,000. Prizes are awarded in multiple categories: "Cure it!", "Drive it!", "Eat it!", and "Use it!" Winning inventions included space plants, plague-fighting tools, as well as communication aides for autism and gloves which live-translate ASL.

MIT's Mechanical Engineering department can congratulate

five of its students: Dan Dorsch G, a second year PhD, won the Drive It! award for a high performance, lightweight, clutchless hybrid transmission. Dorsch is also known for helping establish MakerWorks, a student-managed makerspace which opened last May.

Michael Farid G, Kale Rogers '16, Braden Knight '16, and Luke Schlueter '16 received the Eat it! award for a fully automated restaurant, including a fridge, dishwasher, stove, and cook.

The Media Lab also has a student to congratulate: Achuta Kadambi G developed cameras designed to far exceed human ca-

pabilities. For example, they are able to observe light as it travels, re-create 3D scenes by detecting reflected polarization, and diagnose tuberculosis at a low cost by measuring how light bounces off sick cells.

The Lemelson-MIT Program aims to attract young people to engineering by portraying successful inventors as role models, similar to how successful athletes drive participation in sports. In addition to its college prize, the program also awards a \$500,000 prize to mid-career professionals and provides grants to middle and high school initiatives.

— Olivia Brode-Roger

Media Lab project visualizes U.S. data

Data USA makes U.S. government data available to a wider audience

By Steve Lohr

THE NEW YORK TIMES

For years, the federal government, states, and some cities have enthusiastically made vast troves of data open to the public. Acres of paper records on demographics, public health, traffic patterns, energy consumption, family incomes and many other topics have been digitized and posted on the Web.

This abundance of data can be a gold mine for discovery and insights, but finding the nuggets can be arduous, requiring special skills.

A project that came out of the MIT Media Lab April 4 seeks to ease that challenge and to make the value of government data available to a wider audience. The project, called Data USA, bills itself as "the most comprehensive visualization of U.S. public data." It is free, and its software code is open source, meaning that developers can build custom applications by adding other data.

Cesar A. Hidalgo, an assistant professor of media arts and sciences at the MIT Media Lab who led the development of Data USA, said the website was devised to "transform data into stories." Those stories are

typically presented as graphics, charts and written summaries.

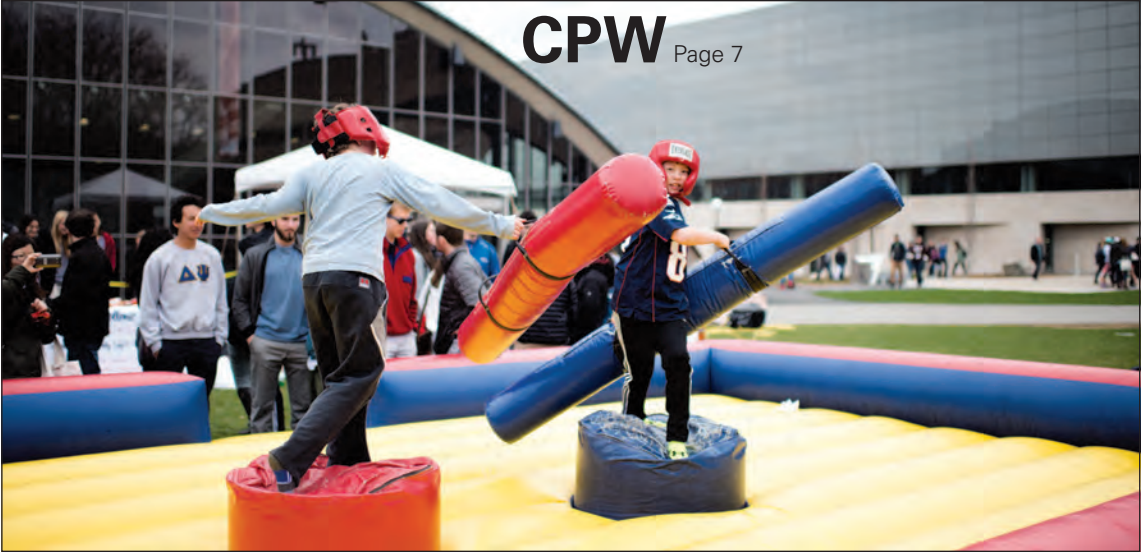
The media lab worked with the consulting and auditing firm Deloitte, which provided funding and expertise on how people use government data sets in business and for research.

"The goal was organize and visualize data in a way that a lot of people think about it," said Patricia Buckley, director of economic policy and analysis at Deloitte and a former senior economist at the Commerce Department.

Type "New York" into the Data USA search box, and a drop-down menu presents choices — the city, the metropolitan area, the state and other options. Select the city, and the page displays an aerial shot of Manhattan with three basic statistics: population (8.49 million), median household income (\$52,996) and median age (35.8).

Lower on the page are six icons for related subject categories, including economy, demographics and education. If you click on demographics, one of the data stories appears, based largely on data from the

Media Lab, Page 4



CPW Page 7

FAREWELL, KOBE

One of the greats steps off the court. **SPORTS, p. 16**

WHAT COULD BE MORE FUN?

Fill out our 1040. **FUN, p. 13**

DO YOU MISS THE PREFROSH?

Check out these CPW pictures. **CPW, p. 7**



PORTRAITS OF RESILIENCE

Talking to friends can help. **CAMPUS LIFE, p. 11**

BASEBALL TEAM VICTORIOUS

A decisive win for the Engineers. **SPORTS, p. 16**

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WEATHER

Weekend warm-up on the way

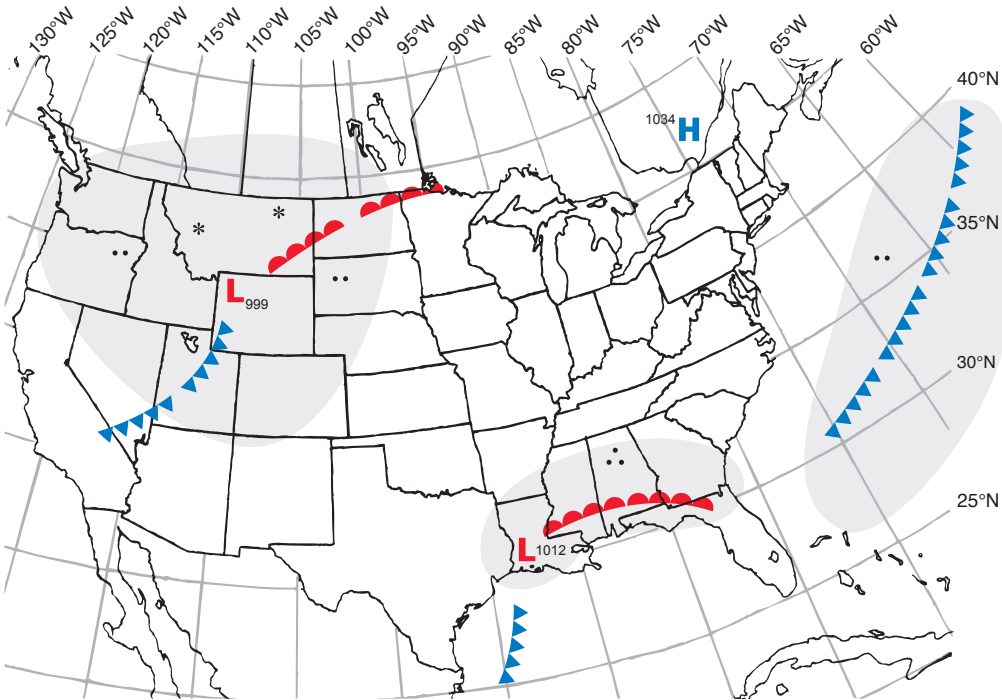
By Costa Christopoulos
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The recent weather-related reminders of winter across New England are on their way out. Over the weekend, a trough situated over the eastern U.S. will gradually break down, giving way to seasonably warm temperatures early next week. Today, northeasterly winds blowing over cool Atlantic waters will cap temperatures in the lower-40s°F. Tomorrow, winds strengthen out of the northeast, with wind gusts topping 20 miles per hour by the afternoon. Expect

similar conditions on Saturday, with mostly sunny skies and a high around 54°F. By Saturday night winds shift to the south, initiating a drastic warm-up that will continue through Monday. Highs on Sunday may top 70°F for the first time this year as a 1032 mb high-pressure system strengthens in the Great Lakes region. By Monday, global weather models indicate temperatures approaching the mid-70s°F. In contrast to last weekend, temperatures early next week may range 15 to 20°F above climatological averages.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny. High of 48°F (9°C) . Winds northeast at 10-15 mph.
Tonight: Partly cloudy. Low of 36°F (2°C). Winds north at 10 mph.
Tomorrow: Sunny. High of 50°F (10°C). Winds northeast at 10-15 mph.
Saturday: Sunny. High of 54°F (12°C). Winds northeast at 10-15 mph.
Sunday: Sunny. High of 68°F (20°C). Winds southeast at around 5 mph.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, April 14, 2016

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	☉ Snow	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	—•—•— Warm Front	☂ Rain	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲▲ Cold Front	☂ Light	∞ Haze
	—▲—▲— Stationary Front	☂☂ Moderate	
		☂☂☂ Heavy	

CORRECTIONS

An article in last Tuesday’s issue stated that SpringFest will take place on Saturday, April 29. In fact, it will take place on Friday, April 29.

An article in last Friday’s issue listed 6.002 among the requirements for the new computer science minor. In fact, 6.0002 will be required, not 6.002.

An article last Friday misrepresented Sara as the commander of an entire unit in the Israeli army. In fact, Sara was one of many commanders in the unit she served in.

Solution to W-2

from page 12

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

Solution to I-9

from page 12

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

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We are reinventing structural and urban design by seeking inspiration from the past and from nature, and combining new knowledge from the present. Course 1 students combine fieldwork, classroom study and lab research to innovate new materials and methods that will last centuries, preserve resources and ease construction burdens and costs. Our emphasis always is on strong fundamentals that set the stage for long term viability, sustainability and growth.



Environmental Engineering

Humankind's growth and impact on the environment is just now becoming known, but we still have much to learn. Course 1 students seek to better understand our planet, and ways to harmonize people's needs with long-term sustainability. We combine rigorous scientific inquiry with an engineer's mindset and application to keep our world's air clean, produce more fresh water, and keep crops resilient to climate change.



Systems Engineering

Many networks today allow us to go about our everyday lives with ease. Course 1 students recognize, however, that these large-scale systems need important oversight and innovation to maintain operations. We develop strategies to protect water and electrical grids from decay and harm; introduce new energy forms for our homes and offices; invent new systems and methods for easier transportation; and analyze large data sets to help combat diseases from spreading.





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Site considers user’s interest in its design

Makes data widely accessible with colorful graphics and limited text

Media Lab, from Page 1

American Community Survey of the U.S. Census Bureau.

Using colorful graphics and short sentences, it shows the median age of foreign-born residents of New York (44.7) and of residents born in the United States (28.6); the most common countries of origin for immigrants (the Dominican Republic, China and Mexico); and the percentage of residents who are U.S. citizens (82.8 percent, compared with a national average of 93 percent).

Data USA features a selection of data results on its home page. They include the gender wage gap in Connecticut; the racial breakdown of poverty in Flint, Michigan; the wages of physicians and surgeons across the United States; and the institutions that award the most computer science degrees.

Hal R. Varian, chief economist of Google, who has no connection to Data USA, called the site “very informative and aesthetically pleasing.”

The fact the government is making so much data publicly available, he added, is fueling creative work like Data USA.

Data USA embodies an approach to data analysis that will most likely become increasingly common, said Kris Hammond, a computer science professor at Northwestern University. The site makes assumptions about its users and programs those assumptions into its software, he said.

“It is driven by the idea that we can actually figure out what a user is going to want to know when they are looking at a data set,” Hammond said.

Data scientists, he said, often bristle when such limitations are put into the tools they use. But they are the data world’s power users, and power users are a limited market, said Hammond, who is also chief scientist at Narrative Science, a startup that makes software to interpret data.

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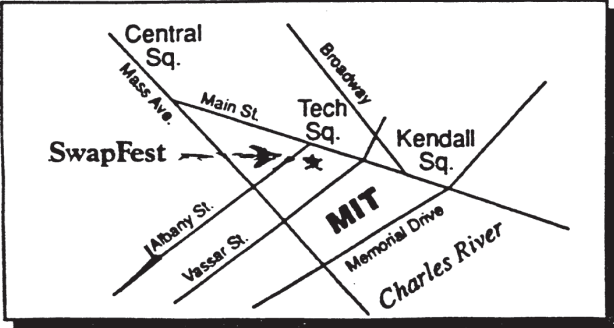
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NO EXPERIENCE
NECESSARY!



Ryan Berg 't18 performs in Spinning Art's CPW fireshow.

SKYLER E. ADAMS—THE TECH



Members of Dance Troupe dance to Justin Bieber's "Sorry."

LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH



Mocha Moves performs during the CPW Activities Midway.

LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH



Alexander R. Bachwich performs "The Global Warming Song," originally by Drew Fornarola, with the Asymptones during MIT's CPW a capella showcase last Friday in 26-100.

LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH



Fraternity members help prospective students get out of the large sumo outfits after a bout during CPW's Greek carnival last Saturday.

LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH



Prefrosh attempt to break an airplane piñata.

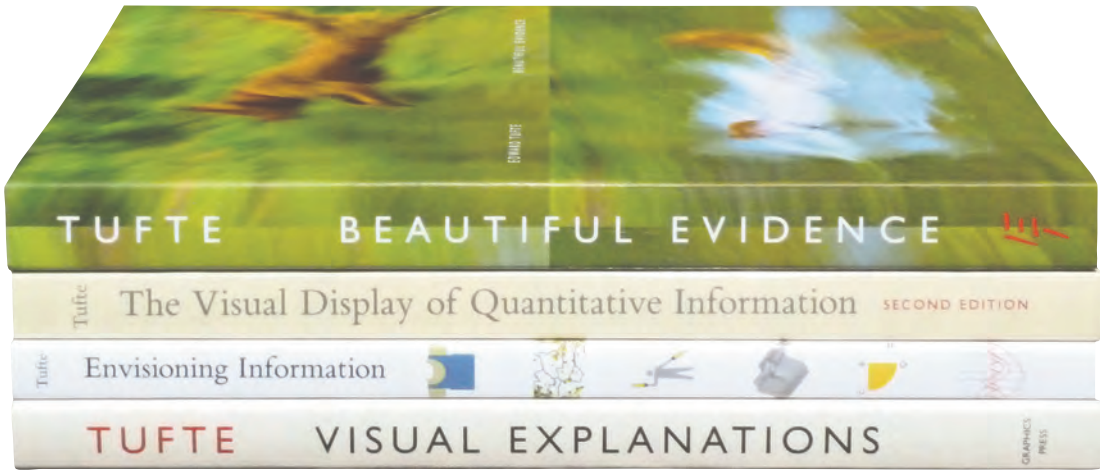
LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH



Residents of McCormick make strawberry smoothies for prefrosh.

LENNY MARTINEZ—THE TECH

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Over 350
activities
to be run
by depts.
‘Moving Day’ to follow on May 7

Open House, from Page 1

The open house is one part of the MIT2016 celebration organized by the MIT2016 Planning Committee chaired by Professor John Ochsendorf.

The MIT2016 celebrations commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of MIT’s move to Cambridge from its former location in Copley Square.

The most prominent event of the MIT2016 celebration will be “Moving Day,” which will commemorate MIT’s move to Cambridge.

The May 7 event — which will involve MIT students and other members of the community crossing the river from Boston to Cambridge by various methods — is designed to be reminiscent of a similar event in 1916. At that event, students and faculty — with great fanfare — processed to Cambridge as a decked-out boat carried MIT’s charter across the river.

Gayle Gallagher, Ted Johnson, Alice Rugoletti, and Berry, all of Institute Events, have been managing logistics.

97% OF MIT STUDENTS SAY
THEY WOULD
RESPECT
SOMEONE WHO TRIED TO
PREVENT AN ASSAULT.



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Solution to 1099
from page 12

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

Solution to 1095-C
from page 12

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

Solution to
Saturday Stumper
from page 13

CLAP	CANTO	BATS
RITE	OCEAN	ACRE
OVAl	BAlLET	SHOE
PECOS	BILL	WIELD
SOSA	BOLDLY	
BUSINESS	NEWS	
APT	GNOMISH	ISE
ITO	ANDANTE	NAG
OOF	BEASTIE	GLO
	CRASH	HELMETS
OPIOID	EONS	
BIOME	WATER	JETS
JEWEL	BOXES	ARIA
ETAT	AREAS	VACS
TANS	HELLO	ELKS



CONGRATULATIONS

Achuta Kadambi

MIT Media Lab

\$15K Lemelson-MIT "Use it!"
Graduate Winner

LEMELSON-MIT

lemelson.mit.edu/studentprize



CONGRATULATIONS

**Spyce Team: Braden Knight, Kale Rogers,
Luke Schlueter, and Michael Farid**

MIT MechE

\$10K Lemelson-MIT "Eat it!"
Undergraduate Team Winner

LEMELSON-MIT

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Dan Dorsch

MIT MechE

\$15K Lemelson-MIT “Drive it!”
Graduate Winner

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PORTRAITS OF RESILIENCE

Michael McClellan

Editor's Note: Portraits of Resilience is a photography and interview series by Prof. Daniel Jackson. Each installment consists of a portrait and a story, told in the subject's own words, of how they found resilience and meaning in their life.

It was April 15, 2013, and it was my twenty-second birthday. I had just made the decision to come to MIT. I was in class in the morning, and we learned that there was a terrorist attack in Boston. It's strange for me having a connection to the Marathon Bombing without actually having been here on campus.

I went to Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. My major was chemistry, and my minor was in women's and gender studies. That's where I began to realize that I had this sense of duty and responsibility that led me to being the president of the student association there, and later into my current role of being Graduate Student Council President here at MIT.

Different parts of the country are different with respect to views on mental health. There, people think you should pick yourself up by your bootstraps.

One of the first things I did in the summer before I came to MIT was to make a plan for myself. In my first few weeks at MIT, I was going to go to MIT Mental Health, so that if an issue ever arose, I would have somebody here who had seen my face and talked to me before.

I sort of knew, but I had never really come to terms with the fact, that I had some sort of mild obsessive-compulsive disorder. I grew up in suburban Missouri. Different parts of the country are different with respect to views on mental health. There, people think you should pick yourself up by your bootstraps, and you can figure it out.

I'd never processed that most people aren't keeping a running tally of every

step that they've taken when they're walking around. Anytime I would see a phone number in public, like on a billboard or something, I would just in one quick swoop sum all the numbers. It didn't mean anything. Oh, there's a phone number. Okay, 45.

When I was most stressed, things got a little bit worse. As an undergrad, I was very busy being the president of the student association, writing up my senior thesis, and taking a lot of challenging classes.

I might be in a meeting with somebody, with my advisor, let's say. I'm sitting there and I just sort of have this running conversation in my head, thinking "What's the worst thing I could say right now?" Something that would just ruin my professional life, such as standing up and swearing at my advisor and walking out.

Of course I never acted on those thoughts, because ultimately, I'd like to think that I'm a good, nice person and I wouldn't want to hurt anyone. A lot of people have intrusive thoughts enter their head, but there's a filter, and most people can let them go. I would sit there and be worried. My hands would start getting cold because there was always this gripping fear in the back of my mind. What if I actually did it?

One of the things I do best is getting other people into the mindset and into positions where they feel like they have adequate support and resources so they can do their best. Trying to square that up with the terrible thoughts inside my head was very difficult.

About half an hour before I went into my meeting at MIT Mental Health, I made the decision. I'm just going to talk about this, I said to myself. I'm just going to say it, and I'm going to have to face this fear, this anxiety of talking about something that might potentially be very sensitive. In the end, the discussion went fine, and they suggested I talk with someone who deals with anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorder. At the time, I lived in Brookline, so I started meeting with someone there about once a month.

I saw her four or five times. Simply talking about all these little behaviors and patterns that I had made me feel better about it. I went to Ireland that summer, to start measuring isotope ratios of nitrous oxide in the atmosphere. I was at Mace Head, in

A black and white portrait of a man with a beard, wearing a dark button-down shirt and jeans, sitting against a black background. The man is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. His hands are resting on his thighs. The lighting is soft, highlighting his facial features and the texture of his clothing.

COURTESY OF DANIEL JACKSON

rural Western Ireland, and I was too young to rent a car; I had to bike many miles to get anywhere.

There was no real grocery store nearby, so I ended up eating about the same thing every day. It would be oatmeal and an egg in the morning, a sandwich and an apple for lunch, and then steamed frozen broccoli, rice, and smoked salmon every night.

Some people couldn't stand eating the same thing day in and day out. The good thing is I don't get bored with food. As an undergrad, I ate the same breakfast every morning: oatmeal with peanut butter, and eggs with Tabasco sauce.

When I came back from Ireland, I felt like I was in a much better place and I didn't need to continue talking with the therapist in Brookline. Going to that first meeting at MIT Mental Health was one of the better decisions I made since moving here. All the changes that I've made, and coming to be more open with people about these experiences — everything that has followed from that decision has been transformative in my experience here.

I still get anxious when I'm stressed. During our general exam process, I was working with an instrument to look at properties of simulated clouds that form on Mars. It was late at night and I just wanted to get one more point of data out of it, but I had to check something on the inside of the instrument. I didn't realize how heavy the part was, and I dropped it, snapping some wires. There were things that I couldn't really handle, in that late-at-night, tired, really wound-up state.

So I sat down for 15 minutes and didn't move. I was sort of overwhelmed. I wrote an email to the post-doc saying, "I think I broke something. I'm going to deal with it in the morning."

I don't get troubling thoughts nearly as frequently now. But yesterday I was in a workshop and something did come up. One of the people that was putting on this workshop — in my mind, I was saying that this person's the size of a whale. That's something that's really hurtful. I just thought, "Okay, that's destructive and that doesn't represent how I try to interact with people." I can let it go now.

Now, when I'm walking around, I'm not counting steps. I live in Jamaica Plain, so it's only 45 minutes or so to get here every day. I listen to a daily podcast about base-

ball. While I'm intently trying to listen to that, I'm not counting. It's more productive to get up-to-date news on something that I care about, rather than wasting time and counting numbers. Somehow the phone number thing sticks with me though.

I'm sure that everyone's experience is different, but if there are things that are disruptive, I think there are a lot of different things that you can do to make them less disruptive, less interfering in your life. Just talking to someone about it rather than just keeping it bottled up is really liberating. Even just a check-in with friends, having an honest conversation about things that are happening in your life.

One thing that has really helped me in my time here has been doing something active for an hour or so a day, scheduling myself every single day that I can. Somehow all the loose nervous energy that was causing issues in the past is more constrained.

We're all in this together. Sometimes people ask me what my favorite thing about MIT is. I really enjoy our departmental Cookie Hour. This is endowed; there's money in it that's going to make sure it goes on perpetually. Every day, at three o'clock, we have cookies and fruit in our lounge. I get to see everybody almost every day.

I'm sure — beyond all doubt — that all the people eating cookies are dealing with issues of their own. I hope they feel comfortable confiding in someone. If not, I hope just eating cookies and cherries with friends is as much a daily highlight for them as it is for me.

Michael McClellan is a graduate student in Earth and Planetary Sciences, and president of the Graduate Student Council.

This project is supported by the Undergraduate Association's Committee on Student Support and Wellness, chaired by Tamar Weseley '17 and Alice Zielinski '16. To participate in the project, or to learn more, contact ResilienceProject@mit.edu.

There are many ways to find help. Members of the MIT community can access support resources at mindhandheart.mit.edu. To access support through MIT Medical's Mental Health & Counseling Service, please call (617) 253-2916 or visit medical.mit.edu.

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COURTESY OF DANIEL JACKSON

Solution, page 2

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 2

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 8

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 8

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.

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Faculty highlight diverse ‘frontiers’ of MIT’s research

Thirteen faculty from twelve departments gave snapshots of their current research — ranging from studying financial systems based on mobile phones in Africa to finding genetic pathways to improve the efficiency of biofuel production — at a symposium on the future of MIT research, “MIT’s Frontiers of the Future,” April 11.

Changing the incentives in drug markets could lead to new research that would uncover “missing” inventions — such as cures for diseases which are usually neglected, Heidi Williams, professor in economics, suggested. Her research seeks to identify the drivers of innovation in healthcare markets.

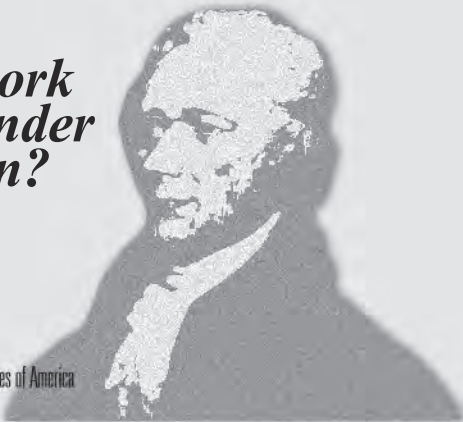
Describing the surprising persistence of some infectious diseases which have yet to be eradicated, civil and environmental engineering professor Lydia Bourouiba said that micro-level research into the disease agents and a macroscopic understanding of economic and ecological factors that influence disease transmission are both necessary. Bourouiba joined MIT in 2010 as a postdoctoral fellow in the department of mathematics.

Dina Katabi, professor in electrical engineering and computer science, is working with her team to develop wireless technology that can track a person’s breathing and movements through walls.

The symposium was part the MIT2016 celebrations which mark the one hundredth anniversary of MIT’s move to Cambridge.

— Katherine Nazemi

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Solution to 1040
from page 13

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

Bryant scored more than 33,500 points throughout career

The NBA MVP was an influence for a generation of players, fans

Bryant, from Page 16

from his injury. Just as it seemed he had gotten over one bruise or fracture, he seemed to succumb to another. It was unsettling to see an NBA season where he was not dismantling opponents. Nonetheless Bryant had an amazing tenure and collected a mass of accolades that one can only try to quantify. With an average of 25 points-per-game (PPG), he has garnered more than 33,500 points, third all-time in NBA history. He had 18 All-Star appearances (4 All-Star MVPs), 15 All-NBA selections, and 12 All-Defensive team selections; he earned two scoring titles, two Olympic gold medals, and an MVP award. Continually, Bryant

seemed to improve his game and became one of the most dominant two-way players of all time.

More than anything else, he was an influence over an entire generation. We have all done it: pulled out that turnaround fade-away to launch a paper ball into a trash can, screaming “KOBE!!!” as we watch it go in (or miss by a foot). We only wish we could do what Bryant did, night after night after night. He has left a legacy unlike any other. In no time at all we will be talking about his entry into the Hall of Fame, looking back on the career of a one-of-a-kind player, a one-of-a-kind competitor, and a one-of-a-kind presence. Farewell Kobe Bryant, you will be missed.

Cycling beats the odds to place first at Shippensburg

Bandoro G paced the team with victories in two individual races

By Souparno Ghosh
SPORTS EDITOR

The MIT cycling team placed first overall at the Eastern Collegiate Cycling Conference (ECCC) Shippensburg Scurry race with contributions from each of its seven team members.

The steep climbs and sharp turns, the Engineers had to combat gusty winds throughout the weekend of racing. The numbers were not in their favor either, as the seven-strong team was up against teams that fielded over fifteen cyclists, and yet they found a way to outscore their opponents. At times it was strategic teamwork, at other times it was sheer heart-and-hustle, and at yet other times it was about playing to one’s strength. Last but not the least, valuable contributions from the battle-tested veterans helped MIT pull off its best performance so far this season.

The weekend did not go as planned for rookie Paul Cohen ’17 who crashed into the very first corner of his first competitive race. But not only did he pick himself up to complete that race, he finished third in the subsequent race.

Reflecting on an eventful outing Cohen said, “The crash definitely put a damper on my spirits for the day. I was pretty excited and hopeful about my chances going into the race, so crashing on the first corner sucked.”

The second race was a different story as Cohen got ahead and pressed home his advantage to push himself to a podium finish.

“I was surprised halfway through the race when I looked behind and saw a gap opening between me and the group behind. This was a massive confidence boost. I think the adrenaline from this helped a lot in carrying me

to the finish line and clinch third place,” he said.

MIT got its biggest contribution from Justin Bandoro G. Having trained hard this past winter, Bandoro was primed to perform under challenging conditions and he came through in the clutch in a big way, bagging two individual victories in the men’s B category.

Following his victories, he underscored the importance of knowing one’s strengthes and how those compared with the strengths of one’s opponents: “I am a relatively better climber than most of the racers in my field,” Bandoro said. “Going into the race I had a plan to attack on one of the laps after that decisive corner to get separation from the other racers. With just a little bit more than 20 minutes of racing left, the pack turned that corner and decided to put in an attack up the climb. At the top I looked back saw that I had around a 10 [second] gap on the group, then got as aerodynamic as possible on the bike and put in a strong effort for the next 20 minutes to stay away.”

Even in a largely individual sport like cycling, the importance of teamwork cannot be neglected.

As Bandoro explained, “I have to give huge kudos and appreciation to my teammate, Tom [Tom O’Grady G], who was with the pack of chasers. Without him I am not sure I would have been able to stay ahead of the pack for the win. He used a bike racing technique known as ‘blocking,’ whereby he interfered with the chasing group’s organization to reel me back in.”

Among other notable contributions was a maiden victory for Kathryn Olesnavage G who crossed the line first in the women’s C category amidst powerful winds. Jennifer Wilson G notched a third- and a fifth-place finish in the women’s A category to round off a successful weekend for MIT cycling.

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MIT Women's Water Polo team competes during a tournament last weekend.

By Phil Hess
DAPER STAFF

Bryant never truly came back

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