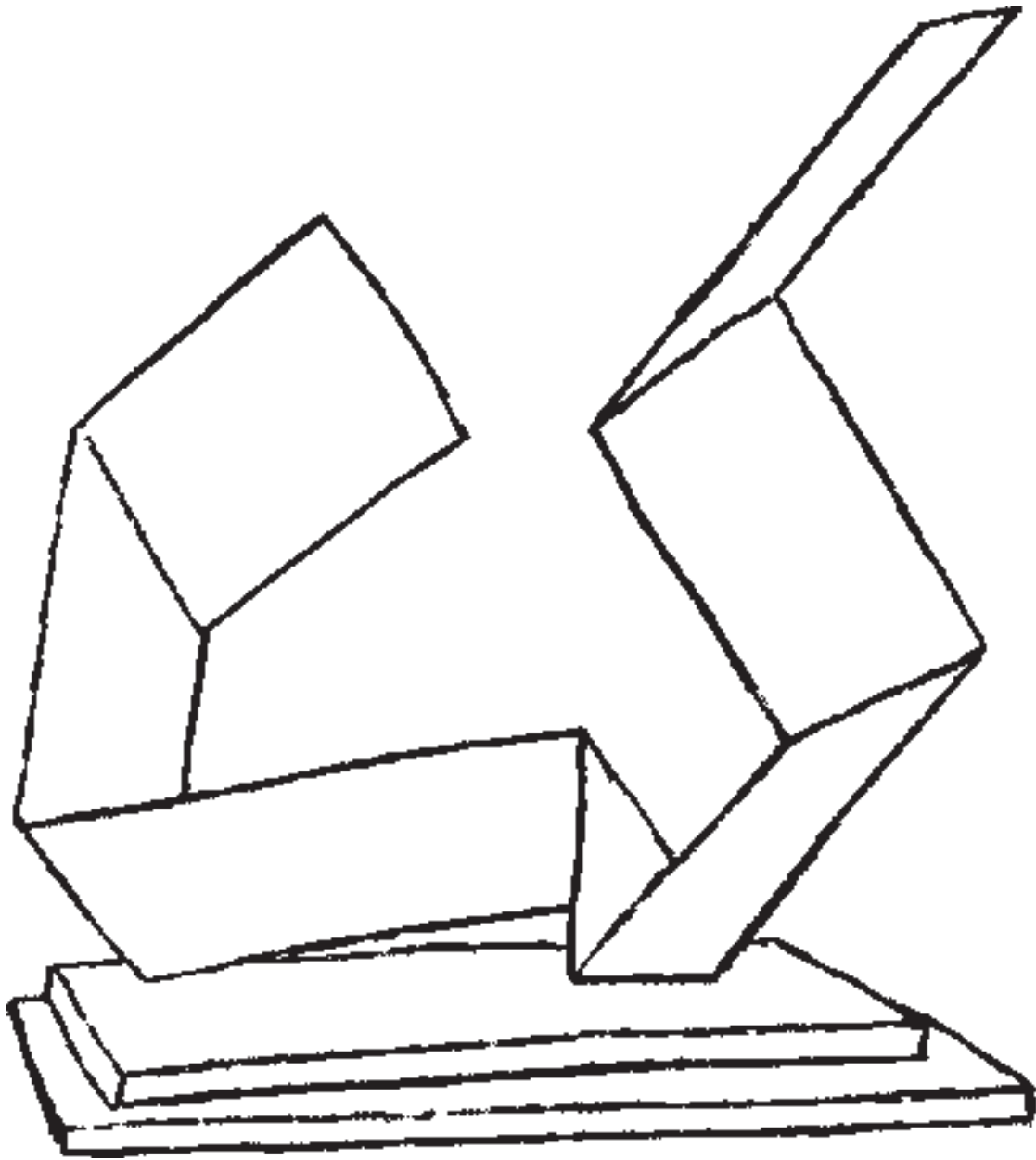


math

NEWS

Volume 83, Issue 3

Friday, June 16, 2000



COLOUR ME AND WIN A PRIZE!

Prez Sez

Hello to all of you from the MathSoc Exec!

We've run some good events so far! Thanks to everyone who came out for Pub Night at the Bomber last Friday. Fun was had by all.

Coming up we have a Cove Night planned, where you can pay one price to play all night at the Campus Cove. Details on that are still being worked out. Also, we are looking for volunteers to help run our booth on Canada Day. If you are interested, there is a sign-up sheet at the MathSoc office, and you can get more info there. Finally, I'll insert the obligatory plug for our Movie Nights, run Thursdays at 7 p.m. in DC 1302. Only \$2 for two movies!

With midterms in full swing, I'll take this opportunity to remind all of you about the MathSoc exam bank. We have copies of old exams in many classes. You can look at them in the MathSoc office. We also have put together packages of recent midterms for many of the core courses, so that you can save yourself the time of photocopying them yourself. Finally, our online exambank can be found at "<http://www.MathSoc.uwaterloo.ca/exambank/>".

I'll also ask anyone who is done with their old midterms (or finals) to turn them in to MathSoc so that we can keep updating our collection. Future generations of Mathies will thank you.

— Duncan McGregor
MathSoc President, Spring '00

lookAHEAD

mathNEWS

June 16	Sightings of Issue #3
June 26	Issue #4 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
June 30	Issue #4 has trouble counting

Math Faculty

May 29—June 23	Faculty Course Withdrawal Policy in Effect
July 3	University Holiday

MathSoc

Thursday	Some Movies
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MGC

June 17	Math Convocation 2000
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MEF

June 23	Deadline for proposal submissions and Funding Council nominations
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Co-op

June 16	Interviews end
June 20	Ranking Forms Available
June 22	Posting #1 for Continuous Phase
June 26	Job Match Results Posted
July 4	Pick up Math Work Reports

Miscellaneous

June 16	Full Moon in Sagittarius
June 18	Father's Day
June 21	First Day of Summer
June 25	mathNEWS office pretzels take over Seventh Floor
July 1	Canada Day

ACTSCI CLUB NEWS!

Thought I'd actually get around to doing part of my 'Publicity Director' duties by writing for *mathNEWS*.

Hope SOA/CAS exams went well for all those who wrote. Kind of an interesting sitting! Also hope midterms are coming along nicely.

Sorry to any of you who missed the free drinks at the pub nights!

We've got a couple of events planned for this term. There's our famous end of term pool tournament happening mid to late July. Opposite sex partners only and NO Dave I won't be your partner so stop asking me!! More details to follow...

As well, we're in the process of trying to arrange a few talks for sometime this month and we'd like to maybe do a mini golf day. Again, more details to follow...

In summation, the executive committee and I don't really have much to say. I'll pass along any details as they come in and look for posters on the Actsci door. Office hours have now been posted and started (or at least should have started) this week so drop on by.

Michelle Puzzuoli, Publicity Director
Actuarial Science Club

You want old exams?

In case you've been asleep for eight months, you should know that you can now find many copies of old exams online, downloadable for free in a variety of formats, from the MathSoc Online Exambank at <http://www.mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca/exambank/>.

I've recently added on a new MySQL/PHP interface, so you don't have to wade through the *entire* list of exams to find what you're looking for. Soon you'll be able to do mad, wild, crazy things like search by keywords in the exam content, or by instructor's names.

If anyone has ideas for more stuff we could do with the MathSoc Online Exambank, or wants to request that specific exams be added, please let me know at resources@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

And as always, in case you can't find what you're looking for online, (or want to save on printing costs,) drop by the MathSoc office and speak with your friendly office volunteer.

Stephen Forrest
Resources Director

mathNEWS on-line

And they said I couldn't waste more time...

Need to waste some time at work? Can't seem to find the latest copy of *mathNEWS* anywhere? Really got to answer the squiz? We've got you covered! Your prayers will be answered by going to www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca! Web-updater, Lucas, is doing his best to get each issue up week after week. No promises, ya'hear! But visit the site anyways, since there are some pretty timeless archives.

Hi fellow grads of 2001 =)

I'm Sophia Wong. I'm the new 2001 MGC Chair for spring and Co-Chair in the winter. I've just started my position and am still trying to be brought up to speed but if you have any questions feel free to email me here at MGC, or ask me in person if you see me around — I don't bite =). I'll try my best to help you out. I'll be checking mail regularly and will try to have office hours.

Events

We have some exciting events in the works including rock climbing, Canada's Wonderland, casino trip, and more! Let us know if there's any event that you'd like to see happen, or if you'd like to help organize one! We had our second event of term, bowling, last night. Thanks to all those who came out for it (and the big group photo too — boy was it a windy day).

Volunteers

Volunteers are always appreciated. This is non-committal. If you don't mind helping out with something small but don't know what, we'd be glad to hear from you and we can see if there's something appropriate.

MGC Info

Email: mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca (or mgc@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca)

Webpage: www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc (or www.undergrad...)

Newsgroup: uw.math.mgc

To subscribe to our emailing list, if you haven't done so yet, send us an email =)

MathSoc and Clubs have nothing more to say to fill this space!

Of course, no news is good news, right?

But still, wouldn't you rather read what they have to say in place of what has been used to fill this space so far?

Of course, we could take this opportunity to tell you that platypuses are the only mammals who lay eggs

We could also tell you that it is permissible to pluralize one platypus by saying two platypi.

But in reality, Echidnas are also listed as monotremes who lay eggs. So we probably shouldn't have said anything in the first place.

Gee, are you still reading this?

What I've Learned In Life I've Learned From Wrestling

Otherwise known as... "You're Still Watching That Crap"

After the...uh, success...of last week's article I've decided to write another in my series of "You Watch That Crap" articles.

This week's topic is things I've learned from watching wrestling. Then again you've probably already guessed that from the title of the article... ok, moving on.

I've learned...:

- It's ok to beat up on women, in fact the bigger you are the better it is. The preferred way seems to be slamming them through tables.
- People can be broken in half, 'literally', and then pop right back up the next second like they were just taking a nap (hmmm!)
- If you come up with a simple catchy phrase that the people can repeat with ease then you're an instant star.
- It's good to beat up your boss, call him an asshole, hit him in the head with a 'title belt' and douse him with beer. People will love you for it. And you won't get arrested. (Well on occasion you might, but you're usually out by the end of the night.)

- Marrying your boss' daughter is a **GOOD** career move.
- Dissing The Rock is not a good thing to do.
- It doesn't matter what your name is.
- Despite our best efforts to deny all allegations there are those limited few who will always get us wrestling fans labelled as idiots.
- Someone who was 'burned' as a child by his older 'brother' (who went on to become a successful wrestler) has a great career ahead of him.

So there you have it, and believe or not you too can learn all of these things within weeks of watching the shows. (Monday at 9:00 (12:00) on TSN, and Thursday at 8:00 for those fortunate enough to get UPN.) Boy do I feel like a shill. Seeing as how I got chewed out last week for not putting this (no name's mentioned...Kev(o)). If you're not down with this, I got two words for ya... Suck It!

SexP

Now I feel like an idiot fan!
Why did I have to put suck it

Follow my Heart, Leaves my Mind to Wonder

Alarm clocks are evil. I own two, though one is in another city, but nonetheless, both of them, although manufactured by two seemingly independent companies, add hours/minutes to the actual time when you are trying to change the alarm time.

Weird, huh? Yet their vileness does not end there. Here's another vice. I wake up sometimes, look at my alarm clock and think, "That HAD to have gone off, yet it is fifty minutes later and it's not buzzing?!?!" Sure, I've been told that this could be due to human error, but then the transition to the next paragraph wouldn't be as smooth. So suffice it to say, alarm clocks are evil, especially when they are supposed to go off but they don't.

Such was the case the other morning, when I woke up and stared at the glowing red digits on my silent, malevolent clock. 8:12. Sigh. I rolled over and sighed deeply again... time to get up and get ready for... HOLY MOSES 18 MINUTES TILL MY INTERVIEW!!!!

I leapt from my bed and landed in the bathroom where I somehow managed to scrape things across my hair, face and teeth, all in Guinness-Book-of-World-Records standard time. Then I leapt back into my room and what followed was a whirlwind in which all non-anchored objects in my room flew up and around at supersonic speeds. When they finally settled, I was standing in the middle of my room, with everything I needed in my hands but still dressed in my red plaid pyjamas!

I glanced one last vicious look towards my alarm clock, and in a tone not unlike that of "You stole our style you feline mutants!" I let a few profanities loose and then raced for the door with suit, shoes, tie, belt and other interview paraphernalia in hand.

I ran as fast as a guy who had only several hours sleep and no breakfast and was wearing really crappy shoes and carrying a bunch of stuff in my hands and who had only been conscious for ten or so minutes could run. I trudged up the steps of "the bad place" sweating profusely. Tired and disheveled, I bolted for the bathroom, darting right between an employer and a co-op office person.

Ah. Sweet merciful bathroom. Five minutes to spare. No time to cool down, into the suit I go. As I transform myself from mild-mannered pyjama-clad impoverished oppressed student into bold stylish and valuable young programmer, a man walked in to the bathroom. The following conversation (with some key words changed or dropped to protect the innocent) occurred:

Guy: (with respect to me half in pyjamas, half in suit) Cutting it a little close, aren't you?

Jesse: Yeah, and I keep worrying that my employer might walk in and see me like this.

Guy: What company are you applying for?

Jesse: (suspicious) Why, what company are you from.

Guy: Company "X"

Jesse: (pause) (In the tone of someone stroking their beard and saying "Interesting") Really... And what group are you hiring for?

Guy: The "Y" Group.

Jesse: Would that be for the "Z" product?

Guy: Yep.

Jesse: (hand outstretched) Jesse Bergman, first interview this morning.

Sigh. Now, luckily, it turned out that "Guy" was not the guy who interviewed me, but one of his co-workers. And more in-

teresting tidbits... remember the part where I "darted between an employer and co-op office person"? Well, that employer also turned out to be with the same group but luckily was also not the one interviewing me. So as unlucky as I was, it could've been a lot worse.

Funny, but interviews aren't as bad as I remember. When I have a bad interview, I just say, ah, screw it, I didn't want that lousy job anyway, but when it's good, yeah, I always walk out feeling awesome.

It's like a self-confidence thing, or a validation thing. Similar to the way I feel when I travel. I feel really good about myself when I'm on the road and free. Damn, I wish I had a car. Fun, but expensive I guess. And also, I would miss out on experiences that happen while walking from place to place. Example? I was walking to the grocery store through Waterloo Park and I passed by a little-league baseball game. Suddenly memories of my past glory (or lack thereof) days playing little-league baseball came rushing back. I stopped to watch the game in progress. The kids were pretty good. The guy on third would annoy the pitcher by leading off and moving around. The kids knew where to move when the ball was hit.

(I realize I'm talking a little baseballish now, sorry if this is meaningless to you.) There was this one particular play, when the catcher missed the pitch, and the runner at third tried to steal home. He took off at top speed as the whole other team cried, "He's going! He's going!" The pitcher ran to the plate and watched the catcher fumble for the ball. Finding it, he lobbed it to the pitcher. The runner went down into a slide and the pitcher brought his glove down to make the tag.

The infinitely long pause ... all eyes pierced the thin dust curtain draped around the runner and the pitcher, and stop to focus on the umpire. Reflecting and deliberating instantaneously, he responded to our concerned stares with a deep cry and the universal punch downwards indicating in formal baseball sign-language that the runner is out.

The game ended on that play, and the kid who had tried to steal home ran off the field, chucked his helmet and flopped down on the grass, head buried. The coach tried to convince him it was just a game, and not to worry about it, but the kid was elsewhere. And I looked at him, and I said to myself. "I know that kid. That was me."

A bizarre experience, suddenly recalling long forgotten emotions and events through the parallel situation of another. I left wishing I had had words to help the kid, to make him understand, truly understand, that I know *exactly* how he feels and that there will be other games. But I know that kid too well; he won't listen. Still, I felt strangely reassured because I have developed positively too and learned to deal with those types of circumstances in a (mostly) healthy way. And so somehow I knew that same thing would eventually happen with this kid, even without my intervention. I headed off deep in thought. I guess I had the fortunate chance to review a reflection of my younger self and realize that in getting older, I am actually, measurably, growing up.

Jesse Bergman

Behind The Closed Doors of the 3rd Year CS Profs

What You Were Never Allowed To Hear

For those of you in 3A CS like me, many of you who started with CS 130 have decided to go the route of the triple-core. You, you brave soul, have decided to take CS 342, CS 360 and CS 370 all in the same term. (Ok brave might not be the word... insane?) [I remember attempting CS 354, CS 360 and CS 370 in my 3B term. You don't want to go there either. — HoloEd]

Now, like me, you probably just went through one of the busiest weeks this term. What with an assignment due in each course last week you had a fun time right? Now you were probably thinking to yourself that this was just a coincidence. You couldn't be further from the truth. *mathNEWS* sent a crack staff to set up a hidden microphone and camera in the 'special' meeting room between these three profs.

For confidentiality reasons we will call these profs K1, K2 and L (just for fun); now flipping my 3-sided coin we see that Prof K1 teaches CS 342, Prof K2 teaches CS 360, which leaves Prof L for CS 370.

Now that I have both tapes in my possession I realise how bad our 'crack' staff is. The video tape didn't work and audio tape is very bad quality. Well, we'll see what I can make out.

P K1: Ok, welcome to the second meeting of 3rd year profs.

P K2: Any reason you're saying that?

P K1: Well I thought a nice intro would do. Ok, so what happened last meeting, I thought we had all agreed to have the assignments due on the same week.

P L: We did, yours was just a week late. But let's get to the next set, I have some rather interesting questions for this assignment. I'm going to have them cost some things out. It'll be tough as a dickens to do.

P K1: Perfect, yours can be due first, is Tuesday good?

P L: Sure, that's good for me.

P K2: What about mine, I didn't put much effort into this one, it seems rather simple. I've been too busy with my own life to try and make sure the students don't have one.

P K1: Well mine seems like it's going to be a lot of programming so I'll make due on Wednesday, right after P L's, which means the late date is Friday — that's when you can have your assignment due.

P K2: Ok, that's good, what about Monday? We need something to take up their weekend.

P L: What about the Stats Profs?

P K1(picking up phone): Hi is this a stat prof? ...good, what we need you to do is have some sort of assignment due on Monday, preferably early...A lab? Perfect. (click) Ok so now they have something due on Monday as well.

P L: What about Thursday?

P K2: Come on, we're not animals. They need one day of rest. Besides mid-terms are coming next week, we can schedule them in our next meeting.

P K1: Well there is something we can do (static)

And that my friends is the end of the tape. So know you now what the CS profs talk about, be warned, they are out to get us.

SexP

Preregistering No-Nos

A Guide to What You Shouldn't Have Done

Preregistration happened long ago now, so we're too late bringing you advice for easy courses around the university and the faculty. Instead, please accept this list of things that you really should not have signed up for. Let the games begin:

- AM 231: Calculus 4. 231 doesn't provide closure to calculus, it just slaps you around for a while like a succa.
- PMATH 334: Rings and Fields. Never take advice from *mathNEWS* about course selection, especially from a guy named "Van".
- CS 370: Numerical Computation. If you offer me a wee program that can do it in 4 flops and I think I can do it in 5 flops, I'd wager you a small cup of coffee that you drop out before midterms. Easy as the Dickens. I should get fired for saying this.
- MATH 149: Analysis and Game Theory. This course doesn't exist! How did you even get an index number for it? Have you even preregistered before?
- MATH 239: Intro to Combinatorics. Think you can get away without taking Calculus 3? This isn't just pull out your old connect-the-dots book and try to prove that the picture does equal Mickey Mouse. Plus, I hear the markers are nuts.
- STAT 230/231: Probability/Statistics. So what if it's a requirement, that's what fourth year is for!
- MATH 238: Torii and Fluid Mechanics. I made this one up, why are you trying to take it? It's bagels and drinks offered out of the C&D, how can you think this is a course?
- C&O 370: OR Models/ACTSC 431: Loss Models. If only they had actual models. Check out **Angelina Jolie**. Sweet sweet **Angelina**.
- BUS 111/121/352: Going over to Wilfrid Laurier will just depress you after the cold walk and frustrating ratios.

In short, you shouldn't have preregistered for any courses. You're always safer lying low for a year or so and hoping they don't notice that you're not registering for, attending, or passing classes any more. That's my plan! I'm sorry we couldn't warn you sooner. Good luck!

Bradley WT Smith
with K&K Consultants

Pi in the Sky

There once was a number named π
It travelled all over the sky
It was transcendental,
So no continental,
Since air miles just did not apply

Ryan & Ed

profQUOTES

“How’s this for space? I’ve limited myself to 3 cups of coffee this last hour.”

R.D. Willard, PMATH 330

“Is this in conjunctive form, I ask rhetorically? And you respond sleepily that yes, yes it is.”

R.D. Willard, PMATH 330

“Now, in the real world, not the CS 240 Fantasy Land, and you can tell S.P. that...”

R.D. Willard, PMATH 330

“This is as smart as this pen.”

R.D. Willard, PMATH 330

Prof: “First of all, are there any questions?”

Student: “I’m sorry, what did you just say?”

Prof: “Well, that answers that question.”

R.D. Willard, PMATH 330

“So the obvious conclusion is: go back to kindergarten and share.”

J. Pretti, CS240

Prof: (draws hilarious stick person scenes on the chalkboard)

Student: (takes a picture with a flash. Prof is startled.) Prof: “At your midterm I expect you to show up with that film and all developed copies of that picture, or you all fail!”

T. Vasiga, CS241

Prof: (while drawing stick people) “So here’s James Joyce typing... and then he dies.” (draws X’s over his eyes)

T. Vasiga, CS241

Prof: (Erasing stick people) “Nooooooooo! Don’t erase me! Ah-hhhh!!!!”

T. Vasiga, CS241

“But I’m not sadistic, so I won’t give you an ambiguous language and ask for an unambiguous grammar. I could, ... if I don’t get that film back from yesterday.”

T. Vasiga, CS241

“There are all sorts of cuckoos in the world ... The Road Runner is a cuckoo ... Why doesn’t he (Road Runner) say ‘cuckoo’? ... Because he says ‘beep beep.’”

Mackay, STAT 231

“Let’s start on unsatisfiability... this doesn’t have anything to do with your sex life.”

Hoffman, PMATH 330

“It’s not because we’re perverse, it’s because we’re lazy.”

L.J. Cummings, PMATH 336

“I have an excuse... it’s called seniority.”

L.J. Cummings, PMATH 336

Prof: “Is that your joke or my joke?”

Student: “That was totally your joke.”

L.J. Cummings, PMATH 336

“Gee, this was very clear last night...”

L.J. Cummings, PMATH 336

“We need an identity, well at least that’s what the psychiatrist tells us at any rate...”

L.J. Cummings, PMATH 336

“Exercise says to prove theorem 1.4.2, but there is no theorem 1.4.2 as far as I can tell.”

L.J. Cummings, PMATH 336

“Your tie is almost as good as mine.”

S. Sivaloganathan, AM 250

Student: “No sir, I am not a math student.”

Prof: “No, but this is just some high school math.”

S. Sivaloganathan, AM 250

“This banana peel was another attempt at my assassination.”

R.G. Lawrence, MTHEL 100

“I can assure you that I have no canine ancestors, at least not back through the last century or two.”

R.G. Lawrence, MTHEL 100

“If you are going to run over someone, do it thoroughly by backing up and doing it again.”

R.G. Lawrence, MTHEL 100

“I’m trying to stick to saying things that are true, and we’ll figure out what they mean as we go along.”

Godsil, C&O 739A

“So the clique and the independent set we’re going to associate with it have absolutely nothing in common, pretty much like married couples.”

Godsil, C&O 739A

“If you said you were in lust with a set of primitives — a set of IPC primitives — that would sound very weird.”

Clarke, CS 452

Student: “Can you repeat the question?”

Prof: “That’s a good way of ducking out of a question, especially with me, since I usually don’t know what I asked.”

Clarke, CS 452

“Intel is wrong. Intel is always wrong.”

Clarke, CS 452

“That’s why I have a class. If I were here by myself, there would be no one to correct me when I make mistakes.”

Clarke, CS 452

See, students are paying attention in class!

Got profQUOTES? Then submit them!

Exclaiming My Identity

radiation comes from the time in between. And finally, shows you can come straight off of the CD getting, but instead your what could you possibly be doing outside? On second thought, don't answer that, lest you never return to class again.

So, walking through the University plaza parking lot, I decided that I want a car. Yeah. But not just any car. My car's gotta have attitude. And no, it's not going to be a taxi, or a van labelled with a big red cross on the side. My car's gonna rumble like a 'stang. It's got to have curves like a vette. And it's gonna have tacky fuzzy dice hanging from the mirror. But most of all, it's got to have a nice vanity license plate. Yeah, one of those silly seven letter cryptic messages that are only funny to a select few. My car is definitely going to have one of those great phrases on it. It's going to say something that's got pep, catch and makes you giggle like a little german girl when you finally clue in on the joke.

In my search for the ultimate license plate, I immediately thought of this one:

CS GEEK

Simple and straight to the point and really quite accurate. Unfortunately, CS could be misinterpreted as Charismatic Superstar or some other Cock Sucking Convoluted Sentence. So I need something less ambiguous.

This was my my next attempt.

5732449

No it's not a phone number. Still guessing? Hint: Highly Annoying "Uh Oh". It's a UIN, of course! That's right all you ICQ fanatics, you can actually put your UIN on a license plate. Especially those of you exclusive enough to have a seven, or dare I say it, six digit UIN. Those of you cyber-slackers with eight digit UIN's will just have to settle for putting your phone number there. Just don't blame me when Big-Al calls you asking for a ride home. Unfortunately for me, my UIN was already taken as a license plate. I called it, but I didn't really feel like ordering a wife over the phone.

Next on my list of vanity license plates was this one:

U DN W OOP

Yeah, so maybe I missed the whole Naughty By Nature, thing, but I'm kind of down with OOP, and well Object-Oriented Programming is important to me, sort of. But, no, this just won't do either. My car's gotta be hip and cutting edge, not derived or inherited from some old rap song.

Here are a few more license plates that came to me in the shower a couple days ago.

I LV LINUX

ARCTAN

DBL CLCK

NAPSTER

Well, these are great license plates and all, but I've got a problem with all of them. First of all, I don't know the first thing about Linux. And even though I've done a work report on Linux, what does that really mean? It means that I did one whole night of research. Next, ARCTAN may make a great game to play in class, and it's got a really nice derivative, but it doesn't have the bad ass attitude that my car needs to emanate. Thirdly, who actually double clicks anymore? At least I don't. It's lynx and vi for me. Hardcore keyboarder, I am. Pounding all day long on this thing, the mouse is lucky if it feels my gentle caress more than once after I log in. And finally, this NAPSTER thing, I don't know what it is or what it does. Besides, I swear my Metallica

So I'm still searching for the perfect vanity licence plate. And just this morning while walking past this ugly pink and daffodil ridden sculpture, I thought of these two more license plates:

I LUV PNK

THONG

So although the first may be thought to be actually referring to Punk music, this interpretation would be incorrect. It should actually be read pink, as in the colour. And it's a lie. And the next plate can quickly be dumped into a truck truck truck.

Up till now, this whole idea has been a mega bust. I asked a friend to help me out with the problem. These next few plates were given to me by him a few days later. He said he'd be getting them on his matching bimmers for him and his wife:

VI RLZ

GO EMACS

Right. Last I checked, this guy was getting married in August. I bought him a "Marriage in a Nutshell" book, complete with special "When she wants to talk", and "So she can't even use Windows" appendices.

I'm starting to think this whole vanity license plate idea is just a bunch of trouble. Still, co-op and Needles Hall suggest that you don't put these next few plates on your car when driving to off-campus interviews.

WEB SRFR

IM A HACK

FWD HA HA

Seems my search is getting worse and worse. And still this next one is the best one yet.

ZUG ZUG

Those familiar to computer gaming will recognize it as one of the greatest phrases to ever come out of Warcraft. With that one phrase, I can say hello, alright, or get lost.

Yeah, I think I'm really close to the phrase that'll say it all. The vanity plate that screams ME. My next brainstorm led me to this one:

MTH NEWS

Oh, that'll do. That'll do just fine. I think I have a winner.

Kev(o)

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Special Guest Star: Greg Taylor

Ticket to my bedroom, BEBEH!!!

As we all know, the summer term is the period where the fresh little high school tykes come in and inspect our hallowed campus. I look on with massive chunks of amusement as they stare around with that innocent wonder. AH! To be a high school kid again... RIIIIIGHT!!!

One thing which amuses me to the furthest ends of the earth are the tours and the ambassadors. Every time a group of high school kids and parents come to the campus, they are paraded about on a tour set by Needless Hell. It's all fine and dandy if you want to bore them to death but if you REALLY want to pull them in to the university, you have to throw in the little extra pizzazz. And pizzazz we've got in plenty. All we need to do is make these few minor changes to the tour.

1. MUH!!! (Try to figure this one out.)
2. Go-kart races around Ring Road.
3. Close down the residence cafeterias, telling them truthfully that it's all part of a plan to improve the health of students on campus.
4. 23 skidoos (no comment).
5. Pirate ship in the pond in front of Health Services.
6. Super happy fun slides down stairs. Suction tubes up stairs.
7. Troy Vasiga.
8. Have the iMac labs blink like Christmas lights, promoting the fun atmosphere of CS100 and being in the Math building.
9. Gratuitous amounts of Artsies around campus to make us look like a 'normal' university.
10. Blindfolded tigers jumping through rings of fire outside the Comfy Lounge.
11. 40ft beer mug filled with Honey Brown on top of SLC, that can tip over and pour into the Health-Services pond.
12. End all tours with a live performance of the Baby-hit-me-one-more-time video.
13. Don't take them into Engineering and claim that's where that nasty CSC club is.
14. Real trains across campus for Real-time.
15. Take 'em to watch the juggling club's practice session and say that this is when we let the Laurier kids out of their cages.
16. Alumni Lane should be changed into the world's longest half pipe.
17. Give Dana Porter the ability to submerge and relocate.

18. Have the Iron Chefs cook at the C&D during tours of MC.
19. Paint the CS sculpture a different colour. Don't need anyone thinking we're a pansy-ass, daffodil lovin' school, do we?
20. Every potential honey should take a personal tour of my bedroom. Bebeh.

That's right, with those few changes, we could be raking in the kids. We wouldn't even have to use the old 'sixth floor maze trick' to increase enrolment.

MonkeyMan

*mast*HEAD

Guess Who

Hello out there! This is Greg Taylor, starting the *mast*HEAD on behalf of Chad, because he's been forced to take a nap. I don't know where he finds the energy to do sole editing as well as parody articles as well as Real Time as well as databases and whatever else he's up to. He's a sorcerer.

Me, I've been relaxing since I'm not attending lectures for the first time in six consecutive terms (tutoring donchaknow), and I'll be back for 4C in September. But enough about me.

We got two responses to the cover survey last issue. One vote for (a) C+D (obviously from someone who codes until 3am and then gets the munchies) and one vote for (e) the *math*NEWS office (apparently from someone who wanted a copy of last issue... but they must have acquired one somehow to submit it). We did say it wasn't binding though, and anyway I believe the correct answer was (f) seventh floor of MC. Better luck next time. Now here's Chad for some additional words of wisdom.

Words of wisdom?

Thanks, Greg. As you explained quite well to our gentle reader, I've been really busy these past few weeks, and I really appreciate your help in getting this issue ready.

That's nice. Who helped out?

It was like old times here in *math*NEWS-land, with a room full of staffers brainstorming and being creative. We all went over to Mr. Greek for dinner, and gathered around a big table to play Mafia, where a player is chosen to be a narrator, and guides us through a mini-murder-mystery with randomly chosen secret roles for each player: Mafia kills other players, the maniac maims opponents, and the hot dame seduces a player each turn. In keeping with this line of thinking, our question for our staff this issue is *Who would you like to seduce, maim and kill?*

They, along with their answers, are Monkey Man (Kevo (owes me five bucks)), Geoff Dinnes (Greg, because he's a fun guy to kill), Bradley T. Smith (Nobody deserves that, NOBODY!), Kevin Wan Min Kee (Strange Perpetually Wet Egg), Jean Knetch (... and warn them of my master plan?), Anthony Cheng (My tutor (not seduce), just kill & maul), Michael Thorsley (Jean Knetsch, because she'd do it to me in a second) and temporary co-editor Greg Taylor (Dr. Livingstone, I presume).

Thanks goes to Mr. Greek and to people at Graphic Services.

CAS (My Vic-20)

Waterloo DJs Don't Know What Retro Is

Bomber Wednesdays resume kicking ass

Hey, Math Pub night was a big success! But what was up with playing “Propellerheads” and “Fatboy Slim” on a retro night? Anyways, here’s to Van, the current social director, for doing a great job and making sure everyone had a great night. And in general, Bomber Wednesdays have been pretty good, up until about 12:30. So congrats to the summer Bomber DJ.

There’s been a minor shortage of *mathNEWS* issues around MC this past week, so instead, if one of your friends can get a copy, you can play a couple of these games in class to kill some time.

- **Countdown to Bomber Wednesday** — Well the title says it all, I think. Take a look at the clock and figure out the number of seconds left until you make your grand entrance into the Bomber on Wednesday. Then count the number of seconds left until the music at the Bomber goes to Hip-hop (usually around 12:30). This is the number of seconds you have left to get drunk so that you can withstand the cross over. Get cracking! Get as many people involved counting backwards and try to throw each other off count. Treat the winner to beverages.
- **ARCTAN** — Played the ‘Penis’ game, have you? Same rules, but use ARCTAN. This is an exam favourite and classic. For those not familiar with the rules, all somebody has to do to start the game is say ‘Arctan’ at a barely audible volume. Anybody interested in playing the game says ‘Arctan’ a little louder than the previous. Competition continues in this manner until you can’t possibly scream it any louder or you get kicked out of wherever you are.
- **What I Would Do For Summerfest Tickets** — Clearly, this stream is quite obviously the party stream. Selling out Summerfest in 3-hours? That’s crazy! So if you’re really bored, you can think about what it is you’d do to get those Summerfest tickets if given the chance. You can challenge those who have them to a bet to see what you are willing to do. It’s kinda like Truth or Dare, but more performance oriented.
- **What I’ll Do Since I Don’t Have Summerfest Tickets** — And obviously, since we don’t have tickets, we’ll all need to go somewhere and do something. When you’re done deciding what you’re going to do, make sure you tell everyone you know by raising your hand to ask a question, but instead, shamelessly promoting the kegger you’ll be holding in your backyard.
- **Class Mystery** — Get into groups of at least 6. Everybody gets a “character” card from the set {Dean, Professor, TA/Marker, Keener, Student}. There’s one of each except Students, everyone keeps their identity a secret. The Dean gets everyone to close their eyes and has the Marker/TA select one person to fail an assignment. Then the Professor opens their eyes and selects one person to fail, they are out of the class. Then the two first close their eyes and the Keener opens their eyes. They pick a person to piss off. Then everyone opens their eyes and the Dean says who has failed

the course, the assignment, and who has been pissed off. The remaining Students must figure out who everyone is. The Keener must try to go without detection as others fail out. Have fun!

- **Vasiga Musical Chairs** — As most people know, getting a seat in Troy Vasiga’s CS classes are killer. To allow everyone the opportunity to sit, midway through the class play Sisqo’s Thong Song. Everyone then has to get up and strut around like Sisqo. Once the music stops, grab a chair, or if there are no chairs left, you can show your thong and hope to scare the other people into leaving their chairs. Losers have to stand for the rest of the class.
- **Guess Who** — Divide the class into two halves (prof as well). Then two players get up in front of the class and choose one half for themselves. Your opponent then takes a look at your half and picks one person. You do the same for their half. Afterwards you ask questions to figure out who s/he picked before he/she can figure out who you picked. For example, “Is your person chinese? No.” At that point, all the chinese people would have to get up and leave the class. This goes on until there is only one person left on your side. Note: Only use yes and no questions.

Well, I gotta say, I didn’t come up with the good games this issue. Most of the Credit goes to Koosh brothers the Taxi and MonkeyMan. Have a great one!

Kev(o)

Solution to last issue’s grid

F	A	E		L	A	E	R	T	E	S		S	P	A
D	I	S	T	U	R	B		I	T	A	L	I	A	N
A	M	P		S	U	B	M	E	N	U		C	N	N
	L		S	T	M		I		A	D	A		G	
M	E	R	C	Y		A	D	D		I	S	A	A	C
A	S	I	A		B	R	I	E	F		A	L	E	A
L	S	D		O	A	K		I	R	K		C	A	L
C		D	A	F	T				O	R	E	O		I
O	W	L		T	H	Y		A	S	P		H	U	B
L	E	E	R		E	A	R	T	H		M	O	N	A
M	A	R	A	T		P	I	E		D	Y	L	A	N
	P		T	O	I		P		C	A	M		R	
B	O	A		U	N	L	E	A	R	N		O	M	D
E	N	F	O	R	C	E		D	I	S	O	B	E	Y
E	S	T		S	H	Y	L	O	C	K		I	D	E

Snuggles Sez

It's like Simon says, but Simon neglected to put his pants on this morning. Sigh, I should really stop writing these articles Tuesday night (for those of you who don't write for *mathNEWS*, article deadline is Monday). [Fortunately for *Snuggles* the issue layout was 11 pages — *HoloEd*]

For a while I carried around a note in my pocket that said "Eating Babies is Funny". It caused me endless entertainment. Due to my forgetfulness, I wouldn't remember it was there, I have a lot of random things in my pockets (from mini Robert Munch books to a funny ad for "Cheeze Retro" from Whiskey Saigon). So every so often I pull something out of my pocket to entertain me when I'm bored. And sometimes I'd pull out this note, read it, wonder why the hell it was in my pocket and wonder about it for a while. Then I'd put it back in my pocket

I just saw *The World is Not Enough*, it got to the end, and I knew there was had to be some jokes about Christmas Jones' name (Denise Richards of *Threesome*, ... I mean *Wild Things* fame). I waited and I waited and finally I heard that great line "I thought Christmas only comes once a year". Pure Gold.

Nory said to me "there is no conspiracy, and if you don't keep quiet about the conspiracy (which, by the way, doesn't exist), then we are going to have to kill you". I have a new line about conspiracies actually. I think there is a big conspiracy, it's so big, in fact, that even I'm in on it.

Sometimes I wonder about the term *menage-a-trois*, it slightly disturbs me that it seems to have the same root as *menagerie*. Other times I wonder if beer makes you want to pee, does eating a beernut make you want a peanut? And at random times I wonder why a testicle is neither a test, nor an icicle, discuss. I was cleaning my room today and I found all those relations on a post-it note, so I decided to share. My mother asked me who owns *Wonderland*, I said Canada, it is Canada's *Wonderland*, it made sense to me. Apparently it's *Paramount*, bah.

A friend of mine was complaining that I don't visit. I suggested that they could visit me, this was their reply: "Uhh, I COULD hypothetically, IF I knew where you lived. Sadly, at the moment all I know is you live in random *Snuggleland* which is located somewhere in the *GTA*." Hehe, I don't live in the *GTA* (it ends at *Steeles*, I am a couple clicks north of that). Well I found it funny, and I don't see you entertaining the masses by writing in *mathNEWS*, unless I'm talking to the handful who do, in which case, um, hi, how ya doin'.

Why do people pick on wrestling, look what else is on TV. Soaps are fake, the News has lots of violence, the Sopranos glorify the violence, and have you ever watched *VIP*? That show isn't exactly watched for it's brilliant plots, men and women in various stages of undress sell many a prime time show.

Snugglo the Magnificent

gridCOMMENTS

Dat Ol' Man River,

He Just Keeps Rolling Alooooong...

Ladies and gentlemen! A great good morning/afternoon/evening to the lot of you. By the time you're reading this, Summer Quarter will have started at my current school... this has probably no impact on any of your lives, but means that I get my very own batch of students to thrash around, rather than borrowing students to thrash from a professor. Ah... the power...

But enough about me. Let's talk about you. I got NINE submissions to last issue's *gridWORD*, which pleases me greatly. Incorrect solutions (and suggestions for what Wile E. Coyote really needs) come from Tyler Rooney & John Alperin (No suggestion), Tim Coleman (No suggestion), the Girl in the Red Velvet Dress (Feminine wiles), Justin Petrillo (Acme™ Self-Administered Memory-Wiping Tablet... forget the Road Runner!), Rob Roy (Acme™ Disposable Life), Amr & Leslie (Glasses), and Simon "Poor Yorric (sic)" Woodside & Ming "Is that a dagger" Iu (The Acme™ Death Star®).

The observant will have counted seven submitters so far. That's because the other two got the puzzle perfectly right: Will Chartrand (No suggestion) and Marcov (An advance copy of the AM 351 midterm). Since Marcov answered the *gridQUESTION*, even though his answer made no sense, I pronounce Marcov the winner. Huzzah! Again, Chad Severn is the person that you want to bother about a prize.

Some notes: 19-across was "STM", a standard abbreviation for "Short-Term Memory". That makes 19-down "SCA", the Society for Creative Anachronism. Also, to anyone who was wondering about "mym", that stands for "myriameter"; the prefix derives from the Greek "myriad", meaning "ten thousand", and so ten kilometers would indeed be a myriameter. (Kids, I am *not* making this up.)

Anyhow, another week, another *gridWORD*. Only one Shakespeare reference this time, although a surprising number of Old Testament-related clues managed to sneak in. Purists will note that I went for rotational rather than reflection symmetry this time; the rest of you don't care. As usual, you can submit your responses either to the BLACK BOX or to me at mwalsh@alumni.uwaterloo.ca, I will see the results either way.

This week's *gridQUESTION* requires a little explanation. In my land of exile, not only have we been experiencing a drought severe enough to make some counties "disaster areas", but last week marked the first unprovoked shark attack at the beaches by Gulf Shores in over 25 years. Given those, and knowing as we all do that bad things come in threes, *What catastrophe will strike Alabama next?*

Good luck, everyone. Be seeing you...

Matt "So-Krates" Walsh
Gridmaster-in-Exile



mathNEWSquiz #3

Well, this temporary sQUIZ guy thing is turning into a semi-regular sQUIZ guys position. Fortunately, there are only the two of us doing it, so we've run out of personal trivia sections. Also fortunately, people submitted to us (and some people sent in their answers to the sQUIZ).

Well, here are some of the solutions to last issue's questions (like the ones we know the answers to): **The Lovely Ms. Tweed:** 1. Sharon Stone; 2. Eight sequels; 3. Frasier; **Lyrics (to bands on the Vans Warped Tour):** 1. "King for a Day", Green Day; 2. "Spam", Save Ferris; 3. "Punk Rawk Show", MxPx; 4. "Soda", gob; **Wrong "Brad" Taxi:** Hmmmm, we'd take anything here. Congrats to Greg "Hologrami" Taylor who was closest with a googol of Hawaiian shirts, and Lawrence Soung-Yee who knew that da'huarong'taxee would go Raze a Little Hell. You both deserve delicious cookies. But since both of you had 11 correct answers, we're awarding the prize to "Hologrami" since he knew more about Shannon Tweed. Pick up the prize at the MathSOC office.

Well, without further befuddling here are this week's questions...

Web's Celebs

1. Who claims to have invented the stupid term "Information Superhighway"?
2. What site does Rogers Cadenhead maintain?
3. Who is Robot Frank?
4. Where is The Onion based out of? (Think cheese)
5. Would you rather maintain BradleySmith.com or Kevo.com? Why?

Music Lyrics

Name the band and song. (Hints for theme: 3. Album name; 4. Three years before Catain Tractor recorded it.)

1. Hey, What's your favourite song?
Maybe we could hum along, and...
I think you're smart, you sweet thing
Tell me your name, I'm dying here

2. Rocky Raccoon, checked into his room
Only to find Gideon's bible
Rocky had come, equipped with a gun
To shoot out the legs of his rival
3. Oh she deals in witchcraft and one kiss and I'm zapped
Oh how can heaven hold a place for me
When a girl like you has cast her spell on me?
4. And it's a hey, ho, coming down the plains
Stealing wheat and barley and all the other grains
And it's a ho, hey, farmers bar your doors
When you see the Jolly Rogers on Regina's mighty shores

Easy Star Wars

1. Which creature uses a Gaderffii stick as a weapon?
2. What are the first words Greedo says to Han Solo? (In phonetic-Rodian, please)
3. If you had to pick up a power converter on Tatooine, where would you go?
4. What is significant about C3P0's legs in the original series?
5. What food fetish should you not mention around Admiral Ackbar?

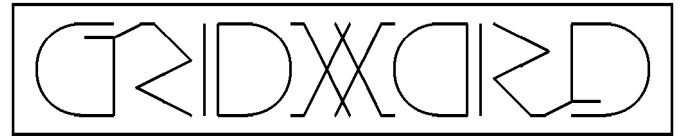
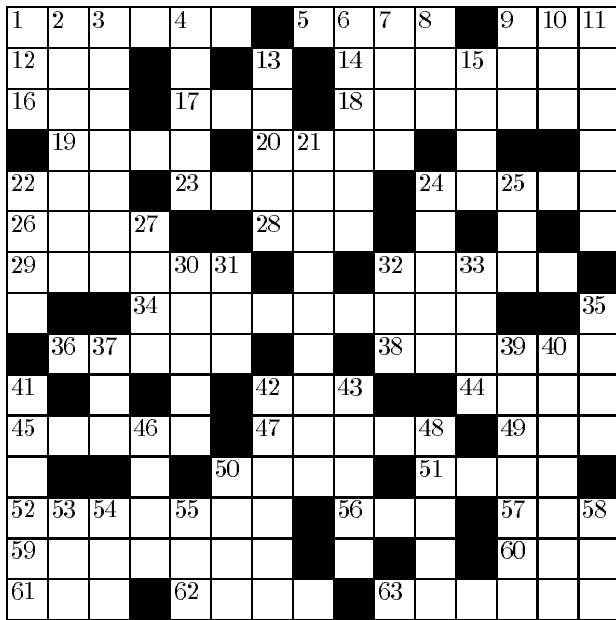
Miscellaneous Trivia

1. Finish Conan's quote: "Conan, what is best in life?"
2. Which two people never gave us questions to put in the sQUIZ, so we did it by ourselves and it sucks again?
3. What is pink, ugly, and surrounded by pansy-ass daffodils?
4. Who is Encyclopedia Brown's arch nemesis?
5. What math class has an iMac lab?

Koosh this,
The Wrong Bradley
and Kev(o)

Just keep reading, nothing to see
down here...





gridCOMMENTS are
on page 10.

*Well, where did you
think they'd be?*

Across

1. Hun of note
5. Malignant spirits
9. Frenchman's wheat
12. Bread baked in 2 Down
14. Workshop
16. Verb suffix
17. Paddle
18. Challenging the underlying assumptions
19. In command of one's faculty?
20. Draw
22. Charged particle
23. Raw fish delicacy
24. Beer mug
26. A name for a thing
28. "Earl Grey, Hot", for example
29. The alternatives to tricks?
32. Collection of photos or songs
34. Spirit of the West song
36. Frightening
38. Bricklayer's tool
42. American spy org.
44. Honest pay for honest work
45. "Go _____ and multiply"
47. Razor-wielding monk
49. Dirt
50. Unix shell
51. Source of the Sun?
52. Natural
56. A long period of time
57. Hurt
59. It bites
60. "The Heart ___ Lonely Hunter"
61. Canadian mil. directors
62. Sprite (var.)
63. David's hymns of praise

Down

1. Folk singer DiFranco
2. Clay oven
3. The role of an artless young woman
4. They go with tigers and bears (oh my!)
6. Blues chanteuse Ball
7. Egyptian god of creation
8. Unix text tool
9. Something to flick?
10. Length of yarn
11. Measure of traffic, as on phone lines
13. Coat of arms
15. British elevator
21. What an actor engages in
22. "Once more ___ the breach, my friends!"
24. Of the Sun
25. Long-legged, long-necked bird
27. California valley
30. Hebrew sacred writings
31. Cunning
32. Perform
33. Expel air
35. Lost vital bodily fluids
37. Mangy dog
39. Carouse
40. Supreme self-centredness
41. Be able to purchase
42. Tailbone
43. Dull pains
46. Bluish green
48. Justified by the end?
50. Two eighth-notes?
53. Stimp's pal
54. One of Israel's sons
55. Playful bite
58. Original performers of "There She Goes"