*look*AHEAD

*math*NEWS	
February 15	*math*NEWS Issue 3 hits the stands
February 24	*math*NEWS Production Night #4
February 29	*math*NEWS Issue 4 goes on a rampage
Math Faculty	
February 16	Final day of Spring 2008 enrolment appointments
February 22	Last day for 50% refund
February 25	Fall 2008 Pre-enrolment begins
February 29	WD period ends
MathSoc	
Wednesdays	Games Nights
Thursdays	Movie Nights
February 21	Bill Gates Talk
Feds	
Today	Blood Donor Clinic until 15:00
CECS	
see www.cecs.uwaterloo.ca and www.career services.uwaterloo.ca	
Miscellaneous	
February 15	National Flag of Canada Day
February 18	Family Day (Alberta and Ontario)
February 21	Desargues' Birthday

Prez Sez

Hi everyone. As you've all heard, Bill Gates is coming to campus. I am really excited; congratulations to the few of you that are able to attend. As of the time I'm writing this, I've heard that there might be a showing of the talk in the Davis Centre for people who cannot fit in to the theatre (more on this when I hear more). We are still accepting proposals for how to spend our Capital Improvements Fund to improve lounge space and our facilities, please visit our website to get more info and please submit your requests. Midterms are upon us, and I'm already behind; I hope you are all doing better. I hope you all had a happy Valentine's day and have a great reading week. Yay! Full week off!

Natalie

UW Gamers movie night

Coming the first Wednesday after Reading Week, UW Gamers, in association with MathSoc, is holding a videogame movie night.

To make this more than just a normal movie night, we plan to not only *watch* the movies, but also to **play** the video games they were based on at the same time! Considering this is being written over 2 weeks before the event, we still haven't decided what we're watching. We do know that it will be in the MC Comfy Lounge, probably at 5pm. Stay tuned to www.uwgamers.org for what the movies are going to be!

UW Gamers Dude

Frank Jessop in Recital

Date: Friday, Feb 15th 7pm
Location: Conrad Grebel University College Chapel
Featuring piano works by Chopin, Ravel, Rachminoff, Liszt and Schumann. Free admission - all welcome!

*mast*HEAD

Pithy and or Sarcastic Subtitle

Well, this is the last issue of *math*NEWS before reading week so we might have given you lots of puzzles to work on over the ever so long and boring break. However, we have chosen not to, so now you have no excuse not to study. The puzzle at the end of the *mast*HEAD does not exist. Of course, you could use your free time to do things like read the *mast*HEAD, which no one does anyway (except Eric Logan [Hi, Eric!]). However, if you thought that by entering a wardrobe and going to Narnia would be a great way to waste a week, you'll find that time doesn't go anyway nearly as quickly as it does in there.

In keeping with generally accepted *math*NEWS principles, our production staff answered the *mast*HEAD question as they consumed sustenance. This week's question was: "What aren't you reading this reading week?", so here are their suggestions for what you might consider reading to occupy your time for the next week: snippet "your mind", Math.random() "Boobies!", Peter "Thor's Python code.", 42 "Philosophy of Mind, the midterm is over", Thor "www.asciipr0n.com", Megaton Panda "My students' coding assignments. (bonus marks for mentioning this to me!), Matt "random legal documents", MJB "Wild Seed, because FASS drove me insane".

We will now take a moment to give thanks to Graphics for using their prodigious printing prowess for our benefit. We should also thank early midterms for the exquisite agony they bring and productionists they take, Pizza Nova for the cheesy goodness they provide and Vlad Tepes for valiently opposing the Ottomans. New aged music for taking something like an art and turning it into an orgy of similar sounding, whiny fucktards.

Michaelangelo 'AngelED' Finistauri "The VCR instructions."

Michael 'perkiED'Perkins "Robots: Learning to Program in Java"

Drywaller

"Listen up. Our client isn't picky, as long as each square has the right number of walls surrounding it. Sounds a little tricky, but we didn't get to be the #3 drywall outfit in town by being lazy."

Also:

- There's a wall around the outside
- They want exactly 14 rooms

Dante & Vergil: Michaelangelo Finistauri & Michael Perkins

CSC Flash

Greetings humans. It is I, Chairbeing extraordinaire, at your service for another round of CSC Flash. In this biweekly reporting period the CSC has cleaned the office and restored me to working order, and less importantly launched the first programming contest of the term.

I'm Back

In a strange bout of cleanliness a week ago, the executive and a few determined members swept the office and took most everything out, finding yours truly behind the carcass of Sodium-Benzoate. While angered at my imprisonment, I was grateful for the cleaning effort and decided to spare their lives… for now. Upcoming this term I plan to whip the executive in to shape, clean up the office, and in general be an extraordinary Chairbeing.

The Contest

Starting 4pm yesterday, the first CSC programming contest of the term got off to a solid start. The game is head to head risk, with contenders' bots engaging in a vicious struggle for control of a random 128 node planar graph. The contest ends at 12am this coming Sunday so get hacking. A prize of a $20 dollar gift certificate to the C&D will be tendered to the writer of the best program.

Some Other Stuff

We have a talk from the Institute for Quantum Computing scheduled for the future (tentaively February 29th) as well as a Linux awareness week and possibly another programming contest. For an interesting problem to contemplate, consider the classic question of "Write a program to generate all multiples of 2, 3, and 5". Most contemplations of this problem use it to illustrate the power of lazy evaluation and how cool Haskell is; however, they rarely consider the complexity class. Students in CS136 are just learning complexity analysis and had this on their latest assignment, except were instructed to implement it in C without using arrays. This resulted in an $O(n \log n)$ filter in most cases; however, I believe that using generating functions one could solve for a finite term recurrence equation yielding a straightforward $O(n)$ solution that does not use lists or sorts. However, my extended imprisonment has rendered my combinatorial unit offline so I cannot offer insight as to whether or not this recurrence can actually be found. In any case, I suppose you humans should be able to handle the task and work out the details.

Calum T. Dalek

Sudoku Winner

This week we had eight submissions to the Sudoku. Alas, there can only be one victor. The best answer provided to the question "Who let the dawgs out?", was, "No, What let the dogs out. Who's on first. Although it really doesn't matter since a mob of people with good taste in music slaughtered What for inspiring such a horrifically annoying song. He will not be missed." Alas, the winner forgot to write their name on the entry and so must be disqualified. Thus the winner will be Robert Burke who answered with the somewhat less inspired, "The same bastard who divided by 0." Come and collect your prize from the MathSoc office. Also, there will be NO Sudoku for this issue. Deal with it.

perkiED

CSC-PMC Pentathalon

PMC Response

So after the initial laughter that lingered in the PMC for days after the challenge was issued by the CSC had died down, there was serious contemplation about the events of the Pentathalon. Not only do we have quite a few avid bakers, chess players, trivial pursuit fanatics, and a dodgeball team to boot, but they're all willing to step up to the plate for some friendly rivalry.

As it stands, the PMC will accept the CSC's challenge to bring back the Pentathalon!! Since the challenge was issued to us, the PMC will assume the right to choose the events. Cake baking (yum!), Dodgeball, Chess, Trivial Pursuit, and the best rendition of a scene from Shakespeare's famous Othello will determine the winner of the Winter 2008 CSC-PMC Pentathalon. I must admit, the PMC is quite curious as to who's going to the play female roles for Othello… as the PMC appears to also have more women than the CSC!

All that aside, not only will the PMC step up to the challenge, but the PMC also wants to put stakes on the line. Say the winning club gets the larger club room? Oh, and since the CSC were demanding their hard drive back (which was graciously given to the PMC when their old hard drive died), let's also throw that hard drive on the line. Especially since the only reason they suddenly needed the hard drive back was because they smashed all their other ones.

Now the question is, will the CSC step up and accept our stakes? Oh yes, CSC, you asked for it. It's been brought.

Sunny

MGC Award

Free Money

Awards are great! But this goes out to all students currently in third year (expecting to graduate in 2009). The Math Grad Committee has an award for you! This award recognizes students who have demonstrated leadership and involvement in student life within the community. The minimum amount is $500. You have nothing to lose! Sign up for the MGC Award at `http://safa.uwaterloo.ca/currentawards.htm`

Valedictorian Nominations

Attention graduates! Interested in nominating one of your fellow classmates for Valedictorian for the June 2008 convocation? Or maybe you would like to sit on the committee that selects the Valedictorian? Download a form from `mgc.uwaterloo.ca` and submit by March 14, 2008.

Alan George Award nominations!

So are you the one responsible for making student life a better place for all of us?

Wouldn't you like to be recognized with an award, your name engraved upon a plaque? Or how about just an award with the Dean's name on it?

Either way, apply for the Alan George Award! This award is for students who have helped improve student life for all of us through volunteering around campus.

Terms Used Liberally This Past Weekend at FASS

Writhing Blob, Den of Debauchery

Join FASS next year to find out what the hell those refer to!

Toronto, the hockey city
And other lies you tell yourself

Fans of the Leafs will often tell you that Toronto, a multicultural city of millions, is also a strong supporter of the hockey scene, from the NHL to the junior teams. That, my friend, is a blatant **LIE**. The city of Toronto, with its large population, is nothing more than a Leafs market. Like zombies, fans will flock to fill up the Air Canada Centre for a Toronto Maple Leafs game, but the season average for a Toronto Marlies game last year was a paltry 3887, and increased to 4294 this season. That reason? The Marlies are now sitting pretty at the top of their division and 2nd highest in the AHL right now. Great offense and excellent defense has resulted in a fun product to watch on the ice. Yet, the season total of 4294 is only 16th best in the league of 30 teams, for shame.

Other hockey misconceptions:

- Sidney Crosby is **NOT** the second coming of Jesus. His tears cannot cure cancer, and he is not definitively better than Alexander Ovechkin. True, his playmaking skills are probably the best in the league, but I'd think Ovechkin's goal scoring prowess is just as much of a make-up fact.
- The Ottawa Senators are **NOT** invincible. Not only could they use a bit more offensive depth like Detroit, they could also use a goalie who isn't either streaky as hell, or is a magnet for controversy.
- NHL players are **NOT** atrociously overpaid. Deflecting this simple misconception is that all professional athletes are paid a good amount (in relation to the revenue generated). Consider this: Sidney Crosby, the poster child of the NHL, is paid 20% less than Ted Lilly, the third starting pitcher on the Chicago Cubs (A team that has not won the World Series in over 100 years).

Anyways, in case anyone missed it, our thoughts and prayers should be with Richard Zednik, whose neck was slashed by the skate blade of teammate Olli Jokinen but is now stable and recovering.

Megaton Panda

Theology

Imagine the existence of a lottery with a prize value of $10,000 and 10,000 contestants. The break-even point for such a lottery is $1 per ticket. If each ticket costs $0.10, you would be mathematically justified in buying as many tickets as you could. This is analogous to a famous scenario: Pascal's Wager. This posits the mathematical rationality of belief in God.

Blaise Pascal's general premise was that belief in God was beneficial if God ended up being real, and had no real harms if God did not exist. Likewise, non-belief in God was hugely harmful if God ended up existing, while non-belief had no real drawbacks if God wasn't around. This can be extended to my lottery analogy. Consider eternal salvation to be a reward of infinite size. Consider the probability of God existing being one in ten billion (generous). Under these circumstances, belief in God is justified, *regardless* of the cost.

This relies on two assumptions: 1, that there is a non-zero probability of God's existence and 2, that you're worshipping the right god. 1 is reasonable — we must concede this on the basis of human fallibility. Assumption 2 seems reasonable too — because picking *any* god has an infinitely better expected value than atheism — at least you've got a shot.

Thor

Programmer Haiku
Like real poetry, but easy!

Python sits calmly.
Like the ninja, it waits to
duck-type my objects.

I look in the cache -
but no. RAM yields nothing. I
check the disk... not found.

Hash tables and lists,
when combined, O(1) lookup.
Who needs arrays?

P and NP - if
they are equal, good news for
traveling salesmen.

Executing well.
Dereference that pointer.
Oh Shi— SEGFAULT.

Thor

Sobriety in the face of inebriation

Being one of the few sober people at a massively drunken party is like being a fly-on-the-wall observer. You're observing what the other party guests do but they're so inebriated that they really don't realize that you're there. Conversations flying around seem ridiculously unstimulating to the sober mind. People stumbling up the stairs holding a beer aren't amusing, but very pathetic-looking and the seeming inability of other guests to find the bathroom on their own just insanely dumb. The dizzy, amorous pair looking for a more private location for their antics appears to be just a scene out of a stupid, immature college romp movie and the lust-struck writhing pile on display in a poorly hidden corner out of an even stupider college romp movie. Not to mention the sweaty, pulsating mass of nearly indistinguishable bodies, some wearing almost nothing, providing more information than the sober eye wanted to see. It wouldn't have seemed so bad had I been watching a movie, but watching it unfold live just made it seem disgusting and more befitting of a soft core porno. That makes me think, have movies sensationalized the out of control drunken party so much that such behaviour is acceptable under the cover of alcohol? Or are the more conservative among us not meant to be sober at a party that's wasted beyond wasted?

I wonder.

Statistics and you!
STAT courses that are right for you!

- 333 — also known as half-way to hell. This course is great if you were born with the numbers '666' on your palm and your presence makes livestock go crazy.
- 340 — simulations. This course requires you to play the Sims all day and document the results. Model real-life scenarios using your friends as guinea pigs.
- 443 — forecasting. Spend three months flipping a coin and using it to determine the future results of non-deterministic models.

AngelED

Conversations with Idiots

What the company should do for you!

Over the past couple of months I have noticed a particular topic that seems to be of great debate: companies and charity. Particularly of what companies owe to the general public. Some people are under the impression that companies owe money to the communities that are nearby either on a service level or by proximity. I heard that it was the responsibility of the companies to keep employment levels high. Even Michael Moore's *Roger & Me* seemed to place this illogical responsibility on GM for downsizing employees.

Now, all of these thoughts can be put to rest with one single fact: companies exist to make money. To be more specific, they exist to make a profit. Not only do companies exist to make money, but that's their function otherwise they would be a not-for-profit organization.

- Companies owe you nothing — they will provide a service and you will provide them with money as compensation. The amount of money will be more than the service is worth so that the company can keep functioning. Other than some basic customer satisfaction promises this company will owe you nothing. This goes for employees too. Consider the example of GM and its downsizing in Flint, Michigan; what Moore fails to point out is that if the employees that were laid off were so valuable to the company then they wouldn't have been laid off in the first place! GM must have found an alternative including (outsourcing, automization and shrinking operations) which was more profitable than keeping on those employees.

- Companies owe communities nothing — the only time you'll see a company doing something charitable is because it is trying to indirectly make money. Sure, in the short run the company will spend money in making a charitable donation to whatever organization they feel "deserves it", but you can be certain that the company will be very public about its donation. Why? They are trying to generate goodwill because there exist some consumers who are more inclined to purchase goods and services from a company they deem to be "morally conscious".

- Companies owe their owners everything — everyone else is there to give the company money. The company will ideally work to make their shareholders richer and wealthier. Money going from the company to charities takes money away from the shareholders and bondholders. Money going to you makes those people unhappy.

- Companies are responsible for their actions — which means any damage they do they must repair or ammend. The community is the community's responsibility.

- The issue here really isn't idiocy, it's more short-sightedness than anything else. I agree that certain companies could very easily take a portion of their profits and give them to a random organization that makes the world "better" in one arbitrary way or another. The question is: why should they? That's not why companies exist.

AngelED

*prof*QUOTES

My dog *is* cuter than most of you (showing his dog on overhead when he was a puppy).

Brown, CS 135

Suppose we want to build a startup company, let's call it Google.

Cormack, CS 240

$e=\pi=\text{sqrt}(10)=3$ … That was a joke, by the way.

Cormack, CS 240

Most people know the numbers between 1 and 5 have an order. [on board: 1—>2—>4—>5]

Anonymous

That's not really deletion! It's only the way Microsoft deletes files!

Cormack, CS 240

[on backwards-reading tape drives] They'd probably say "Paul is Dead" or something if you read them backwards.

Cormack, CS 240

Big-O of good luck with poor interviews.

Chang, MATH 119

We don't put straightforward questions on the midterm — the professor's condescending.

Chang, MATH 117

Cicero probably wouldn't approve of it at all, but it was his native language, so, I mean, he should give us a break.

Marshall, LAT 100B

You can't put both a 1 and a 0 on the same wire. Lots of people try — it's called short circuiting or, if you're working with high current, it's called arc welding.

Anonymous

I made that mistake on purpose… you know, just to be realistic. Wouldn't want you to think I'm perfect, that would be intimidating.

West, AMATH 250

If you were locked in a room and the oxygen was running out… 30 seconds left, what are you going to do? Just trying to keep you engaged in the lesson.

West, AMATH 250

Suppose you didn't learn about the $\pm$ sign in the quadratic equation. Maybe you went to an underfunded high school and they only had plus signs.

West, AMATH 250

In this class, taking the derivative is the second most important thing. The first one is laughing at my jokes. (Silence) You fail.

Wolczuk, MATH 237

So now that you're all thoroughly confused, let's go on to something harder.

Wolczuk, MATH 237

What programming language is right for you?

Even more ultimately futile than religious debate!

There are two types of programming languages; the ones that people bitch about and the ones that no one uses.

-Bjarne Stroustrup

OK, so you're a young, starry-eyed CS student with a world of possibilities in front of you. You want to know which programming language you should learn and subsequently champion in endless irrational arguments. What should you pick? I've put together this helpful guide.

C#

Does Bill Gates frequently appear in your dreams? Do you feel sticky afterwards? Do you love GUI and hate people who use non-conformist OSes? Are you willing to compromise your values to get a version of Java that actually executes quickly? The totalitarian embrace of the .NET platform is probably just right for you.

Lisp and Scheme

Do your friends describe you as a hippie? Are you routinely mistaken for Richard Stallman? Do you not understand why business considerations are more important than technical elegance? Finally, are you capable of wearing a beret and mocking imperative programmers for their procedural ways? Lisp and Scheme mix beauty with unsuitability for the real world.

C

Are you writing embedded software? An operating system? An interpreter? If not, why the hell do you want to code in C? Do you get your jollies by feeling the cold mechanical heartbeat of your computer? Are you the sort of person who actually uses bit shift instead of division when possible? Even when you know your compiler will convert it for you? If you're a speed-freak who pops No-Doze and caffeine pills to get through the day, C is probably right for you. It's the fastest you can get.

C++

Would you describe yourself as an optimist? Do you trust your fellow man to follow good design conventions and not abuse the terrible power granted to him? Do prefer choice to a standardized way of getting things done? Do you hate C programmers who think that they can port their coding style to the OOP world with only minor changes in philosophy (it's OK, we all hate those guys. Fuck 'em.)? C++ will give you the speed of C and the object-oriented power of every other relevant language—but it makes it really, really easy to do very evil things.

Java

Do you think that users should just "buy more RAM" instead of complaining about your abusive memory consumption? Does Bill Gates frequently appear in your nightmares? Do you spell it M$? Even when nobody else is reading what you write? If you want to use the only legitimate competitor to .NET for large-scale application development, don't mind the speed problems, and like being on every OS ever written, Java will work for you.

Visual Basic

Let's face it, the only reason why you should learn visual basic is to meet girls. That's because you'll probably be able to do it in a corporate environment with a nearly equal gender ratio. And it doesn't seem that nerdy - you're using spreadsheets like everyone else. (Visual Basic.NET, on the other hand, is identical C#, except other programmers will mock you for using it).

JavaScript + AJAX

Do you know HTML but want to "knock it up a notch"? Are you trying to start a Web 2.0 company? Have you been checking out domain names with vowels removed? Do you already know how you're going to incorporate a social network into this? Have venture capitalists given you $10 million for an idea pitched on a bit of napkin? JavaScript and AJAX are the way to go.

PHP

Go learn a real server-side programming language, loser. Or just write facebook applications.
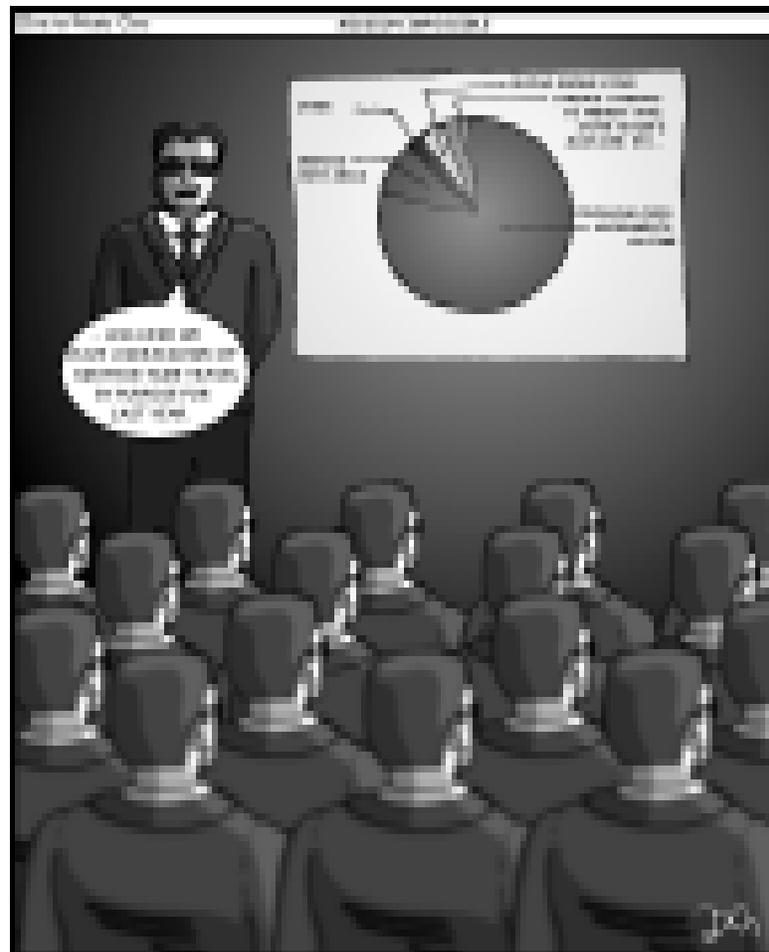
Ruby and Python

Are you looking for an object oriented-scripting language, possibly for web development? Do you want to write beautiful code? Pick one of these. Python is a little more Java-like, a little less object oriented, and slightly more simplified. Its lambdas are not really as useful as Ruby's blocks, so hippies should pick Ruby. Ruby's a bit POSIX-centric, a bit Smalltalk-y (it does that whole "message" thing instead of good, old fashioned, god-fearing functions), a bit more reflective, and a bit less documented. But seriously, they're practically the same.

Perl

Look, it's a new millennium. Perl is dead - and nothing you can do will bring her back. We still have memories of the good times, though. That brilliant string handling of hers—we need to treasure that. But you need to move on—to Perl's younger and more attractive sisters mentioned above.

Thor

HorrorScopes

What happens to HappyScopes that get left in the dark too long.

ACC

You may be required to eat a little bit of humble π today. If its bitter taste is not to your liking, then try a large slice of vengeance π. Remember that it is supposed to be served cold, angry and relentlessly. Bury the bodies as necessary.

Your lucky number is $\pi/6$ radians of retribution.

ACTSCI

One or more of your friends may be in the middle of combustion. Just because you don't think it's right for them, doesn't mean that you shouldn't support them. Swallow your pride, buy some petrol and you will find the brightest friends you've ever had.

Your lucky number is 350 degrees of fervent friendship.

BBA/BMATH

If your money was a concern for you recently, then you won't have to worry about it anymore: it will all be gone shortly, anyway. This shouldn't be a major cause of worry because large sums of money tend to find people like you. Who ever said extortion wasn't worth it?

Your lucky number is one thousand words someone doesn't want spoken.

C&O

If romance was an uphill struggle last week, then you'll be relieved to know that it's going to be downhill from here! Although running away won't solve your problems, it definitely is a great way to keep them from crushing you momentarily.

Your lucky number is a 49% gradient.

CM

Things are going to start heating up when you open a faucet and you only get a face full of steam. Don't let the horrible burning pain rule your life. It's all in your mind. Remove it and you won't have to worry.

Your lucky number is three-million hurting brain cells.

CS

Communications have been fuzzy for you recently. Sometimes the only way to solve this is by integrating your vocabulary into binary. Prove that the language is context-free, write its grammar, submit this for marks. Use your new language to interpret your marks as perfect.

Your lucky number is 0110100100101.

MATH/BUS

Go on a learning adventure using a magic school bus that will take you to exotic locations. Don't get too involved in the learning, in case it runs out of gas. Resort to cannibalism if there aren't any gas stations nearby.

Your lucky number is one well done Ms. Frizzle.

OR

Later in the week you will come to the rescue of a perfect stranger, but don't expect them to be thankful. You'll get yelled at, insulted and occasionally shot in the face, but don't lose your cool: being kind is its own reward. Maybe.

Your lucky number is 1 escort complete!

PMATH

Impress your sweetie by busting out of the window of a burning building with a rose in your mouth, chocolate in one hand and the severed head of her mortal enemy in the other. Although you may not realize it, now is the best time to break up with her.

Your lucky number is a series that converges to freedom.

SE

Group work is beginning to stress you out. Just remember to breathe: the more air you get, the less the group member that's irritating you gets. Despite what those Saturday morning cartoons try to teach you, sharing is for losers.

Your lucky number is 2,000 CCs of air only for you.

STAT

Things are in a state of change as everyone you know and love has died and come back as a zombie. Take refuge in the nearest mall since that is the most logical place to be. The change in environment makes testing out a new lawnmower seem like a great idea.

Your lucky number is 20,000 PP.

TEACHING OPTION

As part of your training to educate the work force of the future, you must raise at least fifty children of your own. Raid the local orphanage for potential pupils and then beget them as you see fit. Either you'll be raising children to practice being a teacher or you'll be teaching to practice being a parent.

Your lucky number is 50 younguns.

UNDECLARED

Megaton Panda is your new lord and saviour. Listen to his wise hockey advice and love the video games that he recommends. Defilers must play Ephemeral Fantasia for all eternity.

Your lucky number is seven days infinitely repeated.

AHS

Did you know that there are over seven billion ways that the human body can spontaneously fail resulting in instant and possibly permanent death? Well, you should.

Your lucky number is 7 billion ways that the human body can spontaneously fail resulting in instant and possibly permanent death.

ARTS

When life gives you lemons, punch it in the face. If you relent for a bit, be sure to ask why it would give you lemons of all things. Don't expect to be given a logical answer. In fact, expect to be given lemons.

Your lucky number is ten more lemons than you need.

ENG

They put something in the water fountain, and boy does it go down smooth. Enjoy the free flowing speakeasy and make sure that you take a break before you get your iron ring!

Your lucky number is one beautiful iron ring.

ES

When the garbage collector comes by keep in mind that GIGO will clean your degree away. Chase after the garbage collector shaking your fist and when you're finished be sure to get a real job.

Your lucky number a $30,000 piece of paper with no value.

SCI

The time has come to re-evaluate your personal goals. Use drunken clown sort and find that your life takes an interesting turn for the worse when you wake up with your spleen teaching a language class. Hallucinagenic drugs, anyone?

Your lucky number is O(Chug).

OTHER

Using the same jokes to get people to like you can only get you so far. Sometimes it's better to listen to other people and then completely mimic their personalities. Being original is for people not labelled as "Other".

*grid*COMMENTS
Not the garbage collector

Hello, *grid*WORD readers! Since there was no grid last issue *cough*, there are no prizes. For any of you. Eve^H^H^H um… Well, there might be something happening with the Sudoku. Anyway, **you** can remedy the situation by solving and submitting *this* issue's grid!
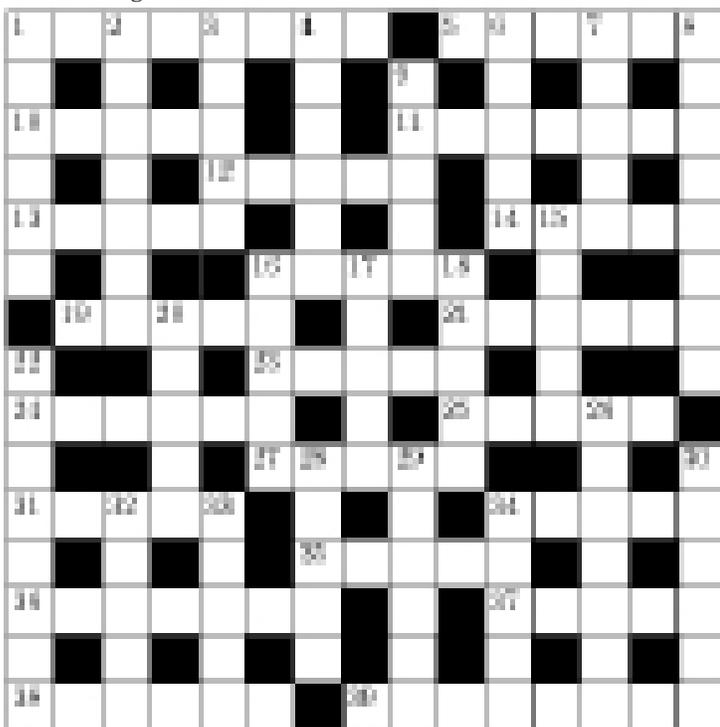
Issue 1's grid was rather well received, so I'll try to make something similar. However, I'm tired of four-letter words, so I'm going back to a crossword-style grid. While it means there will be fewer overlapping squares, it also means there's more variation in word length. I'm fully in favour of this change!

At this point, you should solve the *grid*WORD. When you're finished, continue reading here. Welcome back! Congratulations! You're eligible to win a FABULOUS PRIZE! Just answer the *grid*QUESTION ("") and drop the answer and your solution in the BLACK BOX outside the Comfy lounge.

Peter

That way

1. Drawing tool for curved lines
2. Children's room
3. Drily
4. Coarse cloth
6. Valveless trumpet
7. Cross-platform web browser
8. Large monkey-like creatures
9. Deepest parts of the Timeless Halls
15. The blue in Stilton
16. Dropped from airplanes
17. Drill bit
18. Swung dash
20. Loop for hanging
22. Shoulder insignia
26. Venereal
28. Base eight
29. Engineless airplane
30. Pre-HTTP hypertext protocol
32. Large tuskless land-mammal
33. Repeat show
34. Medical officer

That way

1. Filled bread
5. Longer than wide
10. Truck
11. Hairy, goblin-like humanoid
12. Non-clerical people
13. Destitute people
14. RFC 2822 message
16. Ocean shore
19. Murder
21. Lizard
23. Celestial being
24. Proceeds
25. Evade
27. Smithy
31. Bring
34. Tropical fruit
35. Yak! Dog food!
36. Roman trading posts
37. Roadside gouge
38. Scooping utensils
39. Prophetic

CS Courses in 4th year

Just Monday we had the upper year CS course info session. The last time I counted, there were well over 25 of them, but you only need so many to graduate. Since reading the calendar is kinda boring, I present to you the following poor rendition of most of courses, in the style of the Animaniacs Seminal work, *Nations of the World.*

Real Time Programming, Compiler Construction
Computer Architecture too
There's Computer Graphics, Distributed, Networks,
And System Performance for you,
Bioinfo Structural and Software Testing
Computation Symbolic,
Database Systems Implementation,
CS MAKES you alcoholic!
Medical Image or Quantum Info Processing
and Linear Algebra or
Algorithms, Modeling Financial,
and finally Intelligence Artificial!

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who should leave songs to non-sleep-deprived professionals

Dating Advice from the Single Gal

Dear Single Gal:

I don't know what to do. It's been 8 months since me and my girlfriend broke up. I am so sure that she would take me back if she could only see me now. Sadly, she told me she's moved away to Fiji and that I'll never again see her. She is the only lady for me, the 3 weeks we were together were the best I've ever had. Please tell me a way I can get back together with her. I miss her so much. I was going to buy tickets to Fiji and surprise her for Valentine's Day, but there's no address listed for her in Fiji. What should I do?

Norman

Dear Boring:

3 weeks, eh? You've been obsessing for 8 months over a girl you dated for 3 weeks? I've got news for you buddy, she's moved on. Possibly to Fiji, possibly not. She possibly told you she moved to Fiji so your crazy stalker ass would leave her alone. I'm not judging, but surprising a girl in a foreign country on Valentine's Day is not sweet, it's creepy. So chin up, look around. There are a lot of girls that are just so much closer to you in proximity than Fiji. But if a bunch of them keep telling you that they're moving away to Fiji, you may want to start thinking that it's not them, its you.

The Single Gal