by The Campus League of Puzzlers

NURIKABE

Congratulations to Keita, Matthew Weiner, and Shang who were the first three to submit the correct answer to last week's puzzle on our website (http://puzzle.berkeley.edu).

This week's puzzle is called a Nurikabe. The goal of the puzzle is to determine whether each square in the grid is white or black. (The grey background in this puzzle will help you extract the answer, but it is not used in the solution of the Nurikabe.) The white squares form regions, each containing exactly one number. That number tells you how many white squares there are in the region. White regions cannot share sides, but can touch at the corners of squares. The black squares must all be connected (which means they must share at least one side with another black square), and 2 by 2 blocks of black squares not allowed. A solving tip is to put a dot in the squares that you know are white in order to easily see which squares are still unknown. Again, the final answer will be a single letter.

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