

# Math NEWS

Volume 82, Issue 2

Friday, February 4, 2000

**Maclean's**

It's the **Maclean's** Copyright & Trademark Infringement Issue!



Inside

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Clip 'n' save: WLU diploma  
The ICraveTV.com flip-book  
DeCSS Source Code  
Will Snuggles Ever Shut Up?

Oh yeah, and some MathSoc stuff

You'll have the  
of your



## Source Code for DeCSS!

```

/*
 * this function decrypts a title key with the specified diskkey
 *
 * tkey: the unobfuscated title key (XORed with BusKey)
 * dkey: the unobfuscated disk key (XORed with BusKey)
 *       2048 bytes in length (though only 5 bytes are needed)
 * pkey: array of pointers to player keys and disk key offsets
 *
 * use the result returned in tkey with css_descramble
 */
int css_decrypttitlekey(byte *tkey, byte *dkey, playkey **pkey)
{
    byte test[5], pretkey[5];
    int i = 0;

    for (; *pkey; ++pkey, ++i) {
        memcpy(pretkey, dkey + (*pkey)->offset, 5);
        css_titlekey(pretkey, (*pkey)->key, 0);

        memcpy(test, dkey, 5);
        css_titlekey(test, pretkey, 0);

        if (memcmp(test, pretkey, 5) == 0) {
            fprintf(stderr, "Using Key %d\n", i+1);
            break;
        }
    }

    if (!*pkey) {
        fprintf(stderr, "Shit - Need Key %d\n", i+1);
        return 0;
    }

    css_titlekey(tkey, pretkey, 0xff);

    return 1;
}
*/
void css_descramble(byte *sec, byte *key)
{
    unsigned int lfsr1_lo, lfsr1_hi, lfsr0, combined;
    unsigned char o_lfsr0, o_lfsr1;
    unsigned char *end = sec + 0x800;
#define SALTED(i) (key[i] ^ sec[0x54 + (i)])

    lfsr1_lo = SALTED(0) | 0x100;
    lfsr1_hi = SALTED(1);

    lfsr0 = ((SALTED(4) << 17) | (SALTED(3) << 9) |
             (SALTED(2) << 1)) + 8 - (SALTED(2)&7);
    lfsr0 = (bit_reverse[lfsr0&0xff]<<24) |
            (bit_reverse[(lfsr0>>8)&0xff] << 16)
            | (bit_reverse[(lfsr0>>16)&0xff]<<8) |
            bit_reverse[(lfsr0>>24)&0xff];

    sec+=0x80;
    combined = 0;
    while (sec != end) {
        o_lfsr1 = lfsr1_bits0[lfsr1_hi] ^ lfsr1_bits1[lfsr1_lo];
        lfsr1_hi = lfsr1_lo>>1;
        lfsr1_lo = ((lfsr1_lo&1)<<8) ^ o_lfsr1;
        o_lfsr1 = bit_reverse[o_lfsr1];

        /*o_lfsr0 = (lfsr0>>7)^(lfsr0>>10)^(lfsr0>>11)^(lfsr0>>19);*/
        o_lfsr0 = ((((((lfsr0>>8)^lfsr0)>>1)^lfsr0)>>3)^lfsr0)>>7);
        lfsr0 = (lfsr0>>8)|(o_lfsr0<<24);

        combined += o_lfsr0 + (byte)~o_lfsr1;
        *sec++ = csstabl[*sec] ^ (combined&0xff);
        combined >>= 8;
    }
}

```



clip 'n' save!


# Wilfrid Laurier University

The Regents of Wilfrid Laurier University on the  
 recommendation of its Faculty and by virtue of the  
 authority vested in them by the Province of Ontario  
 have conferred upon

the degree of

this fourth day of February, two thousand.

With all the rights, privileges and honours appertaining

  
 Somebody Really Important



  
 Even More Important Than That Other Guy

## MGC Pink Tie Pledge

“What is the Pink Tie Pledge?” you may be asking, after reading the title of this article. Well, it is an opportunity for graduating students to donate funds to Waterloo’s financially strapped Mathematics program. “Why in the name of Jumpin’ Jim Jenkins would I want to give money to the Math Faculty?” you may wonder, considering that we pay about 80 times the tuition that we did last semester.

Well, the Pink Tie Pledge is your opportunity to help out students who are in the Math Faculty. The money does not go directly to the Faculty so that they can use it to buy fancy air-conditioned toothbrushes, or something equally frivolous. (Not that they would, ‘cause they’re good people. Note to Dean: please let me graduate.) You get to choose one of three options to determine where your donation is allocated. Your first option is to donate to the Descartes Scholarships, which are scholarships for those who do well on the Descartes contest. Your second option is to donate to the Math Endowment Fund, which is a scholastic fund that is mandated to enhance the academic life of the average Math student (for example, MFCF bought a number of servers partially using MEF funding). Your third option is to direct funds to improving the Math Tutorial Centre, where first year students get help for their assignments.

These three options are the best ways to improve student life and academic accessibility for your fellow Math students. And as if that ain’t enough, your pledge is also tax-deductible! Plus, you don’t have to start paying until May 2001, and you get to pay over a three-year period! Hmm, now I sound like an ad for Leon’s...

Traditionally, people have offered challenges to the graduating class to attempt to boost pledges. Some offer  $1/\pi$  cents for every dollar donated, or offer to buy a rubber band for every person who pledges more than \$100



Isaac Bruce picks up a copy of mathNEWS after his game-winning touchdown in last week’s Superbowl.

dollars. If you wish to challenge the graduating class, feel free! You can contact [mgc@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mgc@uwaterloo.ca) to find out more info. And to pledge on-line, go to the MGC webpage (<http://www.undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc>).

As a first event in order to get some enthusiasm around the Pink Tie Pledge, MGC is holding our...

### First Annual Slave Auction! an All Students event brought to you by MGC!

That’s right, on February 14<sup>th</sup> you will be able to purchase an MGC volunteer for 12 hours of unadulterated compliant behaviour (i.e. they’ll do what you say). This will initially be held as a silent auction, so go to the bulletin board outside the MGC Office and put in a bid! All money collected will go towards the Pink Tie Pledge. Remember that you can bid in groups, so get your friends together and make a bid! Plus, you needn’t be a graduating student to place a bid! Look for more information in upcoming *mathNEWS* issues, and on the walls of the 3rd floor...

Greg Morey

MaGiC Co-chair and Brain-eating Zombie

## *mast*HEAD

### Did somebody say mathNEWS?

Attention readers: this is not your father’s *mathNEWS*. Fueled by pure turbonium, we are the choice of a new generation while remaining tried, tested and true. We’re making good things come to life and teaching the world to sing. Image is nothing. *mathNEWS* is everything.

Here, like a rock, standing arrow straight, are our staff members with their answer to the question “Who deserves to be sued?”: Michael “Home of the Whopper” Thorsley (Richard Bilson) and Jesse “Strong enough for a man but made for a woman” Wilson (The Recording Industry Artists Association (a.k.a. RIAA), the folks who sued mp3.com, napster, and anyone else who contributes to the digital music community).

Thanks go to Marion and the rest of the crew at Graphic Services for making quality job 1.

Richard “Plop plop fizz fizz” Bilson (My mother. I blame her.)

Greg “I’ve fallen, and I can’t get up” Taylor (Get Peggy sued.)

Chadwick “30 minutes or it’s free” Severn (*mathNEWS*)

## The ICraveTV.com FlipBook!



## Prez Sez

Well, I am writing this article to let you know what MathSoc has been up to these past two weeks. I guess I should mention that we have placed a work order to get poster boards in the stairwells. This should help to advertise events so people will know what is going on. We have also submitted proposals to the Student Life Endowment Fund run by the FEDS to fix up the lounge. We will find out about that stuff in mid march. I am currently working with the faculty to get a way to send an information news letter to people in the faculty via email, only the Dean and the MathSoc president would have access to the list. If you have any thoughts on this please let me know ([prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca)). I have also been working with the faculty on a few other issues and preparing for campus day activities. It is amazing how quickly meetings build up. FEDS exec election campaigning will begin next week with a forum hosted by COPS (Committee of Presidents). There will not be a forum in the Math Building, so if you want to learn about the candidates and ask them questions then please attend. It is Monday February 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-1:00p.m. in the SLC. I believe that there will be refreshments and food provided. If you cannot attend this forum there are two others, one on Tuesday and the other on Wednesday (I believe same, time same place). Again, if you have any concerns you would like to see addressed, please let me know.

Until next time,  
Jennifer Cote (MathSoc President W00 & F00)

## Okay, chickenpeople! Listen up!!

So you're graduating, eh? Think you're all that, do ya? Sorry, honey, but we kick your ass. Why? Cuz we (from the class of '99) have cycled all the way from Vancouver to here, and you (class of nothing) haven't. We win. Simple as that.

Some of you out there might think that you could be like us (haha) so to you I say: visit <http://cycling.unitycode.org> for the how-to guide on going on a 4500km trip like the one we did. And feel your mind turn to mush as you try to grasp the ferocious intelligence, reckless daring, and psychotic talent required in planning something like that. O you feeble soul, how I mock your pain. Bwahahahahahahaha.

(Okay, so it's not actually hard to plan the trip. But unless you actually do it, you're still eating my dust, sweetheart.)

The challenge is on. We dare ya! The month and a half period between final exams and convocation is just about the exact amount of time needed to do the whole trip. The Rockies await. Think you're up to it, chickenbutts?

The recklessly daring cyclists of '99

P.S. Contact [jcsbalas@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jcsbalas@uwaterloo.ca) for more info on the trip he's trying to arrange this year. Good luck!

## The ProFASSy

FASS is still performing this year's play at the theatre in Hagey Hall tonight and tomorrow night (February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 and 10:30pm, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm). Tickets are probably still available, \$8 each or \$6 for a set of 6 or more; call the Humanities Theatre box office for information and also see the FASS website at <http://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/~fass> for information.

## Frosh Week 2000

Applications are still being accepted for Frosh Leaders and other positions for Frosh Week 2000. The applications are available outside the MathSoc office and can be returned to the Orientation mailslot inside the MathSoc Office. For all who are interested in being involved in orientation we will be having Information Sessions next week. They are in MC 4020 at 5:30pm on Wed. Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> and Thurs. Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be the week after. The sheet to signup for interviews will be at the info sessions.

Please make sure you get PACO trained if you haven't yet. To sign up, go to [www.orientationleaders.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.orientationleaders.uwaterloo.ca). Please note that there are two more NEW rules with regard to leader training. If you miss a session without telling them that you are going to miss it, then you will have to pay \$10 to take the session. Also, you must complete all four sessions by July 31<sup>st</sup>, after that you will have to pay to take the sessions. All the more reason to take them ASAP. You only have to do the training once. If you have any questions you can email me at [orientation@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:orientation@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

Nadia V. Ursacki  
Math Orientation Director 2000

## When in Rome...

Have you noticed that movies and television shows don't show their copyright dates in Roman Numerals anymore? It's been that way for a while now.

Many years ago, I would watch old movies until the end of credits and I'd translate for my friends the year the production was made like it was some sort of secret code. I would complain whenever a clock had "IIII" or "VIII" as four and nine respectively, since the folks who made the clock should have known they were "IV" and "IX".

I never found out if 1999 was simply "MIM" or "MCMXCIX", and there are fewer people with the skill to read Roman numerals every year.

Perhaps the change was made because of the upcoming "MMMDCCLXXXVIII bug" (that's 3888 to you) where projectors, cameras and other recording and playback devices will spontaneously combust or something like that.

I think I'll go get some M&M's<sup>™</sup> now.

Anthony Dhamasurya

## News from the VPA

Hey guys, I really don't have a whole pile of VPA stuff to tell about. I could discuss my frustrations at different meetings, but that wouldn't serve much purpose. Anyway, I do have **one really important request**.

As some of you may know, I am technically in 1N. This means that I haven't been here all that long. I really don't know what is going on in a lot of upper year courses. I don't know the difference between Modula 3 and C++, I don't have a clue what PM courses there are after Real Analysis, those sorts of things. I, of course, can look these things up as I have done, but I still don't really have a good sense of it. So the point of this is, if you have an academic concern, **tell me please**. I can that way try and be a better VPA for all of you. But, unless you guys let me know the problems, I could end up just being the best VPA frosh have ever had.

Andrew Drummond  
VPA and future stats major

## Tales From the Arts Side

I'm a glutton for punishment, so in order to satisfy my need to make my life four times as complicated, I enrolled in a double-major program between CS and English Rhetoric and Professional Writing (RPW).

I spend half my academic life outside of this building. It's completely different out there.

For one thing, the people are happy. Not happy in the "I got 8 hours of sleep for the first time all term" sense of the word, nor in the "Yes! The assignment I've been working on for 72 hours straight finally compiles" sense of the word. They actually seem content with life.

They smile a lot. And laugh. And not in that "I just cracked — get me an Uzi, and find me the nearest clock tower" sort of way. They like their classes. They look well rested. They have time to put together a co-ordinated outfit.

I don't know about you, but if it's clean and it's warm, I'll wear it. (And clearly, the definition of clean varies greatly from person to person in this faculty.)

Most of them wear make-up. Most of them are female.

It's like being in a CS class, but in reverse. Being female myself, this doesn't really do anything for me. But guys, there actually ARE women on campus, and if you want to find them, they're in English. You'll have to LEAVE the MC to find them.

English is the Anti-CS. People are happy, they're generally well rested, and they look good. Which begs the question:

What am I doing here?

Sonal Champsee

## Cellphones: get one?

Math students are going to be busy in the coming weeks. Midterms are breathing down our necks and homework is being assigned at full speed. In fact, we're so busy that our reading week has been cut to a brief four days. With this increasing obligation to schoolwork, it is difficult to find time to maintain coolness.

But being busy isn't the end of coolness. For a low monthly fee, a cellular phone will increase your coolness by up to 27% without the expense of your precious time. After numerous times telling himself "Damn, I could really use a cellphone right now," [Name removed to protect the innocent — CasEd] decided to purchase a Nokia 5505. [Actually, it's a 6185 — CasEd] We can infer the situation: huddled in the corner of the third floor mens room of MC, he cried over being too busy to be cool. Since he bought a cellphone he has tripled his coolness and his girlfriend has become 15% more attractive.

Even if you choose not to activate your cellphone so that it can make calls, possession of one will surely enhance your coolness. Remember what the Tamagotchi toy did for eight year old girls? That's what a cellphone can do for you. If you decide to invest in a cellphone, make sure to get a new one that has cool features such as videogames. Although the videogames in these phones are generally pre-gameboy crap, they give you an excuse to bring out your cellphone, show it to your friends and improve your coolness. If games aren't enough, some new phones can change their colour to match your wardrobe. This eliminates the coolness-degrading problem of wearing grey clothes everyday to match your grey cellphone.

Jesse Wilson

## lookAHEAD

### mathNEWS

February 4	Issue #2 is
February 14	Issue #3 production night
6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)	
February 18	Issue #3

### Math Faculty

February 28	Course WD Deadline
March 6—10	Fall Term Pre-Registration

### MathSoc

February 10	Movies: Chill Factor & Blue Streak
March 1	Pint with a Prof

### MGC

February 3—9	Valentine Kiss&Hug-O-Gram Sales
February 10/11	Valentine Pick Up
February 10	J. Alan George Award nominations due
February 11	Yearbook Pictures Due
February 17/18	Grad Ball Tickets

### MEF

February 23	Deadline for Winter proposal
submissions and Council nominations	

### Miscellaneous

February 14	Heart Day
February 15	Spleen Day

## MGC News

Valentine's day is just around the corner, and MGC is making it extra special with our Hug and Kiss O'Grams. We'll be selling them from Feb 3rd to 9th, and pickup is on the 10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>. So don't miss out on "hugging and kissing" the one you love...

Also, we're pleased to announce that we're now open for nominations for the Alan George Award. This award recognizes those of us who have contributed to the Waterloo community through volunteer work. Nomination forms are available in MGC.

As ever, we're in need of volunteers to help with the Pink Tie Pledge, selling Hug and Kiss O'Grams, working on the Yearbook or the Grad Ball. To join, email [mgc@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mgc@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca) or swing by the MGC office!

Rebecca Liu  
MGC Communications Director

## The ICraveTV.com FlipBook!



**profQUOTES**

- “People will find stones around your machine and they’ll go, ‘Ohh, the Blair Nachos Project.’”  
Burkowski, CS 354
- “If you really want a boring career, I recommend you take up type theory”  
Cox, CS 442
- “Does anybody understand any of this?”  
Cox, CS 442
- “If you write more than two lines of code, you’re obviously making a mistake.”  
Cox, CS 442
- “There was no money in it... not like today. Oh, to be a lawyer.”  
Young, Class 202
- “I go off to some never-never land, kind of like being in Eto-bicoke.”  
Shallit, CS 360
- “I don’t like this programming style, where you put variable descriptions in comments... [dramatic pause] and then use different variable names.”  
Zima, CS 487
- “You remember Star Wars, Ronald Reagan... Empire of Evil.”  
Zima, CS 487
- “I’ll keep showing you diagrams because I like them.”  
Zima, CS 450
- “E-mail headers are easily forged. I’m sure you do it all the time.”  
Menezes, C&O 437
- “So does anyone know the answer?”  
(Student raises hand)  
“Well I know **you** know the answer. **You** were here last term. Does anyone else know?”  
Cowan, CS 246
- “I am the calculator. I am the microchip.”  
Zorzitto, AM 331
- “Whether it contractable to this point or that point is beside the point.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “I’m pretty sure this isn’t an unsolved problem — but it is in this course.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “It’s hard to get 100 in this course, but it should be pretty easy to get 99. I don’t like 3-digit numbers.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “This will be an advertising for [PMATH] 451 which is very beautiful, but underrated somehow.”  
Nica, PMATH 354
- “I used to be good at general topology, but that was when I was young.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “Oh, darnit. I was going to show off how good I was at general topology; now I can’t.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “L-l-l-l-l-l-let me... let me stop stuttering here.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “An arbitrary polynomial, from C to shining C.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “**That’s** the difference between algebraic topology and hand-waving.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “It’s a fact of life: The higher circles are nastier.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “Before he develops this theory, he wants to kick some ass.”  
Orend, PHIL 329
- “This is what comes out of the northward end of a southward-facing bull.”  
Orend, PHIL 329
- “In other words, I can make this class even longer and more boring if I added another two branches to this chart... I’m glad that you see that.”  
Orend, PHIL 329
- “ $m^*$  of an open set... well, you might not love it, but it is one of those things that you don’t hate that much.”  
Nica, PMATH 354
- “Is this how you do problem 2? I do not give hints for assignments in my lectures... But no, this is not how you do problem 2.” (a few minutes later)  
“Hmmm... I guess you could do problem 2 that way.”  
Nica, PMATH 354
- “Set theorists start counting at zero... everyone else starts counting at one.”  
Devidi, PHIL 481
- (Halfway through a two-hour lecture) “I don’t want to take a nicotine and prostate break today.”  
Devidi, PHIL 481
- “There are several Algebraic topologists that don’t know that... well aren’t I smart.”  
Hoffman, PMATH 467
- “You caught us a bit with our pants down... I blame the Y2K bug.”  
Weddell, CS 334
- “This person would... occasionally... engage in... positive behaviour... with my friend... she would have sex with him, OK?”  
Rye, PSYCH 236
- “...and as you walked out of the exam, all those formulae for updating tableax and such dribbled out of the back of your head?” (class nods) “Good. Things are normal.”  
Best, C&O 370

## More *prof*QUOTES

“Suppose you’re stranded on a desert island with only 27 flip-flops and a bag of wires and you need a Pasca parser.”

Cormack, CS 444

“This is how you do a return in Pascal. Disgusting, isn’t it?”

Cormack, CS 444

“Es una fiesta que no termina nunca, esta clase.” (This class is a party that never ends.)

Leoni, SPAN 201B

“I changed this colon to a semicolon, took out some whiskers, added some gills, and made it into a fish. Well, it was supposed to be a cat.”

Cormack, CS 444

“You accidentally hit dot in vi and deleted 600 lines of code.”

Cormack, CS 444

“Most computers, even Intel chips, support RAM operations.”

Cormack, CS 444

“I had an argument with Gord over wine last night, and we decided that we like plus better than union.”

Cox, CS 442

“You people are no fun today. Were you up \*all\* night working on that stupid assignment?”

Cox, CS 442

“It’s very computationally expensive, so we just don’t worry about it.”

Cox, CS 442

“Oh, trains is a piece of cake!”

Cormack, Math Awards Banquet

“I guess this class won’t help you get a job at Microsoft.”

Chipman, STAT 340/CS 437

“The proof is one line — if the line is long enough.”

Tang, PMATH 346

“There is no nobel prize for mathematics... this is because Nobel’s wife was having an affair with a mathematician.”

Best, C&O 370

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Soon to be the rightful owners of the site yahoo.com: Richard Bilson, Chadwick Severn, Greg Taylor

## Restaurant Review

### *Math C&D*

Eclectic textural wizardry and a fine balance of modern creative intensity. The offerings of the Math C&D are a flashy melange of gastro-intestinal globalization that will assuage the schizophrenic munchie mood swings of any winter term mathie. By outsourcing preparation, selecting a large mix of foods across dimensions time and space, and laying out the goods with kick-ass prices, the Math C&D is a microcosm of life on planet earth in the information age.

For the gastro-intestinal world traveller, the C&D is king. Cajun chicken sandwich, Jamaican beef patty, Beef Vindaloo, and macaroni & cheese. The C&D even offers some African samplings such as Tsebhi Dorho, Zignie and (Coffee Tea) SEGA Alich. As always, it’s easy to find a sweet danish. For the unadventurous, the wide selection of chicken and beef sandwiches bring comfort. Not only are the global pickings impressive, but the C&D provides options for breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner, snacks, dinners, night-class-breaks, soups, salads, desserts, side orders, main entrees and ice cream to appease the inner child. Of course, there is an incredible selection of coffees, teas, soft drinks, iced teas, milks and fruit juices. The C&D has the best selection of any restaurant near campus, which is doubly impressive with such a small physical space.

Our fellow mathies who work in the C&D provide fast friendly service with a smile. The food quality is hit-and-miss but is generally a much better bet than any restaurant on campus. With the food so cheap, if you don’t like your meal, you can always get another. My coke, beef patty and cajun chicken sandwich made a tasty satisfying meal for only \$3.65, which rivals Gino’s pizza for food/dollar value.

My only knock on the C&D dining experience is that the dining room looks tres drab. I propose that we have a contest where artistically minded students are allowed to decorate the walls with colorful creations, paint the tables in different themes, and perhaps even put a large M.C. Escher type drawing on the white boring tiles. It’s possible that not only could we have the best C&D at UW with the best prices, the best selection, and the best employees, but we can also create a dining hall with atmosphere, class, art and panache. All it takes is a few crayons.

Asterix Rating: \*\*\* \*\* (out of seven)

Jonathan Ezer

## The ICraveTV.com FlipBook!



## Snuggles Sez

It's like Simon Sez but Simon went to the hospital to have his appendix removed and he came out with a pair of double D's. Well, my computer is still not feeling well and come to mention it, neither am I. I wrote a MSCI assignment last night and I was in a particularly entertaining mood (considering that it was 3 AM and I had been working on OS, it is understandable that I was feeling a little wacky). So I decided that either the marker would have a good sense of humour and would like it, or they wouldn't and they wouldn't like my answers anyway so it didn't matter. So I said things like: "That would be inviting fallacy into your bed, and fallacy hasn't shaved their legs lately" and "Of course I came to a full stop, officer".

### *Random interview reality check:*

Interviewer: Why do you want to work for our company?

Interviewee: I feel it will be a great hands-on learning experience.

### *Real meaning*

Interviewer: Give me something I can write down that sounds good.

Interviewee: I need money to buy beer.

After watching Mystery Men, Blake had a revelation ... He is going to have a business card that says:

Blake Manders  
Genius and Chicken Rentals

Then he said "I'd have to get me some chickens" to which one of his roommates replied "You're not keeping them upstairs". I found that entertaining; that and it is 3 AM and I've been working on OS for many hours so I find the concept of an alarm on dclock in my unix environment entertaining. Don't ask.

Recently I was advising someone who is hitting on someone who is 32 (he's 20). The following comments were generated between me and my wives (more on the fact that I have wives later). When you were in Grade School, she was in High School. When you retire, she'll be in a retirement home. When you first masturbated, she first graduated. When you were born, she was about to be in her teens.

I am in OS, in OS we have wives (AKA our group partners). It leads to many funny comments (especially since my wives are Tom & Jer, that and the fact that my girlfriend has decided that if they are my wives, she is my mistress, so now I am a 21 year old with 2 wives and a mistress, I have my own harem, sweet).

Stephen sleepy. Yes that's a paragraph by itself, just cause.

I'm in the shitty lab right now and I recently noticed on the wall the email lab version of the Eat Right Stay Fit commercials. We have a poster that is called take 5 (it says you should take at least a five minute break every hour you are at the computer). I like ergonomics as much as the next person, but maybe instead of putting those posters up we could get chairs with proper backs that provided some support, or non-florescent lights. Ah well, time for some random subject changes.

We scunted last week (well last week by the time you read

this), and for the house visit we did a little cooking. A little cooking is defined as 4 main cooks and a number of helpers for no less than 5 hours. We had lobster, t-bone lamb steak, escargot, stuffed mushrooms, perogies, calzones, salad, mashed potatos, latkes, stuffed vegetarian green peppers, fruit plates (with kiwis, bananas, red apples, green apples, pears, raspberries, blackberries, blueberries), chocolate dipped strawberries, apple crisp, chocolate cake, chocolate brownies, chocolate cookies, grapefruit, candy dishes, coconut, strawberry & watermelon trays, pineapple, clementines. It was ricockulous. We decided we should start our own catering company, hmmm, 3 CS majors and a C&O major (which when we told the engineering scunt g-ds they asked what c&o was, sigh, they had a resounding answer of combinatorics and optimization come from all sides). I heard a rumour that the scunt g-ds thought the cooks deserved hard hats. I think we should get them, not that I'm not a true pink mathie, but for a group of engineers to decide that you have earned a hard hat is a nice feeling, and you get to tell the story whenever people ask what a mathie is doing with a hard hat. Well, in case they still want to, the cooks were Josh (Bertrand), Katia, Pam (or Pamela rather, too many syllables), and myself. Hmm, more random discontinuity follows.

My baloney has a first name, it's gee, are, oh, eye, en. My baloney has a second name, it's oh, pee, ee, are, ay, tee, eye, en, gee. My baloney has a third name, it's ess, why, ess, tee, ee, em, ess.

I like [www.anagramgenius.com](http://www.anagramgenius.com); after submitting Stephen Snuggles Skrzydlo, the following are the 10 longest words made using some of the letters: hopelessness tonelessness helplessness ruthlessness godlessness nonetheless resplendent respondents soul-seekers upholstered They seem oddly appropriate to me. I don't get great anagrams since I only have three e's, one u, and one o for vowels, but the s's, wow, all the s's.

This next bit is not actually mine, it was sent to me by Tom who got it from some joke list, and I thought some of you out there might find it funny so here it is.

The MasterCard commercial that never made it on the air.

Cover charge: \$10.00

Round of drinks: \$23.00

Table dance: \$20.00

Another round of drinks: \$23.00

Couch dance and tips: \$50.00

Round of shots: \$32.00

Another round of drinks: \$23.00

Lap dance and hand job: \$100.00

Private dance and hotel room: \$300.00

Sending her on her way without discussing your feelings  
.....PRICELESS.

Anyway, enough randomness for this week, go do something productive with your time instead of reading my rantings, well, actually, read my rantings, they're more important then sleep, well, it would seem that way since I'm writing them instead of sleeping.

Dr. Snuggles

I find it weird that I never saw that show and yet a significant amount of people who know me comment on it to me.



## Dear Sparkle

Dear Sparkle,

Lately, I've been falling into a deep, dreamless sleep that is as much like turning myself off as it is going to bed. Which is scary because there seem to be things in the blackness that I'm missing. I feel as if I should be dreaming of mountains instead of nothing at all.

Like the mountains of answers I seem to be required to provide on a daily basis. Or the mountains full of conversations that I'm unprepared to have. It's like everyone is waiting for some sort of response that I just don't have.

Do you ever get tired of questions?

Love, the question mark is just another way of saying "you are now responsible for explaining this." There is only so much of that sort of thing that *anyone* can stand.

I knew a man who just got so tired of questions and answers and everything else that sat between him and blinking into dreamless sleep that he decided to build a fort. In the dead of winter, he quit his job, unplugged his phones, and just went outside with a hose and a picture forming in his mind.

It took him a month and a half, but he built a glittering four story palace in solid ice. He ended up buying a chainsaw and a blowtorch and an enormous parka that prevented him from hearing anything, and almost prevented him from any limb movement.

When it was done, all the papers came and took pictures. Then, the whole thing melted. He went back to work. People thought that he was crazy, love, but you just know that he wasn't. Just wanted some time with blowtorch-lit ice at night.

Dear Sparkle,

I went to look at things today. Small things that I expected to be pretty, and that I expected to stop all the panic that was sitting in my stomach and was starting to really hurt.

I ended up just seeing things that made me want to close all of my doors. I just realized that the small things that I was looking at were things that people expected that I would want. There were the things that men would want, the things that women would want, and so forth. They were both beyond horrifying, really. Not ugly, but horribly hurtful, almost.

I sat there and looked at the naked woman, and the pinkness and flowers and the hate... I wondered if I might have to find better plans than hiding in stores and shops and in places that sell pretty things.

So, where am I supposed to turn? Even the rivers are frozen over...

Frozen rivers have their advantages. There is skating to say the least. And there is the knowledge that under all the ice and snow the river is still moving along. Rivers know how to ignore the winter at their hearts.

It is sometimes, or always, hard to figure out why the things that people expect you to want are not only unwanted but horrifying. It often seems to beg to the question "What were they thinking?" to which there has never really been a satisfactory answer.

I often find that you can only answer it in small ways. By making tea, or buying plastic cups in bright colours, or inviting strangers home for hors d'oeuvres. By making places that are bright and pretty and altogether safe. Or trying to. Frankly, it's all we can do.

Dear Sparkle,

The other night, home alone, I found myself in the middle of a score of arguments with faceless people. Such that I would look up from my book and say something like "No, that's not how it is at all," or "Wait, you can't say that," into the silence of my room.

It wasn't even that there were people in my head arguing. It just felt like there were things I needed to say. And that this was my only chance. If kept silent then, I might as well just stay silent.

Is it wrong to feel like the universe is pointing accusing fingers at you? How do you tell when the arguments need to be addressed to someone or something other than the sleeping computer?

The universe makes odd decisions, love. Sometimes it is best not to read too much into them, but other times you can't help but read endlessly into them. Other times the world seems to question things that they always seem to question.

Often, when you are overwhelmed with questions, you end up with hundreds of accusing questions that are really all just one of a handful of questions. No person can provide all one hundred questions with written-approved-and-prepared responses.

Speaking the perfect answer, at night, is a dark reaction to that. It is an attempt to both understand the question, and to release the weight of a dozen similar questions.

Very little is right or wrong when you are locked in your room alone at night. You generally are only accountable to yourself and the people that you might wake up. If you have the right answer at night, just say it. Always say it. Nothing can happen except that you might not believe your answer. That isn't a little thing, but at least it is still under your control.

Sleeping in a room with a computer that sleeps means that there are unengaged circuits to run every bit of logic through and to test the validity of each premise with. But, if you run it through that, and the question still hangs heavy in the air, then you probably need to give it to someone, anyone.

Perhaps the dead circuits can help you figure out whom...

**Queen Sparkle** is a syndicated colonist.

## The ICraveTV.com FlipBook!



## We Get Letters

*Please correlate squirrels to studying*

Hey Mathies,

What the hell happened to all of the friggin' math study rooms on the 4th floor??? They've DISAPPEARED and now they've got NAMEPLATES on them! Like one that says VANSTONE! What is up with this Vanstone guy anyways? Who the hell gave him the right to take over the friggin' math study rooms?? What, does he need all 10 of those chips and pop can littered desks to do his work? Jeezas!

I WANT MY FRIGGIN' MATH STUDY ROOMS!

Where in UW am I going to sweat and panic for my finals, now!?!?

If those rooms aren't given back soon... I am going to have to start executing squirrels.

Sincerely,

l33t hax0r

Soon to be known as:  
"Squirrely Delicious"

*(Editors' Reply: We at mathNEWS believe the study rooms have been converted into the exclusive "Village Four", a posh set of shindigs that are incredibly close to campus. Please do all further studying while in line at the C&D, while peeing, or in the Dean's office.)*

---

*Using the term "loosely" loosely*

Dear sirs,

Although, I guess I use the term sirs loosely. I am a huge fan of the mathNEWS, and I guess that I have read it for going on two years. The online edition that is. Unfortunately, I don't think that my grades are good enough to get into the grad school at UW.

But, the reason that I'm writing right now is to wonder where the most recent online edition is. I'm jonesing something awful, and I'm hoping to get it. You guys, all of you, are great.

I never thought anyone found the humour that I do in mathematics and all it's beauty. Please, somehow, let me know what's up with the online edition.

And, once I sober up, one of these days, I'll mail you my real comments which are almost as good as the feeling of being nearly drunk.

John

*(Editors' Reply: As much as we'd like to blame Y2K for our web site troubles, the problem seems to lie with the Apache server our site lies on. We'll be rectifying the problem soon, maybe be the time you read this. And I use the term "read" loosely.)*

---

*How dare you be sarcastic!*

Dear Editor:

I was shocked and disgusted to read Andrew Drummond's article/editorial entitled "Exciting Ideas for MathSoc, Part I" in the Jan. 21 Edition of mathNEWS. I had always believed that the purpose of the VPA position was to look out for \*all\* students in the Faculty of Mathematics.

Mr. Drummond's comments regarding "lowly" CS majors and their "bright future" seem to be sadly misguided. So far, while

my co-op positions with the Ministry of Transportation and with ISG here at UW have been interesting and rewarding, I cannot say that I am in any way raking in money compared to any of my non-CS friends.

In fact, I am probably worse off since I am paying approximately \$400/term more than my peers to take almost identical courses. I could understand paying a higher fee for specialist 3rd and 4th year courses, but since I'm taking MATH 239, STAT 230 and other core Math courses, I'm at a loss as to where the money goes.

It is true that CS majors probably do have more job prospects than other Math departments, but that "extra CS money" won't be in MY hands until I graduate, at the very least. Somehow Mr. Drummond believes that I can also afford higher tuition and MathSoc fees right now, because of these prospects for the future. I don't see the logic behind it.

If I reach my apparently "guaranteed bright future" then I would happily consider giving money back to the University to help with funding certain things, but I am positive that if MathSoc still has closed-minded representatives such as Mr. Drummond, they won't get a cent out of me.

Trevor Hill

2A Computer Science

*(Editors' Reply: Andrew has prepared a statement regarding his article. Unfortunately he printed it out instead of sending it to us electronically, so I have to sit here and type in the damned thing...)*

*(Andrew's Reply: First of all, let me apologize for my article last week. I apparently have a lot to learn in the world of sarcasm. I tried to present some ridiculous ideas that I thought were amusing...)*

*(Editors' Reply: This continues on for half a page, and if Andrew had sent it electronically, perhaps you, gentle Trevor, would be able to read the rest of it. Suffice to say, he's SORRY. Happy, Trev?)*

*Say, that Spears thing sounds good*

Dear Editors:

It has been brought to my attention that a frequent theme of the photo essay "Being Byron Weber Becker" (v. 82 no. 1) was students dropping CS 492. Now, it is true that nearly half of the fifty students preregistered for this course in the Winter 2000 term have dropped the course. And it is true that nearly half of those still registered are dyslexics who are under the delusion that they are taking SC 294, "The Physics of Brittany Spears". But I think it safe to say that the remaining handful prove the adage that CS students will crawl naked across broken glass if you tell them it's good for them. You ought to be more positive once in a while.

Yours sincerely,

Prabhakar Ragde

CS 492 instructor (Winter 2000)

*(Editors' Reply: And the truly notable thing is that both CS 492 and SC 294 both use the same text book, "The Social Implications Of Spears' Implants".)*

## mathNEWSquiz #2

We have a new squizmaster this week, but before we get to his introductory opus the editors would like to wrap up the squiz from last week:

**Song Lyrics:** 1) "Blue Moon", Rogers and Hart; 2) "Red House", Jimi Hendrix; 3) "Purple Rain", Prince; 4) "Big Yellow Taxi", Joni Mitchell; the theme was "colours". **20<sup>th</sup> Century Math:** 1) David Hilbert; 2) Emmy Noether; 3) 1931; 4) October 20, 1987; 5) Andrew Wiles. **Law & Order:** 1) Adam Schiff; 2) Elizabeth Olivet; 3) He was shot and killed; 4) Old Friends; 5) Lawyer.

We got three entrants; Ian "The Word Guy" Facey, with a score of 1, Mission Bananarama! with a whopping 16 points, and our winner for the week, St. Paul's Shadow Council with a perfect score of 19. You shady people can pick up your prize in the MathSoc office. Now, without further ado, here's Andrew with a new squiz.

\* \* \*

Greetings, I am Andrew, squizmaster of the universe. In reality, I'm just a guy but that sounds cooler. I hope you bear with me for this first attempt at a squiz. Some of the questions will be a bit easy this time because I chose my favourite songs and movies to pick the lines from.

### Song Quotes

*1 point for artist, 1 for song title*

- The colours of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky,  
I see it on the faces of people going by.  
I see friends shaking hads, saying "How do you do?"  
All that they mean is "I love you".
- There's so many times I've let you down, so many times  
I've played around,  
I tell you now that they don't mean a thing.  
Every place I go I'll think of you, every song I sing, I'll sing  
for you,  
When I come back I'll wear your wedding ring
- I have kissed honey lips, felt the burning fingertips  
It burned like fire, this burning desire  
I have spoke with the tongue of angels  
I have held the hand of the devil.
- Making love in the afternoon with \_\_\_\_, up in my bedroom.  
I got up to wash my face,  
When I come back to bed  
Someone's taken my place
- I'll find my way, through night and day,  
'Cause I know I just can't stay here in heaven.  
Time can bring you down, time can bend your knees.  
Time can break your heart, have you begging please.

### The Toronto Maple Leafs

- Who scored the winning goal the last time the Toronto Maple Leafs won the Stanley Cup?
- What two players have had their number retired by the Leafs?
- How many points were on the Leaf on the original Maple Leaf uniform?
- What Maple Leaf still holds the record for the most points in a single game with 10?
- Where did the Leafs play before Maple Leaf Gardens?

### Lines from Movies

*(1 point for movie, 1 for the actor)*

- "You know, we're going to win this thing. And when we do, you know what I'm going to do, I mean that very night? I'm going to go down to Sam and Harry's, get a big steak and make a list of everyone who's tried to fuck us this week!"
- "That was a warning. Where I come from there are penalties when a woman lies."
- "All right, you just go and tell him I want some phone taps, and then I'll get around to telling him on who *if* I'm in a good mood!"
- You're not dying, you just can't think of anything good to do.
- A million terrorists in the world, and I have to kill one with feet smaller than my sister.

### Star Trek

- What is the registry (e.g. NCC-1701) of the starship *Reliant*?
- Guinan first met Captain Picard when he was captain of which starship?
- Who was Worf's father?
- What episode explained why Picard has an artificial heart?
- Name the three "characters" that Majel Barret has played.

Anyway, I hope you enjoy it, and answers can be submitted as usual to the **BLACK BOX** or electronically to [mathnews@undergrad.math](mailto:mathnews@undergrad.math) by Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Cheers,

Andrew Drummond  
Squizmaster and future stats major

## ultraCLASSIFIED

Poor jokes in bad taste.

D.

## The ICraveTV.com FlipBook!



# GRIDWORD

## Grid Clues

### Across

1. CELL PHONE TERM
11. Sound an audience makes
12. Bring to mind
13. CELL PHONE TERM
15. At the end of a WHILE
17. CELL PHONE TERM
18. China's continent
20. What a wrestling fan might say when turning on the TV
22. Registered Nurse (Abbr.)
23. — Tsetung
24. Present (not past) refreshing drink
28. — The Lonely
30. A dyslexic lego piece
31. Intent to inflict evil
33. Long time
34. European Union (Abbr.)
35. CELL PHONE TERM
37. Not right
40. — Cadabra
41. Swiss city
43. Relating to Finland
47. Small guy
49. — is Enough
50. CELL PHONE TERM



The Cell Phone gridWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		
11						12						
13					14			15			16	
			17						18			19
20		21									22	
		23					24	25	26	27		
		28			29		30					
31	32							33				
34						35	36					
37		38	39			40						
	41			42		43				44	45	46
		47			48			49				
	50											

### Down

1. Compliment: "What a great —!"
2. Emergency Operating Instructions (Abbr.)
3. Captain's —
4. Comic book girl
5. CELL PHONE TERM
6. Not above
7. Needle in your arm
8. Not high
9. Furniture store
10. — and twenties
14. — peanutbutter sandwiches
16. — straits
19. CELL PHONE TERM
20. CELL PHONE TERM
21. Official Memo of Record (Abbr.)
24. For example
25. CELL PHONE TERM
26. Being really into oneself
27. Singer Morrison
29. Yukon Territory (Abbr.)
32. Colours
35. Children's Singer
36. — Wan Kenobi
38. CELL PHONE TERM
39. Small city
42. Annoy
44. Internet Gaming Network (Abbr.)
45. Student Health Centre (Abbr.)
46. High Tension Electrode (Abbr.)
48. Road (Abbr.)

## gridCOMMENTS

We received an astounding 23 submissions to last issue's gridWORD, making it by far the largest number of submissions received for a gridWORD this millennium.

The people who submitted correct gridWORD answers include Kevin Siddique, Otis Kenobi (President of St. Paul's Shadow Council), Machine of the Sphere, Student Failing Stats #1, Rob Roy & WhoopAss & OneManCrowd, Colin Davidson, Tariq Muinuddin, Carrie Bentley, Sarah Asterbady, Captain Cliche and his sidekick Muffin, Jamie Wheeler, Chris Ingram, Kyla, Marshall, Ian "The Word Guy" Facey, Mission Bananarama, and Stuart "Jean-Guy!" Pollack.

The winner chosen by random selection (and also by the big "PICK ME!" that adorned his submission) is Chris Ingram. Congrats Chris; you can pick up your prize in MathSoc.

The Grid Question this time round, if you're so inclined to answer one, is "Why me?"

Send your completed gridWORDS to the BLACK BOX or by email to mathnews@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca by February 14, 2000 at 6pm.

## Solution to Last Issue's gridWORD:

H	A	U	T						A	L	T	E	R		
I	P	S	O			C	A	S	T	R	A	T	E		
J	O	H	N			M	A	L	K	O	V	I	C	H	
A	L	E	S			M	I	A		S	L	H	I		
C	L	R				B	E	T	E		P	E	R		
K	O					T	O	R	I	E	S		I	R	E
						O	R	S	O	N	B	E	A	N	
S	I	C				O	N	I	O	N	S		A	L	
T	N	T				M	D		A	D		W	M	A	
A	L	A	N			I	C	R		C	H	E	F		
S	E	V	E	N	A	N	D	A	H	A	L	F			
I	T	E	M	I	Z	E	S			A	L	I	E		
S	S	S	S	S							R	E	A	R	