



Team SuitedForSuccess celebrates their win of the tournament along with receiving a grand prize of \$10,000 Friday.

MAXIMO MACHADO—THE TECH

Coronavirus travel restrictions affect MIT student community

MIT Medical advises self-isolation after leaving China

By Evan Denmark

MIT Medical is requiring community members to fill out a travel registration form and advising students to self-isolate if they have been to mainland China after Jan. 19.

Last week, the Trump Administration issued a Level 4: Do Not Travel advisory for U.S. citizens traveling to China as well as a temporary ban of foreign nationals traveling to the United States who have been to China within the last 14 days.

Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart PhD '88, Provost Martin Schmidt PhD '88, and MIT Medical Director Cecilia Stuopis '90 wrote in an email to the MIT community Feb. 2 that "all MIT community members who are cur-

rently in China or have returned from mainland China since January 19" must complete a travel registration form.

The form will allow MIT Medical to understand how many students traveled to China and, if appropriate, advise community members on self-isolation.

Boston confirmed its first case of the new coronavirus Feb. 1 and the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak a global health emergency Jan. 30.

MIT administration is "taking the most conservative approach out of an abundance of caution for our community," Stuopis said in an interview with *The Tech* Feb. 5.

Stuopis said that MIT Medical is advising community members to

self-isolate for 14 days from when they departed China.

"We don't want the people who are self isolating to be cut off from the MIT community in any way," Stuopis said. Stuopis advised that if MIT community members know individuals who are self-isolating, "don't forget about them."

Jingzhao Zhang G, who modified his return flight in anticipation of potential travel restrictions and is self-isolating, wrote in an email to *The Tech* Feb. 4 that although he is able to get some work done at home, "not being able to go to lectures is my major concern."

Once affected students have informed MIT Medical of their situa-

Coronavirus, Page 2

Campus-wide moratorium on clothing-optionality instituted

Committee created to address clothing-optionality policies

By Kristina Chen
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A moratorium on clothing-optionality has been put in place in all residence halls. The moratorium will be in place until the Student Policy Review Committee completes their review of the informal practices for clothing-optionality in residence halls.

The moratorium was announced in an email from Vice President and Dean for Student Life Suzy Nelson to all heads of house and house presidents Feb. 5.

In her email, Nelson wrote that during the moratorium, "all residents and guests in any residence hall will be fully clothed—including wearing a shirt—when outside the privacy of their rooms, bathrooms, and showers." The moratorium applies to students of all gender identities.

The review of clothing-optionality in residence halls was

prompted by recent incidents in East Campus, according to Nelson's email.

In a November 2019 email to EC residents, Judy Robinson, senior associate dean for residential education, and David Friedrich, senior associate dean for housing and residential services, wrote that they "received reports of two separate incidents involving nudity in front of MIT workers that may have violated Institute policy."

These incidents may have additionally violated EC protocols put in place November 2018 to address clothing-optionality around staff and contractors, Robinson and Friedrich wrote. The policy violation resulted in the establishment of an EC clothing-optionality moratorium in November 2019. The incidents were also reported to the Title IX and Bias Response office, which has since been renamed the Institute Discrimination and Harassment Response (IDHR) office.

EC residents held a meeting Feb. 3 with Nelson, Robinson, Friedrich, Don Camelio, associate dean for residential education, and Sarah Affel, manager of investigations of IDHR, to discuss the moratorium. At the meeting, EC residents voiced their concerns about the moratorium and learned about the creation of the Student Policy Review Committee.

The committee will begin its review "shortly," Nelson wrote in her email. The outcome of the review, which is projected to be completed before the end of the current academic year, will apply to all residence halls.

Robinson and Friedrich wrote in an email to EC residents after the meeting that the goal of the committee is to better understand the experiences of students, staff, and contractors, to assess the impact clothing-optionality practices, and to ensure that MIT work

Clothing, Page 2

YEAR IN REVIEW, see insert at p. 4

EC to increase security due to recent intruders

Measures would override prior student vote

By Wenbo Wu
NEWS EDITOR

East Campus will implement additional security measures after a recent series of unknown intruder incidents. Residents are encouraged to continue reporting suspicious behavior to MIT Police and to remain engaged in the conversation.

Head of House Sandy Alexandre wrote in an email to EC residents Jan. 27 that she will request "tap pads be placed on all EC hall doors except for Bemis/Hayden stairwell doors as soon as possible."

Kate Przydzial '23, EC resident, wrote in an email to *The Tech* that there were "several intruders this year and we have had recent issues with intruders entering occupied bathrooms and residents' bedrooms."

EC held a vote last semester in which each hall "was allowed to make decisions about how security would be handled specifically for their floor," Przydzial wrote. "Some halls did vote for increased security ... while some halls abstained from voting."

"I am going to exercise my right and ethical responsibility as your head of house and go ahead and pass the security referendum that was, in all likelihood, only 1 or 2 votes from passing anyway," Alexandre wrote.

The EC house team, consisting of Alexandre, Associate Heads of House Eden Medina PhD '05 and Cristian Medina, and Area Director Alexandria Clyburn, wrote in an email to *The Tech* that security "is an

Security, Page 2

Updated ASA guidelines effective February 3rd

Exec boards must be at least 50% students

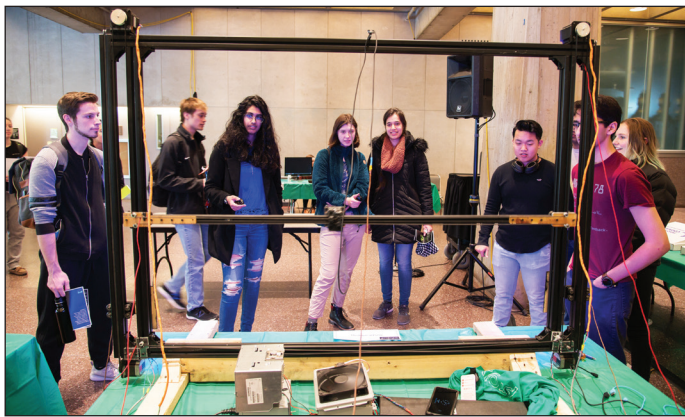
By Kerri Lu
NEWS EDITOR

The MIT Association of Student Activities changed its operating guidelines effective Feb. 3. The changes include expanding the definition of student groups, tightening requirements for student group leadership positions, and formalizing cleanliness inspection procedures.

The ASA continues to define student groups as activities "with an active membership of at least 5 MIT students and at least 50% MIT students."

The new guidelines expand the definition of student groups to include off-campus activities with organized transportation for MIT students. Previously, student activities were defined as activities run by MIT

ASA Guidelines, Page 2



Spectators play life-size mechanical pong, among other projects, at ProjXpo on Jan. 31.

MAXWELL YUN—THE TECH

IN SHORT

Registration for all students is due this Friday.

Third quarter physical education classes begin Feb. 10.

The last day to change meal plans for spring semester is Feb. 14.

Interested in joining *The Tech*? Stop by for dinner Sunday at 6 p.m. or email join@tech.mit.edu.

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

THE WEDDING SINGER

Travel back to the 80s.
ARTS, p. 4

MIT DEMOCRATS

Group endorses Elizabeth Warren.
OPINION, p. 3

DORMSPAM

Lofty aspirations for the new semester..
FUN, p. 7



THE CHRONICLE OF NINE

Capturing a forgotten moment of history.
ARTS, p. 4

FIGURE SKATING

MIT earns five medals at home competition.
SPORTS, p. 8

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Fun Pages 6
Sports 8

WEATHER

Groundhog predicts weather... Course 12 in shambles

By Kyle Morgenstein
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

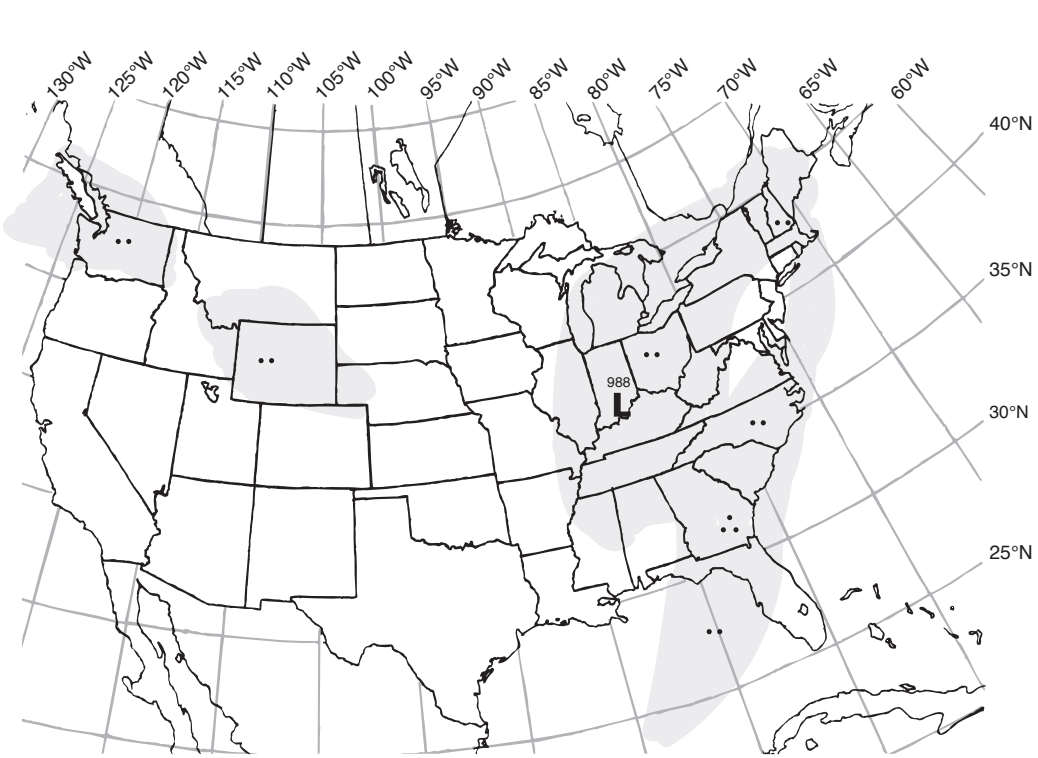
This past weekend, Punxsutawney Phil shocked meteorologists across the globe when, instead of timidly peaking out of his burrow to attempt to catch a glimpse of his all-elusive shadow as usual, he instead burst out in a lab coat sputtering about carbon emissions. “Spring will come early,” he chirped “because you morons can’t seem to see what’s right in front of your nose, much less your shadow!” while waving figures and charts around wildly. Exasperated, he retreated into his burrow for a nap be-

fore the impending spring. Phil could not be reached for further comments.

Before spring arrives, however it’s still absolutely freezing across most of the country. Temperatures range from figuratively freezing to literally freezing, with nightly lows below zero as far south as Mexico. A storm system has been moving through the south east before working its way up the coast. Northern states can expect rain, freezing rain, and snow, while the southwest can expect to remain mostly dry for at least the next week. Hopefully things start to heat up, with Valentine’s Day right around the corner!

Extended Forecast

Today: Scattered showers. High of 42°F (6°C) with moderate western winds of 14 mph.
Tonight: Rainy, with a low of 39°F (4°C). Winds will subdue to 7 mph.
Tomorrow: Persistent rain. High of 44°F (7°C) and a low of 24°F (-4°C) with winds of 21 mph.
Saturday: Sunny with a high of 32°F (0°C) and a low of 17°F (-8°C).
Sunday: Mostly sunny. High around 36°F (2°C) and a low around 33°F (1°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, February 06, 2020

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Rain
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Showers	Fog
S Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	Thunderstorm
	Stationary Front	Moderate	Haze
		Heavy	

Coronavirus incites ‘xenophobic feelings’

Coronavirus, from Page 1

tion, support systems “are connecting with each student individually,” Student Support and Wellbeing Senior Associate Dean David Randall said. Randall said that support services are helping with four main areas: food, housing, academics, and emotional support. “We are asking students about each ... and providing all the assistance that we can.”

Because travel restrictions coincided with the start of the semester, a small number of students remains in China, including Yujie Qian G, who wrote in an email to *The Tech* Feb. 2 that it still remains “unclear” how he will return to the U.S.

“The number of people who have traveled to China is much smaller than the number of people who have friends and family in China,” Vice Chancellor Ian Waitz said in an interview with *The Tech* Feb. 5. “It’s important to realize that ... a lot of people in our community ... are trying to support friends and family who are back there.”

Waitz said that there have been “reports of people being flip about the crisis as a whole and not recognizing that there’s a couple thousand

people at MIT who have close family relations in China ... and that is not a funny, laughing matter.”

The MIT Chinese Student Club stated in a Facebook post Feb. 2 that “discourse surrounding the virus has incited many xenophobic feelings and micro-aggressions toward Chinese culture.”

Waitz encouraged the community to remember “we are one MIT. Everyone here is valued. Just be a little thoughtful when you are interacting.”

According to Maria Zuber, vice president for research, MIT has 30 active research collaborations with China or Hong Kong. “While it’s going to prevent in-person collaborations, it doesn’t mean the work isn’t going to go on,” Zuber said in an interview with *The Tech* Feb. 5.

Barnhart and Schmidt wrote in an email Jan. 31 that MIT faculty, staff, and postdocs who need to travel to China “urgently” are required to discuss their travel plans and the associated risks and sign a risk acknowledgement form.

“No one has come to me to have one of those discussions,” Zuber said.

The Office of the Vice Chancellor wrote in an email to *The Tech* that a Lunar New Year Celebration, hosted

by the International Students Office, Chinese Students and Scholars Association, and Vietnamese Students Association, was originally scheduled Feb. 7 but has been postponed.

MIT-China program Managing Director Sean Gilbert wrote in an email to *The Tech* that “19 students visited mainland China” for IAP workshops and externships.

“MISTI-China activities in mainland China are currently on hold for the next month or two” or “at least until WHO travel warnings are lifted,” Gilbert wrote. “We have very few activities in China during the spring semester ... so there hasn’t been much impact on the program.”

Stuopis, Waitz, and Zuber applauded MIT staff for adapting to a rapidly-evolving situation.

“It’s been an amazing community-wide and campus-wide effort,” Stuopis said. The action plan “evolves as the information evolves ... It is not static.”

For support regarding the coronavirus, members of the MIT community can contact coronavirus-support@mit.edu. Community members can visit medical.mit.edu/coronavirus for the latest updates.

Jessica Shi contributed reporting.

Policy review committee to include residents from East Campus and Random Hall

Clothing, from Page 1

environments and living communities are “safe, comfortable, and free from harassment and discrimination” for both employees and students.

The committee will be composed of two representatives each from the Undergraduate Association and Graduate Student Council, two at-large student members, and one representative each from the communities (EC and Random) that currently have clothing-optional spaces, as well as seven staff from Student Support, Residential Life, Facilities, IDHR, Human Resources, and the Office of General Counsel.

The committee will additionally include three faculty members: the Chair of the Committee on Discipline and the Random and EC heads of house conveners or their designees.

Robinson and Friedrich also wrote in their email that residents with “ideas on how to refine the moratorium’s parameters” could share them with the EC president Miana Smith ’21. Smith can then forward the suggestions to the committee chair, to be discussed at the committee’s first meeting. Smith wrote in an email to *The Tech* that EC will have further community meetings to talk about the moratorium and its effects on residents.

In addition, Robinson and Friedrich wrote that the EC house team and executive officers may request updates on the committee’s progress. To address concerns raised by EC residents, Robinson and Friedrich “are reviewing what contractors wear for identification when working in the building to make sure they are recognizable as staff approved to be there.”

House team to collaborate with EC executive board and DSL to determine solution

Security, from Page 1

ongoing conversation; nothing is set in stone.”

According to the house team, there have “always been and will always be opportunities for EC residents to voice their thoughts in person.” The team will schedule meetings with residents “whenever they’re requested.”

“EC residents could probably teach a master class in staying engaged in an ongoing conversation, so I certainly wouldn’t dictate how they might or should do that,” the house team wrote.

The house team “meets regularly with EC Exec” to discuss topics important to students. The team is also working with the Division of Student Life to arrive at a final solution.

“As these discussions continue, we ask residents to be conscious

of individuals attempting to follow them (or ‘piggyback’) into the residence and to lock their room doors when they are out of the building,” David Friedrich, senior associate dean of housing and residential services, wrote in an email to *The Tech*.

Przydzial wrote that aside from Alexandre’s email, students “have gotten no additional information after the fact.” Resident feelings about the decision “are mixed,” Przydzial wrote.

MIT Police logs indicate that a report was “filed regarding suspicious activity” in building 64 of EC 3:38 a.m. Jan. 27. John DiFava, chief of police, did not respond to *The Tech*’s request for comment.

Residents observing suspicious behavior should contact MIT Police immediately at (617)-253-1212 or by dialing 100 from any MIT phone.

A toast to the latest production from MIT's Musical Theatre Guild



Robbie (Diego Barea '20) sings a song for Julia (Carrie Fowle '18).

It's the 1980s. Mulletts and Ronald Reagan are trending, New Coke is about to be born, and wedding singer Robbie Hart (Diego Barea '20) just got left at the altar by his ex-fiancée Linda (Cecilia Esterman '21) due to Robbie's lack of a rock star career. Luckily for Robbie, he'd just met Julia Sullivan (Carrie Fowle '18), a waitress at the reception hall where he was performing, and might've just fallen in love with her. Unluckily for Robbie, however, Julia is already in a relationship with Wall Street mogul Glen Guglia (Long Nguyen G). Through *Thriller*-inspired dance numbers, Saturday nights in the city, and Vegas impersonators, MTG's *The Wedding Singer* follows Robbie and Julia as they navigate their budding feelings for each other.

An energetic dance number started the show off, immediately captivating the audience with glitzy lights and engaging choreography. The open floor plan of La Sala served the production well in immersing the audience, making it feel like an extended stage where the audience members were also guests at the wedding receptions. There did seem to be some difficulties with some of the actors' microphones cutting off, and the music overpowered the singing at times, but overall the production quality was top-tier. The transitions from scene to scene were quick and seamless, and any mic issues were handled with professionalism.

The musical absolutely delivered on the comedy, never overdoing anything just to extract a laugh. In the last half, the story got more serious, but the shift in tone didn't cause the performance to lose any of its previous humor, and it managed to stay lighthearted and whimsical until the end. The drollness did not detract from the more heartfelt moments either — the musical perfectly balanced its wit with its sincerity.

Some of my favorite songs include "Casualty of Love," which is the song of scorned

Rosner's reactionary recitativo resuscitated

Odyssey Opera captures the fleeting reign of Lady Jane Grey in *The Chronicle of Nine*

A “fusion of seemingly incongruous elements” (echoing the program notes) is an apt description of Arnold Rosner’s style. Add to that his eschewing of Mozart as laughably overrated and his strong iconoclastic tendencies, and you make a classical music lover want to approach the man’s work with a nine-foot poker. Audiences on Saturday night did not have much to fear, however — for such strong statements, the music that unfolded onstage was surprisingly staid. It was pretty and rhythmic, but it lacked complexity and melody. It was epic in the sense of a movie soundtrack rather than a monumental work of art. Much of the singing was in recitativo style, which served to underline the incidental nature of the score.

The Chronicle of Nine is adapted from a play that documents the short rise and fall of Lady Jane Grey, a member of the Tudor family, who ascends the throne for the span

of nine days as a result of the machinations of her relatives. Through the machinations of others, she is quickly de-throned and executed by order of Mary I. Considering that poor, manipulated Jane (Megan Pachenco) doesn't come across much like the heroine of her own story, even the epic movie soundtrack doesn't seem exactly apropos.

Conductor Gil Rose arranged the score skillfully, opening with a very strong overture that unfurls with an air of intrigue and fantasy. The violins provided a velvet carpet on which the harp and the trumpets alternated in a dance of sweetness and discord. Rose granted the harp all the prominence it's due in a piece that draws so much inspiration from Renaissance and Baroque music, and it was like honey dripping off the side of the jar. The BMOP orchestra played with nuance and heart, undeterred by repetitive passages. Their conviction, especially when doubling vocal lines, was even strong enough to drown out the voices of some of the weaker singers.

Pachenco had no problem breasting the wave of orchestral sound with her lyrical soprano, while managing to rein in the power of her voice enough to convincingly portray the teenage Jane. In an interview with *The Tech*, Pachenco, a self-professed “stage animal,” admits that she does not have difficulty balancing the acting and singing that is demanded in operatic roles. And her confidence in herself is not misplaced. Her bearing and facial expressions make her a magnetic presence on stage.

The main challenge for Pachenco in performing the role of Queen Jane was that there was no precedent, no recordings to harken to, “no way to know... [you] have a good idea, but there’s no way to really know.” She got “the opportunity to create something new,” which was “fun, but there was also a great responsibility to do justice to the piece.” Especially, she added, if the composer has passed, as is the case with Rosner, and is not able to share their vision or hear their piece for the first time. In cases like these, the singer “really needs to take ownership” — it’s not enough to just learn the solo lines. They need to understand ahead of time where they will fit, and to do this, they need to study the full score (rather than the reduced piano and vocals that might be sufficient for preparing for a classic opera).

The cast of nine seemed well-coordinated despite having rehearsed together for the first time only a week prior. Bass David Salsberry Fry as the Earl of Pembroke and baritone James Demler as the Earl of Arundel made a comic plotting pair, wrestling with the leaden libretto while delivering booming, full-bodied notes that coursed through the concert hall. Gene Stenger, as the minstrel who heralds the arrival of a new act in the style of Elizabethan lute songs, was shy in manner but strong in voice. Costumes were luscious and of the period, but rather eclectic, some reminiscent of a merchant's cloth while others a noble's mantle.

The opera's libretto is in English, and because the cadence of the language is



David Salsbery Fry, James Demler, William Hite, Aaron Engebret perform in *The Chronicle of Nine*.

Written by Tim Herlihy

Directed by Geoff Hegg '16

La Sala de Puerto Rico

**Jan. 31–Feb. 1, Feb. 6–7
at 8 p.m.**

Feb. 2 at 2 p.m. and Feb. 8 at 6 p.m.

lovers and one of the most entertaining performances of the musical. Rosie (Cherry Wang '22) shows she's no regular grandma and busts some moves with "Move That Thang." On a softer note, never has a song about trash been as inspirational as "Come Out of the Dumpster," and Robbie and Julia's "Grow Old With You" will pull at your heartstrings with its gentle guitar strings and tender lyrics.

An extra round of applause must be given to the cast for their outstanding vocal talents and performances. Barea and Fowle were simply magnetic as the leads, and the supporting cast of Sammy (Michael Mandanas '22), George (Chris Chang '21), Holly (Daphne Faber '23), Rosie, Angie (Eva Demsky '22), Glen, and Linda shined in each of their respective roles. The excitement from each cast member was visible and transferred to the audience as well, creating a thrilling energy in the room.

It's the 2020s. Mulletts are out, and unfortunately, so is Ronald Reagan. Grab a ticket to *The Wedding Singer* and travel back to the 80s for a fun two-ish hours. You won't regret it.

**Composed by Arnold
Rosner**

Libretto by Florence Stevenson

NEC's Jordan Hall

Feb. 1

weaved into the music, the two flow seamlessly together. Pachenco points to mixed meter and different time signatures as examples of how Rosner attempted to capture the natural rhythms of the language. She prefers singing in English, as she believes that "operas were intended to be sung by a native speaker and in modern times, we've gotten away from that somewhat."

While the subject matter provides ample psychological and historical fodder, the libretto itself is rather disappointing. The characters are flat (Jane is the most dynamic of the lot but still only swings between bemusement and terror), communicating by simple, single sentence dialogues. An example of an exchange between Lady Jane Grey and her husband in Act III: "You are so very, very young." "What does that mean?" "Nothing, really." "Here, 'tis good wine." And I'm not cherry-picking. Having been written by the playwright herself, I would have expected a richer, more nuanced, and more substantive text.

Compared to their two very strong season openers (*Henry VIII* and *Maria, Regina D'Inghilterra*), *The Chronicle of Nine* is a bit of a comedown in terms of source material, but the execution by Odyssey Opera and BMOP does not falter. Odyssey Opera's next Tudor era-inspired piece will be Rossini's *Elisabetta, Regina D'Inghilterra* opening on March 13.



MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper

Open House

Whether you would like to write for our content departments (News, Science, Opinion, Arts, Campus Life, Sports); layout and design the paper for our production department; capture campus happenings for our photography department; help edit articles for our copy department; run the money side of things for our business department; handle the website and servers for our technology department; or have other ideas for how to contribute:

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Feb. 9 @ 5:30–7:00 p.m.
W20-483

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NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Solution to Sleep

from page 6

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Solution to Pset

from page 6

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Solution to It's Your Turn

from page 6

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24th MIT European Career Fair

Saturday, February 22nd, 9 AM - 4 PM

Johnson Track, MIT

Register Now

euro-career.mit.edu

Open to all students and young professionals interested in European companies and research

Organized by the MIT European Club

Contact: ecf2020@mit.edu

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Pset Paranoia

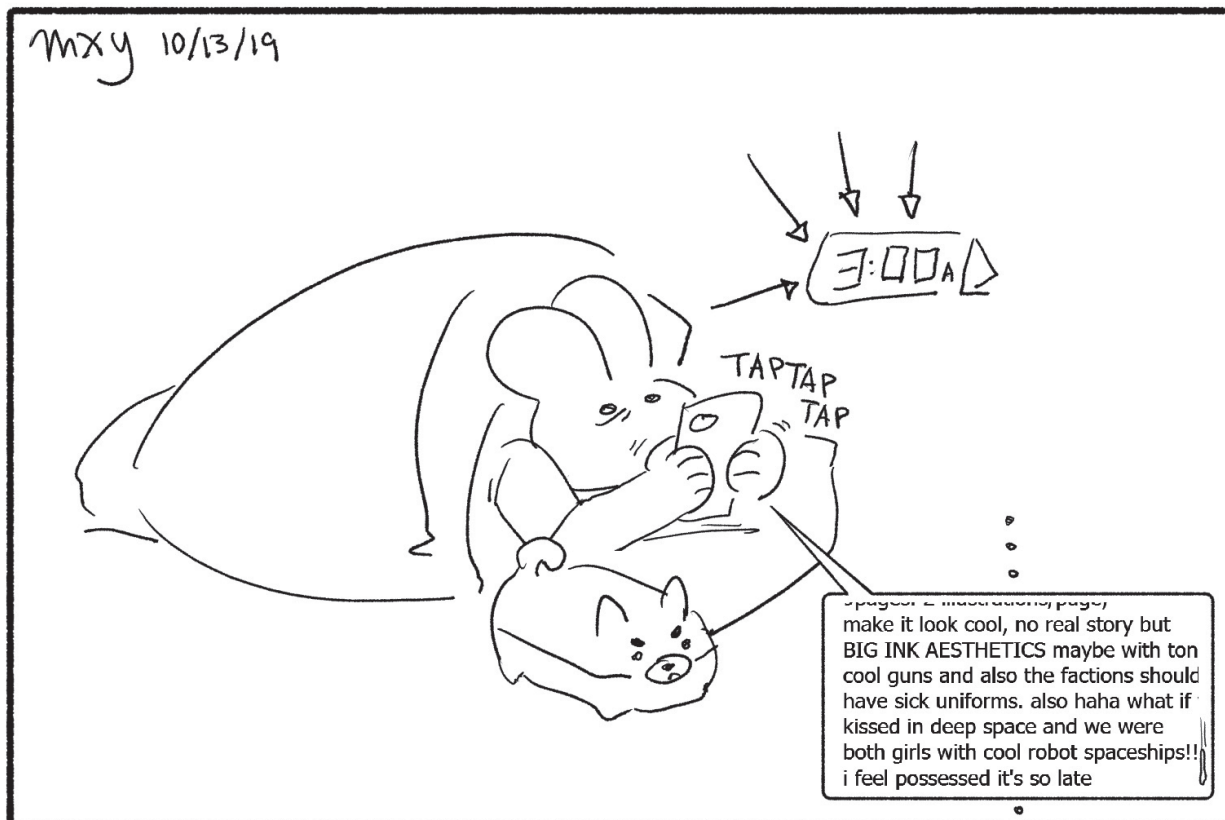
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It's Your Turn by Carolyn Stewart

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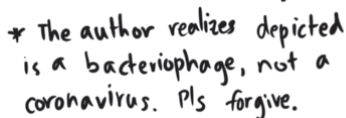
miscellany #13: the muse strikes



by Jaeho Kim '20 ■

a comic about life at the 'tvte

Coronavirus



Good Luck, Guys!



FUNFUNFUNFUNFUNFUNFUNFUNFUNFUN

Are you a tetris ninja?

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Photo: Jonathan Sachs

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Resilience of Law: Stories from Everyday Life

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**Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology**

By Diane Zhou

Yamaguchi landed two double axels and made an im-

Olivia Yao '20 competed in two dance events, Bronze Pat-

The MIT Figure Skating Club's next event will be their annual Spring Exhibition on Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 6 p.m.



In the Senior Ladies' Short Program, Diane Zhou G (left) placed second and Erina Yamaguchi '23 (right) placed first.

Thursday 6th

Men's Volleyball
vs. Emmanuel
7:00 p.m.

Saturday 8th

Rifle
vs. Coast Guard and John Jay
8:00 a.m.

Men's Volleyball
vs. Elms
12:00 p.m.

Men's Basketball
vs. Wheaton
2:00 p.m.

Men's Volleyball
vs. Illinois Tech
5:00 p.m.

Tech and Social Policy Innovations can cure:

**War
Poverty
Corruption
Climate Change**
and other serious threats to Civilization

Find out how in our class:

Why Can't We All Just Get Along?

Mondays & Wednesdays, 3 PM, 24-618
ES.S40. 3, 6 or 9 units



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