

# MYSTERY HUNT 1988

**PURPOSE:** To be the first to find an Indian Head Penny which is hidden somewhere on campus, by using the clues on this page.

**THE PRIZE:** The winner's choice of  
A keg of beer,  
\$20 gift certificate to the Coop,  
\$50 donation to the charity of the winner's choice,  
or any reasonable suggestion that the winner makes.

**HOW TO WIN:** On the reverse side of this page are a dozen subclues. The answer from each subclue is to be copied into the appropriate space of the main clue. The main clue will then tell where to find the Indian Head Penny. The first person to find the penny should then turn it in to Brad Schaefer (at room 37-576 or Westgate #2095) to claim the prize.

**CLUES TO HARD?:** I anticipate that the penny will be found in 48 hours  $\pm$  48 hours. Last year, a one person group came close to finding the penny after 8 hours! I would like feedback for the first two days on how close the various groups are to finding the penny. At 9 A.M. on Tuesday and Wednesday, I will distribute more clues in Lobby 7.

**OTHER RULES:** The winner must be a person or group of persons from the MIT Wellesley community. All participants are responsible for their own actions. Brad Schaefer will be the final authority in all disputes. Funding for the prize was provided by the IAP Funding Committee.

**MAIN CLUE:**

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16				

✓ SUBCLUE #1. The first subclue is the same as the first subclue from last year's IAP Mystery Hunt.

ROOM

SUBCLUE #2.

Σ 2 Y ≠

V 10 | III

⊕ Y ≠ A Z P

2 for 1

2-7 52  
4-6 52  
3-1 52  
1-3 52

SUBCLUE #3.

8 5 + 11 4 - 2 1 - 10 5 = 3 0

✓ SUBCLUE #4. The longitude of Hun Kal divided by four.

4 5

✓ SUBCLUE #5. BOY GIRL + LOVE ELOPE Both the BOY and the GIRL are in the PRIMES of their lives.

R = 5 2

SUBCLUE #6. 13 37 02 16 37 72 52 05  
83 25 33 12 11 97 23 29  
53 55 91 99 17 98 97 08

6 part

5 2 5 4 3 -

✓ SUBCLUE #7. South of Nine, east of Oh.

7 #

✓ SUBCLUE #8. For Marjorie.

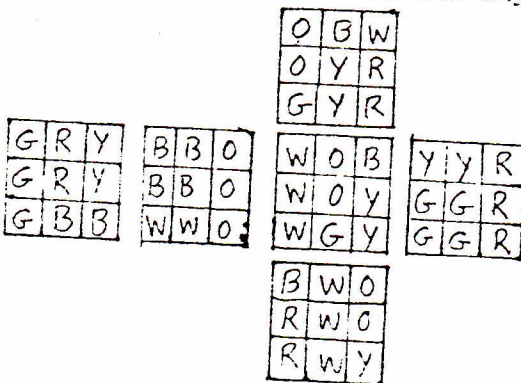
8 5

SUBCLUE #9. T(any true statement)=1, T(any false statement)=0.  
~~T(Gamma Leo is in Scorpius) + T(V336 Hyi is in Hydra) + T(Bobby Fischer drew the fifth game in his match with Sammy Reshevsky) + T(the usual number of notches in the jade hsüan-chi is four) + T(boondocking is where one player intentionally pots an opponent's disk to obtain a strategic advantage) =~~ 9 0

SUBCLUE #10. "Big Salt" in numerology.

10 5 5

✓ SUBCLUE #11. Minimum # of turns required to reconstruct the unfolded Rubik's cube.



11 4

SUBCLUE #12. First digit typical biscuit cone.

12 0

✓ SUBCLUE #13. (Turkish) üç.

13 3

SUBCLUE #14. 10000000.

14 1

SUBCLUE #15. The hawk sailing where men have not yet sailed, the farthest polar sea, ripply, 15, open, beyond the floes.

15

crystal

SUBCLUE #16. Trolocials.

16

ex. 11/12

- 1) "Room", obviously.
- 2) I seem to recall that this is written in Linear B, and when transliterated into English, it comes out as some simple addition or something, and the result is 4. Brad was very proud of this clue, and had been sitting on it for a couple of years.
- 3)  $5 + 4 - 4 - 5 = 0$ . From looking at my notes, it seems that we had clues 4 and 5, and in order to make the first part of this come out to be an MIT room number as per the given punctuation, we were able to deduce somehow that clue 2 plus clue 3 was 4, so the only choices were 2-252, 4-052, 3-152, an 1-352, so we headed off to check these rooms. This implies that we must have found the answers to 8, 10, and 11, and I think that's right.
- 4)  $20 / 4 = 5$ . I think maybe Hun Kal is on Mercury, and if not there then maybe on the Moon or something.
- 5) Cryptarithmic, or whatever you may call it. I guess you can solve it uniquely if BOY and GIRL are prime numbers., and  $R = 2$ .
- 6) I'm not sure how this one worked, but it might be that you were supposed to make all of the odd numbers, or all of the primes, or something like that, into bumps, and read it as Braille. Or maybe not. In any event, the result is "part".
- 7) "South" of the 9 button and "east" of the 0 on a telephone keypad is the # button.
- 8) "For Marjorie" is a sculpture at MIT, and there must have been a label on it or something. The answer is 5.
- 9) A pile of false trivia. 0.
- 10) Comes out to 5.
- 11) Rubik's Cubes were near the peak of their popularity in 1982, when this puzzle was run. Ralph, who lived across the hall from me, was among the many cube wizards around who could solve any cube in a couple of minutes, and who carried a cube around to fiddle with in his spare time. We disassembled a cube, and put it together as per the diagram. Ralph was immediately able to see how to solve it, and after watching the four-move solution, we were all satisfied that this was indeed the minimum required.
- 12) I guess a biscuit cone has something to do with pottery, and the people at the Student Art Association knew about them, and almost all of them have numbers that start with a 0.
- 13) Three. Maybe Brad had hidden the only English-Turkish dictionary in the library to make this harder. I think we still found something useful, maybe an English-Turkish dictionary, and we just looked up numbers until we found it.
- 14) I seem to recall that this was intended to mean zero with the sign bit set, or "-0".
- 15) Crystal. I don't think we had time to find this before it was all over.
- 16) I know we didn't get this one. It's just "oscillator" scrambled.

The whole message was "Room 4-052, part #505403-0, crystal oscillator". When we got to 4-052 (Lab Supply), we looked at the catalog on the counter and realized that the catalog numbers fit the form of the puzzle answer, and at that point the guy behind the counter said "Are you guys looking for that thing, too?". It turns out that the catalog number is not in the catalog, and they don't carry crystal oscillators at Lab Supply, but the guy had been given instructions to give a wooden box to anyone who came asking for either. Puzzle was solved (by, I think, a team from Phi Beta Epsilon), in under six hours. Brad was very surprised.