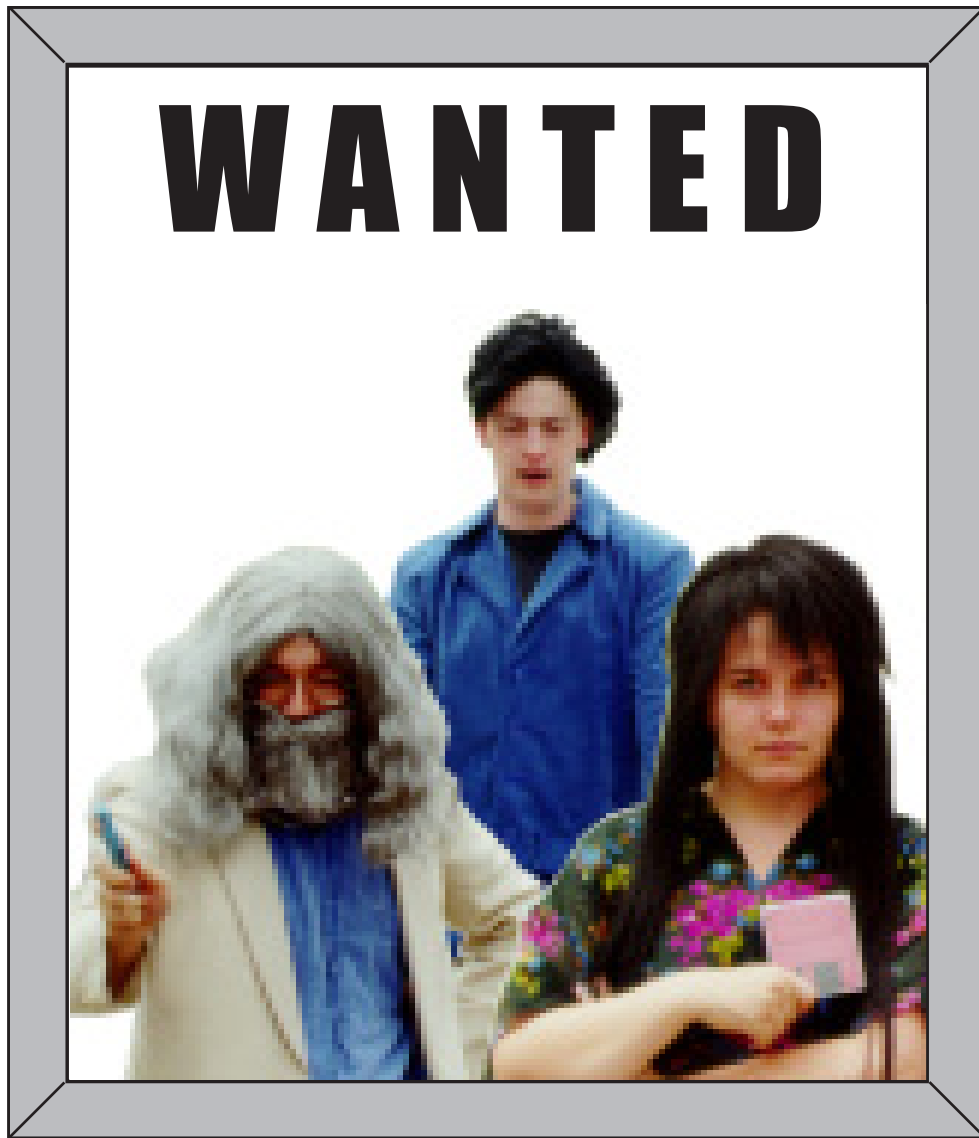


math

NEWS

Volume 86, Issue 2

Friday, June 1, 2001



DANGEROUS MATHIES
DARE YOU READ ON??

Prez Says

Ok, here we go ... I've been slack, someone feel free to kick me. We had a budget meeting, it was under an hour ... I'm happy ... umm ... more of you should come out to our events. Dave's got a bunch of stuff planned. I suggest you sign up, it looks like lots of fun. Nothing all that important has happened recently on the academic front. I'm planning on changing the first year assembly policy ... slightly modify it's mandate, and put more people on the committee in the hopes of greater frosh participations. I'm also planning on revising the by-laws to remove the VPA position. (gasp). This is pretty important: it shrinks the executive back to 3, so if you've got a problem or a suggestion, please come and tell me. Yes, I mean you ... whoever you happen to be. I'd love to talk with you. I'm probably currently in the exec office or the soc office if it's a MWF ... otherwise you can e-mail me. Umm, that's about it. Focus groups are going to be happening in a week or two, Look for advertising. (FREE FOOD). Umm ... there's a council meeting on Thursday June 7, You should all come and find out what we're doing and the fun events we're planning ... like the carwash / cotton candy bonanza for charity. It looks like lots of fun. Anyway, if you have questions then e-mail me about answers. Oh ya, the e-mail address is prez@MathSoc.uwaterloo.ca (with a 'z' not an 's' wonder why?). On a side note if you come and talk to me about MathSoc stuff I'll buy you a cookie from the C+D. this offer is open only to those people who I don't know very well.

Liam

SHREK POSTERS

(Movie Nite)

We will be showing *Princess Bride* and *Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon* on June 7th. The location is yet undecided but it will either be in DC 1302 or MC 2065. They will both be DVD and wide screen so be prepared for good quality and laughs and amazement.

On the 14th, we will be showing ... Cheech and Chong's *Up In Smoke* and *Rowan Atkinson Live*. That's right, a hilarious evening with tons of fun. Should be good so show up. This will be in MC 2065 ... after this we will be back in DC 1302 for the rest of the summer.

If you have movie suggestions please email them to movies@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca ... Also we're going to be giving away Shrek Posters (full size) and such. So look forward to that.

Tushar
Quack Movie Guy

Canada Day

Hey all, I'm Tushar and I'm kinda co-running the mathSOC portion of Canada Day. It's a whole bunch of fun activities for kids. There's a wide range of activities from face painting and origami to ring toss and water gun games. It'll be an extremely fun day. As if that wasn't enough you get a t-shirt, food, desert, and a bag o' stuff. So sign-up at the mathSOC office. 'Til then.

Tushar
Who's bright idea was it to put me in charge, that Quack

Dave's Dastardly Decathlon

Dave: You hear about my decathlon?

Dave's imaginary friend Freddy: No, does it consist of 10 events?

Dave: That's right. Ten completely random events, some physical prowess with the most skill/aristic merit will prevail.

Freddy: Aristic merit? So what do I get out of participating other than the sheer joy of my personal amusement.

Dave: I suppose I meant artistic merit, though aristic merit does help. As well there will be prizes for the victorious. Winners of each event will get cookies, mmm, I love cookies. The overall scorer will win a Math Cheat shirt. Participation in events can be on the day of, and its okay to do only one or two events that interest you.

Freddy: So when is this bastion of zeal?

Dave: Events will be each Wednesday at noon and at 4 pm. Though I will allow alternate times if requested because all should participate.

May 30:	Dumb Ass Downhill Dash Down the Dubious Double Dew
June 6:	Dana's Daunting Douie Decimal Deciphering Dandelion Decapitation
June 13:	Davis Double Decker Darts Deadly Donut Dido Dancing
June 20:	Don't Drown the Ducks Devastating Deeds
June 27:	D'Oh Dripping Dave Drop

Freddy: Whoa? What if I miss an event like the Dumbass Downhill Dash and I think that I am the best Dumbass?

Dave: Don't worry almost all the events will be against the clock so you can try the event on your own time.

Freddy: So why are you have such an alliterative decathlon anyway.

Dave: Well, I am social director for MathSoc so here I some events for June. Also I am thinking of having a Pub night and Hike in Elora gorge towards the end of June.

Freddy: What if I think this is all lame?

Dave: Freddy, maybe I am lame, but whatever. Give me suggestions and I will oblige. If someone says, "Yo Dave, it would be Kick Ass to have a trip to a Brewery." I will probably think, "Alright, let's do that. How's the beginning of July, to give me enough time to plan?"

Freddy: Busta.

Dave Nicholson

[So, if I ran it, would it be Brad's Bastardly Biathlon? — TaxiEd]

[I think that sounds right, but if I did it, would it be Love's Lame Lollygaggle? — Pete Love]

UW Programming Contest

Today is the Waterloo ACM Programming Contest. UW holds contests every term for practice and, in the fall, to determine who will represent Waterloo at the ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest.

Full details are at <http://plg.uwaterloo.ca/~acm00/>.

[And if you haven't guessed already, this was supposed to be announced last issue. Way to go me! — TaxiEd]

hackanslash

Did you know that “gullible” isn’t in the dictionary?

It finally happened: I have received spam offering me a chance to purchase residential lots in Florida.

Google search: have i got swampland in florida for you

Wetlands developer banks on swampland

<http://southflorida.bcentral.com/southflorida/stories/1996/08/12/story6.html>

“The concept works like this: A wetlands bank buys or leases land that can be restored. The government then grants the bank credits for every acre restored. The bank, in turn, sells those credits to developers who are required by law to create artificial wetlands when natural wetlands get bulldozed or filled. Since the wetlands don’t have to be created on the land that is being developed, and often times it’s not feasible to recreate wetlands on that land, the developer can turn to a wetlands bank.”

Tired of NOT making money on the internet?

<http://security.dstc.edu.au/staff/povey/spam/spam-98.html>

“If you want to make money on the internet, YOU’D better be PROACTIVE!

YOU’D better go after business like you MEAN IT!

YOU’D better send some E-MAIL - Lots of it!”

Elective Caesareans: A Women’s Rights Issue or Florida Swampland?

<http://www.birthlove.com/pages/health/gma.html>

“Anybody who thinks that those obstetricians that promote caesarean are promoting it because they suddenly discovered women’s rights, well, I’m ready to sell some swampland in Florida to those people because that’s extremely naive. Because there are compelling reasons why obstetricians prefer more caesarean.”

If you believe this, don’t buy Swampland (err, Real Estate) in Florida!

<http://www.visi.com/~nathan/xtian/notthesame.html>

“The usual response of ‘you’re just some bigot if you try to point out the many places in the Bible that say the only way to God and heaven is by accepting Jesus as your lord and savior’ is a cop-out on their part. The Bible is very clear on the point that Jesus died for our sins, and that accepting him into your life is the way to Heaven. Ignore this at your own peril.”

Earth, Animals and Poisoned Apples:

How the Luddites are Trashing Science

<http://users.deltacomm.com/writerl/jon/jonspeeches/earth.htm>

One especially telling study was done by a University of Pennsylvania group. They found that people who watch a lot of television tend to think of science as threatening. The study went further to show that television reinforced this perception...television panders, we all know that... and so television scientists turn out to be more frequently portrayed as the bad guys than actors representing other professions. Even lawyers came off as nicer folks.

“Now...it’s a rule on television, you know, that the really nasty characters have to get it in the neck before the curtain goes down. So it figures that TV scientists have the highest fatality rate of any occupational group on the airwaves, with 10 percent of them dead before the closing credits.”

Teen boys and surveys: Want to hear a whopper?

<http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2001/052001/05052001/272150>

“On an anonymous survey, I would not be surprised if 12-and 13-year-old boys did not report that they had sex every night with at least six partners...I’d bet that those who actually do these things lie on anonymous surveys and say they don’t while students who say they do really don’t.”

Florida’s sunshine clouded by election

<http://southflorida.bcentral.com/southflorida/stories/2000/11/20/editorial2.html>

“We treasure the idea that any individual could decide an election. But watching the interviews with some of the men and women in Florida, you can’t help thinking, Oh lord, not that one.”

Tokyo Raiders

<http://members.tripod.com/~mrblue845/tokyo.htm>

“If you think Ekin Cheng can look convincing as a kung-fu expert, then more power to you — and I’ve got some nice swampland in Florida I’d like to sell you. The scenes are shot and edited in such a choppy way that it makes The Replacement Killers look like The Killer by comparison. Overuse of slow motion and other camera tricks don’t make your action scenes cooler, they only tend to give the viewer headaches, especially when they’re accompanied by a score that sounds more appropriate for a cheesy porno film or MTV promo than an action film.”

selected and edited by
Richard C. Bilson

lookAHEAD

mathNEWS

June 1	Issue #2 gets on the dish
June 11	Issue #3 production night
6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)	
June 15	Issue #3 comes off the barbecue

Math Faculty

May 29	Course Drop Deadline
(Sorry, you’re too late!)	

June 26	WD Deadline
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MathSoc

June 7	Council Meeting
Wednesdays	Dave’s Dastardly Decathlon
Thursdays	Movie Nights
July 1	Canada Day Celebration

MGC

Wednesdays	Pizza!
June 16	Spring Convocation
June 25	Bowling Night

Co-op

June	Interview season
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Miscellaneous

June 3	Iron Chef’s New York rematch airs
June 4	Dan Pollock’s birthday
June 8	Some shoddy movie will hit theatres
June 11	Dan Pollock’s birthday (again)

Snuggles Sez

It's like Simon Sez, but Simon is the walking dead. That's what I am right now according to Sky. You see, my birthday is today (well, today in my world, which is Tuesday, May 15, in your world it's at least June, unless you're the editors, in which case there is a small chance that you're actually reading this before it's published, but the time travel associated with my *mathNEWS* articles are well documented so we'll leave them for another time). I even thought up a little rhyme. Happy birthday to me, I am 23, I look like a monkey, and I have to go pee. I had just gotten up so it wasn't the highest quality rhyme, although I am particularly found of rhyming things with monkey ... key, flee, they don't really rhyme but I like to pretend (technically the whole last sound of key should be rhymed, not just the 'ey' ending). I had a very happy birthday, half of my wish came true. As for the other half ... we'll see.

It's been quite a while since I've written (not counting the "Straight from the Pink Files" but that was more of a re-typing then writing) but I have been fairly busy. I decided to concentrate last term on school work since I had been out for so long (I hadn't had a real term for, well, a very long time, W01 I was in school, F00 I took off to recover, S00 I was off 'cause I'm a regular student [*yeah, so am I, but I don't take a whole term off to poo — Pete Love*], W00 I had my medical withdrawal due to mono and friends (that's mono's friends, not mine), F99 ended up being zero credited due to me missing exams from mono's friends, S99 I was off due to being regular [*Poo, Poo, Poo, is that all you do? Hey it rhymes, not with monkey, but whatever... — Pete Love*]). But ignoring the rest of the world paid off because I did fairly well. I even, and I shudder to say it before I have my grade report safely in my hands, passed, I'm shaking as I think about this, Lin Alg 2. That's right, my arch enemy of M235 has been vanquished with a mighty 68 (something I'm extremely proud of). I ended up doing fairly well in the course (80% on the midterm due to removing a 15 mark question that nobody really did, it was about circles (conics), I drew a circle and said I like pretty circles, the marker drew a pretty circle too). The course in a day methodology of studying for exams (as I had one pretty much every other day) seemed to work for me. At about 1 pm the day before the lin alg exam I was confident I could pass Lin Alg 1, at about 5 pm I got up to the midterm, and right before I crashed I was fairly certain I would arrive at the exam. Originally my intention was to pass the exam (which I did do), but I got so worried that it got to the point that my goal was to arrive at the exam and write anything down (my plan was to write BUS 111 stuff cause I remembered it from my previous exam). Well, all went well, bring on CS 370, or maybe not (I'm going to wait for a little bit before taking that monstrosity). "Luck is the excitement of bad math" — Penn from Penn and Teller

So Blake is in China and I was talking to him over ICQ. He had determined that he was 12 hours behind but one day ahead. I pointed out that he was just 12 hours ahead and we discussed the equivalence of the two statements for a while. Then we started talking about nuclear war and genocide (doesn't every conversation inevitably end there) and Blake gave two good quotes (yes, I know he's not the first person to say either one, but I don't have anyone else to attribute them to and I like Blake dammit, he says funny things, like "dig this" although these aren't really funny, more deep and sad at the same time but hey, judge for yourself): "Comparing genocides is like comparing nuclear bombs. There's no such thing as a little nuke." "A

minor genocide is like being a little bit pregnant." Apparently in China they also have a 5 day work week, but it is staggered, so everyone works 5/7 of the days but everything is always running. It's bloody brilliant, it means 7/5 more workers (and the economy stimulated by approximately the same fraction). We should totally adopt that methodology. Sure it would be a political disaster to try to gain social acceptance, but we already have a government who ignores concerned citizens (Hi Mikey, glad you read my column), why not do something good while ignoring citizen outrage. Meh, it would take a long time to implement, but damn, it would be good. Then, while we're at it, we can stagger work hours around the clock, we work 8 hours a day, we could triple the jobs and economy by just shifting people around so everything is always open. It'll be great (yup, my vision of the future, Hooters would be open 24/7, is that so much to ask? As a side note I still have never been to Hooters, that's 23 years and counting).

I got invited to Convocation. I'm a little confused since I'm not graduating (it's not that I'm not graduating now, I almost believe I never will graduate, 'cause in the four years I've been here, I haven't graduated yet, therefore there's no real reason to assume that I'm ever going to, actually if I stay on schedule I think I graduate in 2003, I think, sigh). I think it may have something to do with Senate (I'm on Senate you see). Hmmm ... I'll have to make a phone call to find out. Actually this could be pretty funny. Tell ya what, everyone who reads this (I wonder how many people actually read me?), if you can come up with a funny reason why I've been invited to Convocation (and not just to watch, it's the Academic Procession I've been invited to) email me (sskrzyol@uwaterloo.ca) and involve Convocation in the subject line so I know what the hell you're talking about, remember my memory issues. I'll print anything I find funny in my next article. Oh ya, the next edition of "Straight from the Pink Files" will come whenever I find the other two stories and type them up, maybe by next issue since my room will be fully unpacked and organized by then (ya right).

I'm really pissed about camp stuff right now, but I don't think I should tell the world about it yet, since it's still not settled. Maybe I'll tell you all later, maybe I'll forget, actually I'm not going to forget, but maybe I won't tell you. Maybe I will. Maybe I'll get back to this article now.

Well, it's crashing time, it's technically no longer my birthday (boooo). I always wondered when exactly your birthday was, is it the day you're born (duh, it is called birthDAY), but what about the minute you're born (I was born at 3:15 pm, I used to sit and stare at the clock on my birthday and sing happy birthday to myself when it hit 3:15, this was normally in school so people would look at me strange, hey, I never claimed not to be strange, it's only the glorious U(W) that has dubbed me 'normal'). I was born at 15:15 05/15 (and in 78 which added together get 15), I like 5 and 15. I like chocolate. I like Tazz. I like Pez. I like overalls (not on me, on others). I like sunshine. I occasionally like making sense, but more often than not I like confusing the vast majority of anyone who bothers to listen to me, while making sense to just the right person, the one who understand me.

Snuggles likes things

This article was brought to you by the letters 9 12 21 11

Food For Thought

On The POTUS

I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.

Albert Einstein

I recall writing in this space, not to long ago that short of starting World War III, George “Dubbya” Bush would exceed expectations for this, the forty-third President Of The United States. Recent events in China are exactly what I expected of a man who has gone on record saying, and this is a direct quote, *The vast majority of our imports come from outside the country.*

Here is man who has so little idea of what the rest of the World is about he actually thinks that his little Nuclear Missile Defence system will not be a major destabilizing influence on international relations. I have to wonder, could Dubbya find the United States on an unlabelled map of the World? I personally doubt it.

But I digress.

I would like, for a moment, to consider Nuclear weapons. There are a lot of them in the World, probably more than thirty thousand. Blasted things are damn easy for just about any modern country to make, heck, even backward, Third-World countries can make bombs without too much trouble. Sometimes, it is even possible to persuade some counties that your poor Third World nation needs bombs. Canada helped build a Nuclear Power Plant for India not coincidentally only a few years before India tested her first fission device. (India claimed the reactor was for peaceful purposes. I am sure the Plutonium that came out of the reactor was also intended for equally peaceful nuclear bombs.)

My grandfather, before he passed away in 1998, spent much of his life writing papers calling for unilateral nuclear disarmament. Hey if George H. Bush, the Senior Bush and a World War II fighter pilot in the Pacific, could sign SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Treaties), surely the era of Mutually Assured Destruction was over.

Once more I am reminded of the importance of my Grandfather’s calls for Nuclear Disarmament. Consider if some nut case ever had his hand on the red button? Some guy who didn’t know that imports by definition come from outside the country. Some guy who after disregarding pre-existing treaties went ahead and built a Nuclear Missile Defence (NMD) system.

Then, when one of the World’s many Nuclear Powers happened upon 24 of that nut job’s (the guy from the paragraph just above this one) air force pilots the nut case “demands,” not asks for, their return. A man so incredibly out of touch with reality he surrounds himself in Nixonian cold warriors. (Has anyone ever told Donald Rumsfeld, the Secretary of Defence, that the Berlin Wall is down?)

So what? Its not as if anyone would be stupid enough to use those horrible weapons would they? Sixty billion dollars (the initial estimate for the cost of the NMD) says there is someone crazy enough to start a Nuclear exchange.

Okay, here is my random thought. The United States is in a political spat with China in two years, for whatever reason. Everyone’s favourite enemy, Bin Laden drops a pound of Anthrax off in Times Square New York. Pinning the blame squarely on Pakistan, Bin Laden fled Afghanistan in 2002 because international pressure on the Taliban was becoming a point of

concern for Mr. bin Laden, George Dubbya drops a bomb on Islamabad. China, who has enjoyed a healthy relationship with Pakistan, retaliates for the bombing of Pakistan causing a full fledged shooting war. Far fetched? I suppose, but come on, I didn’t exactly spend several months thinking about how many different ways the United States could piss off every minor Nuclear Power.

I once flipped through a book on my grandfather’s shelves, a Nuclear War Atlas. I’ll ignore Lake Toronto, just off the Ontario River. Drainage in the St. Lawrence would be rather seriously messed up from a Nuclear pounding. How about Nuclear carpet bombing? Not a square inch of land is left unflattened by Nuclear blast damage, throughout an entire country. Currently I understand the hole in the Ozone layer to be about equal to 1% of the total Ozone layer. If the hole expanded to 10% then that would be it for human life on Earth. A Nuclear exchange would result in a 30% to 40% depletion of our Ozone layer.

A close high school friend of mine went to a grade school that was widely believed to be ground zero for the Russian Nuclear weapon aimed at Toronto. He would be a lot luckier than the people living out in country side, while he, and the other 2 million people in Toronto would be vapourized, people well beyond Toronto would be hit by fall out. Cancer and radiation poisoning would be the second biggest killer to being vapourized.

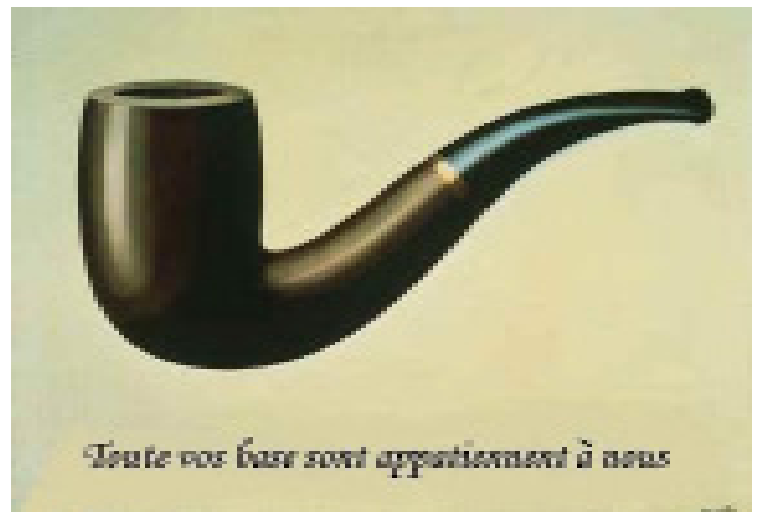
Not to worry though, “Dubbya” is protecting you. Just in case there are any aspiring Republican’s out there, here is a nice little web site, it is full of “Dubbya” quotations: <http://dumbpresident.com/>

Here’s one that I really like, from the man who has one hand on the button and the other ready to send Americans off to their death:

I do not believe we’ve put a guilty — I mean innocent — person to death in the state of Texas.

One point about being Jewish, I am supposed to recite a particular prayer before I die, if I can. I say it every night before bed ... just in case. After all, Dubbya’s the President Of The United States.

Michael Cole



“Mathematics is a game played according to certain simple rules with meaningless marks on paper.” — David Hilbert

Ten months ago, an editor’s fancy became reality in a forum never seen before. Whiteboard Stadium, a giant mathematical arena. If memory serves me right, given that the Food Network will shortly be airing the 21st century battle between Bobby Flay and Iron Chef Morimoto, there can be no better time for *mathNEWS* to publish ...



IRON MATHIE

Chairman Chaga: If memory serves me right, both

incorporate a theme lemma into at least three proofs. However, there is a former graduate student, Moe Thorsley, who believes he is better at writing these proofs than are my Iron Mathies.

Moe: “I believe I’m better at these proofs.”

He is the man who has sent along today’s challenger: Jean Splicing. A mathematical apprentice of Moe’s, she is equally well versed in the ways of modern technology, to the extent that she can write out an entire proof in binary code. In fact, from a very young age Ms. Splicing has been studying computer science, she just never chose to do so



the Iron Mathie and the challenger have one hour to

she wishes to battle the dean of

Iron Mathies, Series Taylor, Iron Mathie PureMath. So Jean, let’s see what you can accomplish in my Whiteboard Stadium!

Jean Splicing: “I am very confident in my abilities to outwit, outplay, and outlast the Iron Mathie. I am a survivor.”

Let’s bring her in!

Chaga: Nice to have you here.

Jean: Thank you, it is good to be here.

Chaga: You believe Moe’s instruction has

been sufficient to allow for a victory?

Jean: Yes, I will defeat the Iron Mathie.

Chaga: You realize of course that the only computers in my stadium are iMacs,

making your disks useless.

Jean: That is unfortunate. But I’ll still win.

Chaga: All right then, let’s meet your



opponent. I summon, the Iron Mathie!

Ascending now into Whiteboard Stadium is the dean of Iron Mathies, Series Taylor. A man who came to Waterloo to study Pure Math, he went on to become a tutor and a professor, attempting to spread the joy of math to the multitudes. As Iron Mathie PureMath he is of course



PUMPING LEMMA:

Suppose L is a regular language. Then there is an integer n so that for any x in L with $|x| \geq n$, there are strings u, v and w so that $x = uvw$, $|uv| \leq n$, $|v| > 0$ and for any $m \geq 0$, $uv^m w$ is in L .



in Waterloo because of the large number of weird people in the UW CS program. For this battle, she has also indicated in advance that



well known for his
Chaga:

unorthodox proofs, and his bad hair days.

For today's battle, I wished to select a well known lemma as the theme. Considering the challenger, a lemma which had some relation to computer science also seemed appropriate. The result was a popular lemma which can be seen in courses like CS 360. We unveil the lemma! Yes, today's lemma is ...
The PUMPING LEMMA!

PUMPING LEMMA BATTLE

Well, here we have it, a pumping lemma battle with the Iron Mathie wasting no time in getting started on a proof. As you may or may not know, the Pumping Lemma is good for

proving that particular languages are not regular. Iron Mathie PureMath knows this but is naturally not too familiar in its use. However, he does have confidence on his side after coming away victorious in his prior MATH135 Lemma 1.2.2 Battle.

The challenger well into this lemma also, despite not being able to use a computer.

In fact it looks like she's also employing some variations on the given Pumping Lemma, including the weaker form involving string length and the pumping lemma which relates to context-free languages. But will she be able to finish in time, employing this strategy?

Approaching the end of the battle, it seems that the Iron Mathie is going for a final hand

waving proof to finish off his course. He says it's a tribute to any first year students in the audience, and adds that it's proof you can easily do in your own home. He completes it just as time ticks away, our pumping lemma battle is ovah!

Today's battle has pitted Series Taylor against Jean Splicing. With Moe's instruction and her own initiative, Ms. Splicing has come

up with four proofs, the main one having been written in binary code. Not to be out-

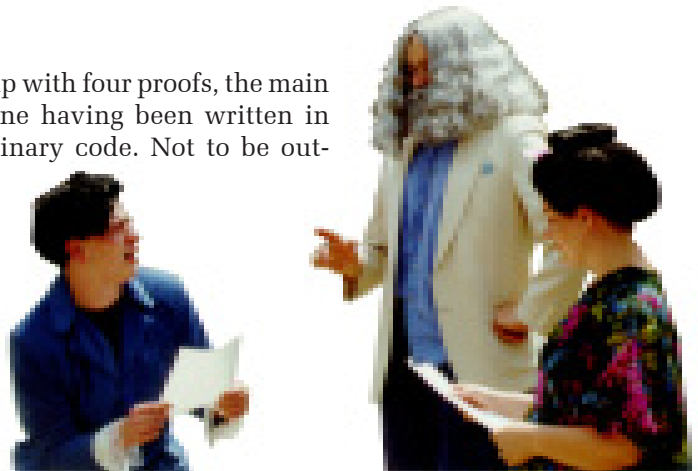
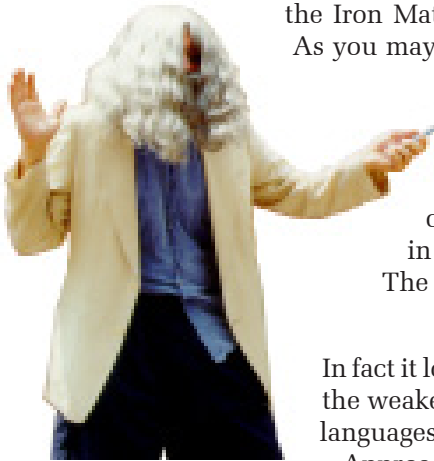
done, the Iron Mathie counters with a closed set of five. Now the moment of truth, sampling and judgement. First the proofs of challenger Splicing.

Judge: "While I was unable to decipher the challenger's handwriting at times, I still found her proofs to be refreshing and innovative. Particularly her ability to use the Pumping Lemma in the proof that Turing Machines have more processing power than Windows NT. And I'm not just saying all this because Jean's my sister."

Now the proofs of the Iron Mathie.

Chaga: In this proof you have used the pumping lemma to show that $P=NP$.

Taylor: Yes, that's correct.



Chaga: It seems probable that there is a flaw in your proof



somewhere.

Taylor: Well I admit this isn't a complete proof, it just helps to

lay the groundwork. I did only have an hour, after all.

Chaga: Today has indeed been a historic battle. Moe Thorsley believes that he can write better proofs than my Iron Mathies, sending his apprentice, Jean

Challenger	16	15	17	16	64
Iron Mathie	19	18	19	19	75



Splicing, to prove it. The courses supplied by both competitors were well thought out, and led to some very interesting results. But in the end, there can be only one winner. Now, the verdict.

So who takes it? Whose proofs raise the roofs?

Chaga: Iron Mathie, Series Taylor!

It's the Iron Mathie! Even he looks surprised by the outcome as the two competitors move to congratulate each other.

Now looking at the scores, it appears that the sampling panel gave Iron Mathie PureMath a sweep! You have to believe Series Taylor is pleased with that outcome, although Moe may not be.

Moe: "I'm not beaten yet. The Iron Mathies will eventually be defeated ... even if I have to return to Waterloo

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Irish Spring

As of May 16th, one of the *mathNEWS* associates had infiltrated the comfy lounge in an effort to make it smell better.

The brave lad, Andrew, after taking a big breath of air and holding it in, ran into the lounge, and placed a bar of Irish Spring soap (my personal favourite smelling soap) on top of the vending machines.

Seeing as this was a scientific study, we had to sample the air before, and after, the soap was added.

- 10/10 people surveyed found the lounge smelled before the soap was added.
- 10/10 people still think the lounge smells after the soap was added.
- 0/10 people thought Andrew smelled before placing the soap.
- 10/10 people thought Andrew smelled after placing the soap.
- 1/10 people thought Andrew still smelled, after showering immediately after placing the soap in the lounge.

From the data taken during the experiment, it appears that that the soap does remove (most) of the smell as can be seen on the application of it to Andrew. However, one bar had made no difference to the environment in the lounge. Extending Andrew's size to that of the lounge, my calculations yield that the lounge needs only 12,596 bars of Irish Spring before it will smell nice and Irish Spring fresh, or at least so that 1/10 people think so.

Next Weeks Study:

Is it better to get the lounge Zest fully clean? We're still waiting on a brave volunteer to brave hours on end in the lounge with some soap and a bucket of water. Applications available in the *mathNEWS* office. Salary is \$3.00 in C+D gift certificates.

Research Editor,
Pete Love

UPDATE: As of writing this, the soap was still there! Obviously, there is a little bit of slump in the clean up of the lounge. Also, after repeated bathing, and some time in a tomato soup bath, Andrew now is back to his normal clean self, and getting laid on a semi-normal basis.

Return of Dean George

Alan George, who's been filling in as vice-president (academic) and provost since Jim Kalbfleish retired, will be returning to MC later this summer. UW has hired Professor Amit Chakma, currently vice-president (research) and international liaison officer at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan, to take on the position full-time. Chakma will start at Waterloo August 1.

As I understand it, this means Mary Thompson returns to department chair of Stats and ActSci after a 7-month term as acting Dean of Math, so David Matthews returns to his previous position, bumping somebody else down a position, forcing another professor back to the level of grad student, ... , making Richard co-editor of *mathNEWS* with Pete while I return to writing the Squiz, ... , forcing one person to drop MATH 239, ... , meaning somebody in first year has to go back to high school, ... , and some new-born has to go back into the womb. At least, that's how I think it works ... I think.

Bradley T Smith

What shall we clean the comfy with? Irish? Or perhaps Zest?

Both are good detergents, but could they handle the comfy? Na, fuck'em, we need bleach.

Good old bleach comes to the rescue again. Then perhaps we will realize that we only have yellow furniture which has taken on two different colours of mold (blue and green). But trusty old bleach should be potent enough to kill off the worse of the germs. Bleach is so good. Mmmmmm bleach. I love my bleach. Don't you wish that they made those front pack things which they use to carry babies in but rather to carry bleach. That way you could always have your bleach with you. You would never have to be separated again. (I am resisting as hard as I can, mentioning possible confusion of the baby and bleach front packs, and the horrible dead baby joke that would follow. I won't dare even mention it.)

Though one draw back I could foresee to cleaning the comfy with bleach is that we should consider very carefully what's creating that smell. Current popular belief is that it is B.O. Though what if we're mistaken and its caused by some deviant who has been urinating in the comfy (I doubt this but this way I can incorporate what I learned in grade 11 chemistry). Then if there is a build up of urea, i.e. from the urine, it could form ammonia. I could be making this up you realize did anyone learn anything in high school other than the fact that Mike could fit a loonie up his nose? I would suggest that bleach is suboptimal to clean ammonia. I only suggest this because in grade 7 I learned that:

Javex (Bleach) + Windex (Ammonia) = Nerve Gas (You die in like 5 seconds)

This suggests two things to me right away:

1. I wouldn't want to be the one cleaning the ammonia with some bleach. Bleach works much better on grass stains than toxic chemicals.
2. My elementary school was a messed up environment. Should 12 year-olds be learning how to make nerve gas? Well, yeah, but should the schools be encouraging their killing ability? I don't think so. Though that probably only reflects my schooling environment.

As a summary I would suggest that bleach would be a necessary choice to clean the comfy though I think I would choose to delegate this chore to someone. Volunteers? I really don't think there would be much ammonia around honest.

Dave Nicholson

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That song by James: Bradley T Smith and Pete Lizak, gettin' some lovin', sometimes together :)

Extra! Extra! Michael Cole takes CS 452 in real-time!

Delays Clown College one more term

In a recent *mathNEWS* issue, Michael Cole announced several times that he is currently taking CS 452 at the University of Waterloo. Many were shocked at the move to enrol in such a difficult course, while others were amazed at Cole's ability to mention the course at every opportunity. Not surprisingly, Michael Cole shares his initials with the Math and Computer building.

In the announcement Cole stated that "he will have been stuck up in the Real Time Lab for the past two weeks." Reaction to such a bold statement varied from outrage to vomit-inducing disgust.

One reader, who asked to remain anonymous, stated that rescue plans were already in the works. "Real Time takes away from our right to write long winded articles!" said the anonymously verbose Laymond Rai. "I vow to rescue MC from the bowels of MC!" Rai then went about explaining how his anti-terrorist skills he learned while playing video games... (yawn) will get him into... (yawn)

Yet another reader expressed her complete confusion over Cole's statements. "Why will he be in the lab for two weeks? Why will he be so tired? Did he not rent a house this term? Didn't he enrol in this course of his own free will? Why is he complaining? How does he know he will be so tired in two weeks? Has he forgotten how to sleep? Michael, do you have a drug problem? I know of a good therapist. I knew you had a drug problem. You've made excuses long enough. That's it, you're going to clown college." The reader had many other questions regarding Cole's Descartes Score to Cute Girl Index ratio and whether or not that had affected Cole's ability to reason clearly. The topic is currently under investigation.

A third reader commented that Cole's admission to plan on spending "more hours in [the lab than] anywhere else" was absolutely disgusting. "Last I checked, it was summer, and the patios were open," continued the obviously beer soaked, sun-drunken student.

Reaction from first year students was mostly anticipatory and largely incorrect. Comments were usually one of the following:

- Wow! By being in CS 452, I get to complain all I want! I can't wait!
- Wow! I didn't know that debugging a Kernel could only be done while eating! Can it only be done with popcorn?
- Wow! People in CS 452 don't shower, and they like it! How cool!
- Wow! There's nothing I enjoy more than reading about people in CS 452!

Reports of first year students having to visit chiropractors to fix back problems after straining their necks to look up at the CS 452 god-students are still being confirmed.

KayDot Oh

Voyager: Was It Just Me or Did It Suck?

WARNING: This article may make me look like a geek. This is NOT TRUE!*[Ha Ha Ha!!! — Pete Love]*

The Star Trek: Voyager series finale blew by last week. After weeks of build-up and storyline developments (or lack thereof), they finally broadcasted the last episode of the series last week.

The last episode did nothing. NOTHING. There was NO conclusion to the story.

Woohoo, they got home. They flew back to earth with Starfleet ships. Wow. This was the last scene? Brannon and Braga (The Evil Show Producers) left us loyal viewers hanging.

I couldn't decide whether to throw up or to throw my TV out the window. I'm sure there is more than a couple of you out there that agree.

If anyone see Brannon and/or Braga on the streets, please punch them for me, and tell them The Cornered Frosh sent ya.

Cheers, Raymond C.T. Lai

A Great New Career Opportunity

Are you an undergrad student? Do you have anxieties about your job future? Do you want to work in a cushy government job? Can you keep a secret? Are you currently unemployed? If you answered "Yes" to any of the above questions, there is a great job option available to you. Come and join the FBI team.

There are plenty of positions available — file organizer, telephone "receptionist," document shredder, radar engineer, alien investigator, and many more. You get to work in your own hours. You are paid in U.S. Greenback and you get to pay less taxes. You also get to view all the tapes available in America. One of the privileges of being in the team is that you have access to the J. Edgar Hoover Library, which contains documents from Roswell to JFK to Iran Contra to Lee Wan Ho that are not available to anyone else. The team consists of people from all over the world, from Americans to Russians to supermonkeys to Martians.

Even with so many exciting things happening on the job, things can get boring at times. Fear not. The team has got you covered. We have the newest technological gadgets for you to play and tinker with. During the meal breaks, you get to enjoy the musical talents of Elvis and Michael Jackson as they perform live *[What about Tupac and Biggie? — Pete Love]*.

How about job security? Don't worry. The team has got you covered. Promotions will be frequent and there will be no unexpected lay-offs. Looking for a challenge? You got it. Reorganizations occur often and you get to work with different sets of people for every job. Even if you don't do well or make a mistake, we have numerous ways to ensure that it won't happen ever again.

So join the FBI family, it is too great an opportunity to pass up. If you have any inquires, come to Washington, D.C. and ask one of our members in person. We will try to make sure that you will not leave with an unsatisfying answer.

Jason "the Screamer" Lau

[[Just in case you are actually interested you can check out www.intelligencecareers.com — Pete Love]

profQUOTES

“The technical term for ‘pain-in-the-ass’ is ‘a non-polynomial time algorithm’.”

Hoffman, PM 330

“I’m not even hairy — I won’t do a striptease or anything.”

Hoffman, PM 330

“It’s not quite Case 1, not quite Case 2 ... probably Case 1.5.”

Chan, CS 341

“The Pigeon-Hole Principle is about stuffing pigeons into holes ... hope there’s no animal harassment in there.”

Cheng, CS 360

“Assuming this is true ... which it’s probably not.”

Cheng, CS 360

[Later] “Okay, let’s get this wrong proof off the board.”

Cheng, CS 360

“It shouldn’t even be called interrupt, it should be called kick in the head.”

Clarke, CS 452

“A regular tree is like a family tree. A DAG is like a family tree on Jerry Springer ... That’s my one joke of the term.”

Bell, CS 488

“What’s my problem here? Am I too uptight?”

Tuncel, C&O 350

“A, eh?”

Richter, C&O 342

Prof: “B, eh?”

Student: “Like from the ‘eh’ team?”

Prof: “‘eh’ team?”

Student: “I pitty the foo’.”

Athenas Make Their Resurgence

Effective this September, Waterloo’s varsity teams will be experiencing a new transition. Some of the older undergrads may still remember when the Warriors had a female counterpart, the Athenas; however, in recent years it was decided that the females could be Warriors too, and the Athena name was retired ... until now.

In a dramatic new turn of events, the university has decided to impose the name Athenas on teams of both genders. While most of the university is rallied behind the new name, in full support of gender equality, some students had some dissident opinions.

“I think it sucks ass,” stated Cornelius Stumpf, a player on the Athenas varsity football team, “How can other universities take us seriously when we got chick names for our teams?” He also added, “This is like, a major obstacle in getting laid now too.”

Terence “Bootsie” Rothwieler of Waterloo’s Gay and Lesbian Organization described the turn of events as “outrageously super,” claiming, “I was always afraid of playing varsity hockey with all those big tough brutes, but now with a name like this, I feel I’ll really be able to fit in, if you know what I mean.”

Janet Whiflethorpe of the Athenas ringette team had a very different opinion, however. “If we had to endure the name of Athenas for so long while the boys got to be the Warriors, and then we were both the same, then shouldn’t we now get to be the Warriors and they have to be the Athenas? I think that would be really fair, especially considering the long standing policy of misogyny that is so present here at this fascist institution.” After about 20 more minutes of bitching, she added, “There are a lot of feelings that have been stepped on for the last 50 years and it’s going to take a lot of men kissing my ass to mend them.”

Regardless of your take on this historic move, it is apparent that there will be much more discussion before the university agrees that it was a bad move, but doesn’t really plan to do anything about it.

stdio.h

Save the Ampersands!

Brothers and sisters, there has been an under-handed scheme to rid MC of all ampersands! One need only look at the C&D to see it is true. For years, students have been clinging to the abbreviated name of their coffee and donut outlet. The C&D was renamed ‘The Right Angle Cafe’ years ago, and even the abbreviation has been known to use a plus sign instead of the beloved ampersand (C+D, can you imagine?). But this was only the first phase.

Phase 2 has already begun. Look at your new Undergraduate Calendars. See anything different about a certain course code? ‘C&O’ is no longer, instead, there is only ‘CO.’ Insanity! What’s happening here? Has the department suddenly become ‘Combinatorics, Optimization?’ Are we so lazy that we need to drop the tiniest of words between a 13-letter and a 12-letter word? Is anybody else concerned that if Operations Research is later shortened to ‘OP’ instead of ‘OR,’ we’re going to have people getting CO-OP CO-OP degrees? Madness!

Those responsible for the suppression of the ampersands will stop at nothing to achieve their diabolical goals, having

already affected a business and 30 courses (at the undergraduate level alone). Will CS 370 assignments be next? I fear they may, which will leave troubled students trying to graph more complex figures like an at-symbol or a treble clef. After that, it will only be a matter of changing all programming languages taught in the building to those that don’t use ampersands, and then using the new building currently under construction to spread out offices so no two people will be sharing a room in MC. Then we’ll be out of ampersands. Fear it!

The ampersand has been an adored character, gracing the top of the ‘7’ key for decades. It had a humble beginning in Latin. It is derived from the word ‘Et,’ Latin for ‘and.’ Over the years, people began writing the two letters at once. The ‘t’ leaned in closer and closer to the ‘E’ while the top of the ‘E’ drooped until the word closed up and the ampersand was born. If you would like to learn more about ampersands, go ahead, and let me know what you find out.

Bradley Taxi Smith

Bang Bang Boogie

(don't stop the woogie)

Well it's been an exciting little while since the last little article. But enough about my problems (Albert is writing an article about that). Let's talk about other people's problems ... umm ... one of my friends let's call her Sandra and another one of my friends ... let's call him Luke had a little problem. The other day they found out something ... something that's scary ... it's called Cancer. One of them has cancer and the other one hasn't told the other. What should somebody do in such a situation. This is a real situation so don't think I'm making it up. What should the one who has cancer do? email: cancer_zux@tushar.cx

Okay, that out of the way ... sniff ... we're doing cool stuff for movie nite ... Crouching Tiger and such. Ought to be fun. But anyway, I was wondering how far a rice krispie square would fly. Albert said: "About as far as any small object." So I thought, "Really? even as far as a hamster?" Thus was born: The Hamster Project. I'll be updating you on the events as they progress. The plan is to get several hamsters and several rice krispie squares ... and see which one flies farther. Wait I know what you're thinking right now: okay so I don't know what you're thinking ... but we do have feelings and we know when we're being cruel so we will be wrapping the squares in saran wrap so we can still eat them afterwards and they don't go to a waste. Of course we will take care of the hamsters as well ... Colin will clean up after we're done with them.

Now to talk about math: Engscunt + math = lots of fun (and some other stuff ... like tiredness ... and people getting all strange like and hallucinating ...) ... of course it is possible to include math in some other statements. Somebody (Jen) sent me an email (which I presume that many others received) that contained the following:

1. Women require time and money in which case
(Women = Time \times Money)
2. And as we all know "time is money." (Time = Money)
3. Therefore: Women = Money \times Money = (Money)²
4. And because "money is the root of all evil" (Money = (Evil)^{1/2})
5. Therefore: Women = Evil (you know the mid-steps ...)

Conclusion: Women are Evil.

First there are several problems with this "proof" first is that there aren't enough Therefore and Since statements. Second is the first statement of Women = Time \times Money ... if Women require time and money the statment should most likely be: Women = Time (intersect) Money (a) ... or even Women = Time + Money (b).

(a) makes the third statement: Women = Money (intersect) Money ... since this that therefore which makes the next statement of Women = Money therefore (notice the increased quantity of therefores) Women are Money or using step 4 from above we can state that Women are the root of all evil. The implications of this is that every evil scientist has an even more evil women behind him which is really cool (evil women are cool).

(b) makes the third statment: Women = 2 * Money, therefore Women = 2 \times (Money)^{1/2} which essentially means that women are irrational.

Hence this I've spent way too much time on this subject and I really must move onto something more interesting. What could be more interesting than let's say MOVIE NITE ... no wait ... already did that ... CANADA DAY ... wait ... already did that as well ... wait I got it: Isn't Pete so sexy? Oh yeah ...

(insert editorial comment here ... yes I'm waiting for it ...) ... okay ... Bradley has got a few good looks but not quite as good as Pete ... okay enough of this banter ... back to your regularly scheduled *mathNEWS*.

Tushar
Professional Quack Hitman

Spew

Ok. Standard disclaimer: anything I say here reflects my personal opinions, and not those of MathSoc. Anyway, here we go. Who'd have thunk it. Anyway :) Life is better this week than it's been in a really long time, but that's no excuse not to spew, now is it? Now ... I'm going to fall back on an older tradition and pick a topic. It's ... umm ... well: Elements ... like as in the chemistry kind. Or not ... I always liked the names that the almighty chemists have decided to call stuff, like Argon, or, Helium. They're just fun. So Dan's going to fill an inflatable couch with helium and put it in the office. Wonder how well it will work ... only one way to find out. Helium makes the voice go funny too ... really funny, but that's badish ... for you. Okay ... hydrogen is another fun one ... don't know why. I just like the stuff. Could have something to do with the whole explosion factor. Hmm ... no wait, that's Bob who likes to blow up things. I'm a completely well adjusted individual. Right. Tell them another one. Hey you shut up. Umm ... right ... anyway ... back to elements ... hmm ... that was the OCD theme in frosh year for me. Back to the elements or some such: fire, water, earth, and air. I was fire ... more of an air person though in general ... the wind is fun: it teases. Fire on the other hand is fierce, tends to consume things. Anyway ... I still have the red necklace thingy. It was sorta neat. Hmm ... speaking of cleaning, or procrastinating, and not sleeping at midnight. Yes, I'm talking to you. My mom never managed to get me to go to sleep on time, so I don't see how you think you're going to manage. I'm a lot more scared of her than I am of you ... anyway, my room is a mess ... perhaps I should clean? But then I'll have to stay up later ... and do the other work. Hmm ... I also should do another load of laundry, but I'm out of loonies. Forget to get some from school. Oh well. Anyway, back to elements. You know the element in the stove that goes bright red when the stove is on full blast? Well I touched it once when it was the red colour ... wow, this dictionary knows how to spell colour. Anyway, so instant burnt flesh ... it, like, cooked the damn stuff. It hurt for days and days, but anyway, that was years ago ... don't even have the scar anymore. But I was cooking the same thing as I was cooking that day a couple of days ago and I remembered. Anyway ... another bad thing: not using oven mitts ... I don't recommend it. Oh the burning. Sorta like gravy shots, and lime shots. yuck. yuck. yuck. The taste isn't so bad ... but after 9 shots the carbonation starts to get to you. Anyway, Scunt was a blast, as per normal, sleep deprivation and all. Anyway, I'd just like to end with a quote from a favourite book: "Early bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and Dead!" No. I'm not a morning person. G'night all. See you next spew time. Same spew place.

Liam

Scunt (Dave makes a Cameo)

That's right! There was engScunt last weekend. I love scunt. Scunt is 24 hours of joy I wouldn't want to miss. Though this term I decided to sleep in and hence missed the first half of scunt. Then I had to go to work so I missed the last half. My first scunt missed. In true form I came and made a showing for a hour or two. Just as a cameo. I guaranteed that I had at least 4 pictures taken of me while there as proof so that as memories begin to fade I will become a part of that math Scunt team that made yet another strong showing at the engineering scunt.

When the stories are told of how math whooped some ass in the midnight ultimate game I will remember, though I was not there. When stories of the lemon juice shot drinking contest are told I will remember, though I was not there.

People have short memories and you can never actually know where everyone is during a scunt hence as long as you show up at certain points they cannot tell whether you have been off doing events wearing yourself out, or perhaps home in bed fast asleep or maybe not quite fast asleep *cough*. Sleep is for the weak. Then I am weak. Food is for the weak. Then the strong are dead.

After five consecutive strong showings at Scunt I have been reduced to just making a cameo.

Where has my proscuntivosity?

Oh where could my proscuntivosity be?

With his antipessimism cut long?

And his id cut short?

Oh where could my proscuntivosity be?

David Nicholson

UW Commuter Challenge

To all staff, faculty and students:

Mark your calendars and register for the upcoming 2nd Annual Commuter Challenge in Waterloo Region. It's a chance to help reduce air pollution and to win great prizes.

On June 5, 6, and 7, "green commute" to and from work. You can carpool, bus, walk, or bike. Do it for your health, for exercise, for the environment, and for our community!

If you already walk, bike, bus, or carpool — great! You are still qualified to register and may win some fantastic prizes.

All participation counts, so join the effort even if it's just for one day.

The Commuter Challenge in Waterloo Region involves 20 local companies. The organization with the highest level of participation wins the challenge. Plenty of great prizes are available to be won from the Commuter Challenge as well from our campus sponsors, Retail Services and Food Services.

Please join, and register at: www.thegreenpages.org/special/watgreen/commute.htm Remember to register for each day that you participate.

Let's be part of the solution to our road congestion and air quality issues in Waterloo Region!

Thank you!

Patti Cook, Waste Management Coordinator, ext. 3245
Nancy Heide, Manager, Community Relations & Special Events, ext. 3276

An Adventure to Home Depot

Or How Not to Steal a Shopping Cart

So apparently there was this chariot race event at eng scunt. So we needed to make a chariot. Metal shopping carts were ruled out since, although we have the lock clippers which can cut the shopping cart, sharp metal edges were ruled a bad thing. So me and Albert set out to get scunt materials. Since neither of us had a car we borrowed Nadia's car. Her car was fun. It's a big old '88 Ford Crown Victoria with seats like couches and you can really easily make it rock side to side like a boat. It actually does this by itself on turns or lane changes (and can be very scary on highways, where it actually moves back and forth after a lane change — but back to the story). It was rumoured that CostCo had plastic shopping carts so we drove down there. Now you see the off-ramp from the highway to CostCo is on a hill and there is another road right beside it that looks like it goes in the direction of CostCo. So we took this road. Unfortunately this was the on-ramp back to the highway and we quickly found ourselves on the 401 heading towards Toronto. So after a quick detour to Cambridge, we returned to the CostCo area (using a different off-ramp). At this point I was getting worried because Albert had an Astronomy midterm in 20 minutes, but he told me not to worry.

After a quick inspection we found out that CostCo had metal shopping carts, however Home Depot had plastic ones. So we pulled up beside one of the shopping cart return bins at the far end of the parking lot. Time to open the trunk and put the shopping cart in. Uhhh ... where's the trunk release? There doesn't seem to be a trunk release button or a lock for the trunk. After playing with the seat adjustment buttons, parking brake and hood buttons (maybe they meant rear "hood") for a few minutes we found the lock for the truck under the Ford logo. Unfortunately by then a service vehicle had parked near us and the driver was sitting inside.

At that point Albert noticed that there was a shopping cart lying in another empty part of the parking lot. Okay, reverse out of the parking space and then go forward.

Uhh ... the car making a lot of noise but it isn't moving forward. Not good. Okay, the car moves very slowly if I press the gas all the way down but it makes lots of noise and shakes a lot. We pull the parking brake release. Nothing happened. We pull the parking brake and the parking brake release. Still nothing happened. D'oh. We're trapped in south Kitchener and Albert has a midterm in 10 minutes. D'oh. So I go to Home Depot to call Nadia for help while Albert try to see if he can get the shopping cart in the car. Luckily Nadia is in the MathSoc office. Apparently to release the parking brake on her car you need to pull a steel cable which is under the car. I go to release the brake.

Meanwhile, Albert opens the trunk which shakes the car. I yell at Albert not to open the trunk while I'm under the car. So we finally released the parking brake. We quickly chuck the cart in the back of Nadia's car. Unfortunately the truck is about a metre open and the only bungee cord we can find is 20 cm long. We also notice that Albert's midterm started about a minute ago. We ditch the shopping cart (with some difficulty, since it doesn't seem to want to leave the car), and head back to UW. And that's the story of our little "pre-scunt" road trip.

Gilad

Are you a Math Stud or Dud?

Or something else altogether?

Hey fellahs. Math has been stuck with this reputation of being a collection of weird, anti-social guys that would never have a chance with any chicks. But we all know that there are some gems out there. Take the quiz and find out whether you are one of those Mathies who are popular with the ladies.

Question 1:

You are standing at the pond in front of the Health Services building when you notice a HIGHLY attractive member of the opposite sex, wistfully gazing into the pond at the reflected moonlight. You go over and:

- (a) Playfully push her into the pond.
- (b) Wait until she notices you, make eye contact and tell her how beautiful she looks in the moonlight.
- (c) Introduce yourself after throwing a minty tic-tac into your mouth.
- (d) Hold your breath and hope that she leaves before you pass out.

Question 2:

You are standing in line for Boys & Girls Night at Fed Hall when you notice a chick wearing this sexy little number. You walk over and:

- (a) Attempt to engage in a conversation. Failing to do so, you fade into the crowd and hope that she never sees you again.
- (b) Tell her you are doing a study on the environment and that her body in that outfit is contributing to global warming.
- (c) Snap her bra strap, laugh, and then run to the back of the line.
- (d) Stop, slap yourself and then turn around and walk back to your place in line.

Question 3:

You're sitting in the SLC Great Hall, when you hear two attractive ladies arguing. They suddenly turn to you and ask you which one of them is more attractive. You hesitate for a moment:

- (a) You run for the door. STAT 231 finals are safer than this.
- (b) To evaluate their charisma rating and roll a twenty-sided die. You point to the girl who beats their rating more than the other.
- (c) And tell them it's hard to judge such beauty in a single moment. You then tell them that you'll need to go on a date to give a proper answer.
- (d) Laugh and slap them both with a trout.

Question 4:

You're sitting in the Comfy Lounge of the Math Building, when you hear two butt ugly guys arguing. They suddenly turn to you and ask you which one of them is more attractive. You hesitate for a moment:

- (a) You run for the door. STAT 231 finals are safer than this.
- (b) To evaluate their charisma rating and roll a twenty sided die. You point to the guy who beats their rating more than the other.
- (c) And tell them it's hard to judge such "beauty" in a single moment. You then tell them that you'll need to set them on a date with your ex-girlfriend to give a proper answer.
- (d) Laugh and slap them both with a trout.

Question 5:

Which answer best completes the following phrase? A good woman is like:

- (a) A pair of boxer briefs. They offer support and freedom.
- (b) A gentle breeze. Quiet and won't steal your hat.
- (c) Lara Croft. Hot and virtual.
- (d) The set of Natural numbers. They are never negative and never irrational.

Solutions:

Question 1: a) 1, b) 4, c) 3, d) 2

Question 2: a) 4, b) 2, c) 1, d) 3

Question 3: a) 3, b) 2, c) 4, d) 1

Question 4: a) 3, b) 2, c) 1, d) 4

Question 5: a) 4, b) 1, c) 2, d) 3

Now add the results of your answers and find what kind of Mathie you are.

Ratings:

Less than 05 or more than 20: Check your addition, buddy. **05 – 07:** You're hopeless. I've already sent the order for mail-a-bride.

08 – 10: You can talk with them on ICQ without being put on the Ignore List.

11 – 13: Well, you can be around them without driving them away. That's a start.

14 – 16: You must be in the advanced section of male-to-female socialization.

17 – 20: Congratulations. You are definitely one of those rare Mathies who know how to interact with women. Hats off to ya.

Disclaimer:

I scored 12 on the quiz. Shows what I know about women. This quiz is based on no scientific fact and is nothing more than my venue of personal amusement. Cheers, lads.

MonkeyMan

Top 10 things you shouldn't eat with your bare hands

10. Poutine (Have you ever tried that?)
9. Cup Noodle (all you get to eat is the noodle, plus the soup will burn your hand up real good)
8. Jell-o (try eating Jell-o with your hands without slipping any onto the neck)
7. Pez (miss and you'll have to breath with only one nostril)
6. Cabbage Wrap (if you don't handle these well, contents will be all over your lap — don't say I didn't warn you)
5. Beef/Chicken Stew (if you eat by hand, you'll have to lick to taste the best part — the soup)
4. Honey (you will become an instant favourite with the bees, flies, and many other insects)
3. Curry (only your hands get to taste the flavour, all that your tongue tastes is the bland rice)
2. Sea Urchin (will make a lasting impression on your hands and your tongue)
1. Any meat from residence (need I say more?)

Jason "the Screamer" Lau

mastHEAD

Sharing the mastHEAD is fun for everyone

Pete Love

Well, my work is so sucky. I have to be prodded for a research study on bloodflow through the femoral artery. The testers (all female) felt the pulse with their hands, but not with the doppler unit. So they 'searched' me for half an hour looking for it ... poor me :)

I also realized that the infamous Laymond Rai has a few problems. Most people I talk to (all alcoholics!) seem to be of the mind that his name is actually 'Lame Old Rye.' If only I had such an interesting name ...

I also decided that I want to make a gangster rap EP, 5-7 songs about life through the eyes of a mathie gangster. Ok, actually, math will probably not be mentioned on this EP, but whatever. I was a little depressed however, after losing my Dre album (2001). It had been missing for over a month and a half. However, I found it Sunday, and that so made my week :) Life is so good, I feel like I could take on the world, mu ha ha!

Bradley T Smith

So, for my part of scunt, I had to do some crazy stuff that I shouldn't really talk about, but before you here it from someone else, yes, I licked a dog's tongue. Anyway, out of curiosity, we asked the many writers who made it to Production Night why they would not lick a dog's tongue: Albert O'Connor ('Cause I worked at a golf course), Jason Lau (Because I'd drool over it), Dave Nicholson (I have a bad memory of getting my tongue bitten), Rob Bruce (I would, but I don't know where Pete's mom is), Ken "MonkeyMan" Chung (Never try anything more than twice), Greg Taylor (Bad theme ingredient), Laymond Rai (What do you mean, 'wouldn't?'), Gilad Israeli (mmm ... fuzzy), and Nadia V. Ursacki (It's a dog! It's a dog's tongue!)

Thanks goes to Gino's for their pizza and to Graphics...

Pete Love (Snuggles told me it tasted like butterscotch...)

Bradley T Smith (Shut up)

Pete Love's guide to dating

or for today, what not to do ...

Well, I've noticed mathies have this big problem on interacting with people of the opposite gender. Not all of them mind you, there are about half a dozen that are somewhat normal.

However today, I noticed a few problems. First, mathies are bipolar creatures. They go from anti-social, to 'trap the person you're talking to' mode.

When I say anti-social, I mean, sit in the chair, drink (mind you, the only people I saw drinking were mathies), and stare at the chicks across the room. I don't mean the casual glance kinda stare. I mean the eye-popping, 'I got nothing better to do than stare at your body parts' stare. Yes, female mathies have checked my unit out. My bad: I was wearing tight pants. Oh, and girls who wear slutty tops, don't complain. There's a reason that your daddy tells you not to wear them.

Now, when I went and introduced myself to some ladies at this party on the weekend, it took a few minutes for the mathies to get up and wander over and try (key word try) to socialize with the ladies. I left quickly. I figure show up, say hi, and leave. I don't want to be there, when the ladies switch from, "these guys are friendly," to "my god, he's trapped me on the couch and I have no where to go!"

Now, another thing not to do, is go back to residence with some ladies (as a group, I was so thinkin' orgy!!!), and then start throwing up, 3 times in their bathroom. I had to take my buddy home. Missed the orgy. Man he owes me big. That's Ok, I got to sleep with his roommate. I guess we're even.

One final no-no, never say you're in math. At least not until the last possible opportunity. Don't ask them what program they are in either, they might ask you in return. Try to hook 'em in before they know what's going on. It also doesn't hurt to give them grape juice, and tell them there's rum in it, when it's just grape juice. They think you make great mixed drinks :)

Pete 'Dr' Love

The Frosh Cornered

Summer Slacker Edition

You were expecting a two-page article, weren't you?

Well, you're not getting one.

You see, the Cornered Frosh is now relaxing at his co-op job (Maybe relaxing isn't the term, but it's better than midterms and CS134). I promised our Editor-In-England that I'll write for him during the summer, but I'm just too damn lazy to write a Mammoth *The Frosh Cornered* this week (I can hear Kenny celebrating from here. Pop open that champagne, Kenny).

Even though I have a co-op term, it doesn't mean that you won't be bothered by me for the next four month (Time to stuff that cork back in Kenny). I still vow to spew out article after article until Pete makes me assistant editor for the fall term [Uh, no! For starters, I can only imagine your idea of an end of term party. "Yippie, let's code something else in Java!!!" Please, no ... — Pete Love], or someone breaks my hand. Since I'm surrounded by Engineers who don't read *mathNEWS* here at the office, I doubt anyone will break my hand unless one of my ol' MathSoc buddies drive all the way here to Airport Road to inflict physical harm on me.

Speaking of next term, there are several issues I need to air before it starts:

- **Renaming my column:** Since I passed all my courses (thank God), I will no longer be Frosh next year. Henceforth, I need a new name for this column. I need an air of sincerity for new Frosh victims reading my column, but I also need something recognizable for oldies like the rest of us.
- **Ideas NOT to scare the Frosh:** Ladies and gents, it is official, the UW cynicism has kicked in. I'm afraid that I may scare the Frosh if I start writing with my new frame of mind. I would like a way to ease the Frosh into UW life, and not scare them off in the first 20 minutes.
- **Tech Specs Column dry:** There are only so many things a person can come up to make fun of the technology industry. I need ideas, anything at all. Everquest roleplayers, Counter-Strike addicts, UNIX geeks, Microsoft Whores, and DivX Rippers can only be made fun of so many times. I need some fresh ideas for the coming weeks to mock and poke fun at.

If any Mathies in Mathidom can help me in my search for ideas, please don't hesitate rant and ramble to r31ai@student.math.uwaterloo.ca.

Raymond CT Lai

The Cornered Frosh (Until the Fall that is)

Advanced Girl Watching

Disclaimer: This, of course, is a work of humour, and in no way reflects the characters depicted or the author's view of the opposite sex. Stereotypes are used for the sake of jest but like all stereotypes they are not universally true.

Scene: The roof of the MC, noon, a hot spring term day. Attractive-Female Hunter Tushar Singh is looking over the edge of the MC at the milling crowd below.

Tushar (*in fake aussie accent*): G'Day. I'm Steve-err-Tushar Singh the Good-Looking Sheila 'Unter, and today 've got asked out to 'elp locate the elusive attractive single Sheila of the University of Waterloo. Crikey look at all 'em specimens down there. But we 'ave ourselves some advanced machinery!

Voice over: Down on the lawn behind the CS statue we have our servers set up with a wireless connection to the university network. Albert is down there working the camera which records the girls that walk by and cross references their faces. Using advanced British face recognition software we check their faces with our database of Watcard photos to immediately access all the information on the specimens that walk by. Back to you Tushar.

Tushar: Alright now if you just have a gander down there, that one walking across from the SLC — ain't she a beauty, look at her head structure. The colouration on 'er shirt. It's main purpose it to attract the male of 'er species. I would get right up and close, but even I am not that fearless, but fortunately we've got a right bunch of blokes 'ere form the local mathematics faculty who 'aven't gotten any in so long they are willing to give it a shot.

Voice over: Down in the courtyard we have our guys ready with months of training. They been spending time in the comfy lounge where this breed can be hard to find. After this much time without contact, nothing will keep them from the target.

Tushar: 'ere, look at them, they're 'uge ain't they, Crikey! Any 'uman male would be very interested in a specimen like her ... Now, the blokes and I are looking for a good specimen to tag for us. Helping out I have my pal Colin.

Colin: Yeah, Tushar, so we have been preparing by having them standing around the area discussing assignments, thus not drawing attention to themselves. When a good-looking girl walks by we will spring into action and —

Tushar: Sorry Colin, but we have a red-hot Sheila coming our way, prepare the green flares.

Colin: I have her in my sights.

Tushar: Prepare to radio the ground crew.

Colin: Wait a second, she seems to be walking with a guy.

Tushar (*into radio*): Hold up blokes, we got a code yellow.

On the ground the circle of people that were rapidly surrounding the couple slow to a crawl. Some people have to hold some others back from pouncing.

Colin: Quick, get me the high powered binoculars.

Tushar: What's the good word mate?

Colin: Oh ... oh they're holding hands!

Tushar (*into radio*): Abort, Abort! Code red!

The people on the ground all back off and get back into their casual groups.

Tushar: Crikey that was close. Thank you Colin for catching that. If we had continued it could 'ave gotten ugly down there as the male being the mate would react violently, and rightly so, he is just defending his territory, and when you're in their territory you have to play by their rules. Now the brave Sheila

'Unter doesn't give up so easily, so keep a look-out everyone. 'ere, Collen keep a look out I'm going to get a close look, as risky as that may be.

Downstairs in the courtyard

Tushar (*looking between a pair of people like they were bushes*): 'ere now, those sheila's are alright, not quite a rare breed *sniff* we're looking for today. But certainly if you were to get to know them they'd be fine, but today we are looking for a breed with extreme physical characteristics. Crikey look at *sneeze* that one. Sorry, you see I'm allergic to pretty — my eyes are watering (*into radio*) All clear!

The mass of guys surround and jump on the poor girl.

Tushar (*from the middle of the scrum*): Ok we have 'er down, now we are just going to tag, colla', and release 'er back into 'er natural environment. Now the level of engineering and math taught at this university has caused the attractive female's natural environment to be destroyed. Some especially resilient specimens can survive but they are rare so treasure one if you find one.

She is tagged and collared

Tushar: Ok blokes get off 'er, now you and you first. Ok everyone clear ... clear away.

Albert: May I mention that this is the first time I have been in my own article?

Tushar: No sorry mate we don't 'ave time.

She gets up looks confused and walks away

Tushar: Now that was a job well done. She will be radio tracked so we can learn more about the hot females living patterns, and maybe where we can find more. All in a days work for Tushar the Hot Sheila 'Unter. So until next time, g'day, and 'appy 'unting.

-END-

Tushar: Wait ... achoo ... off in the distance ... not heading this way ... but the proximity is amazing ... what I'm detecting is a specimen of the most lethal brand ... 5'7" and taller ... has a dark mischievous side ... with a slim to athletic build ... achoo ... it's very difficult for me to get close to one ... the eyes blur over and I've on occasion had to use radar to pick up the green dots ...

"Phat" Albert O'Connor,
creative consultation Tushar "oo7" Singh and Colin David-
son



mathNEWSquiz #2

Songs, Theories, and the Iron Squiz

Hi all. In a very unexpected move, I answered my own plea for a SquizMaster. So, looks like you guys get more trivia questions about what happened to me in the last 2 weeks, with the occasional guest section-writer [*Like me — HoloEd (ret)*] — unless, of course, someone else wants to write the Squiz. I wouldn't mind having to stop writing them if someone else was interested. So, first off, let's get last issue's answers out of the way. **Douglas Adams:** 1. All the diodes down the left side of his body, 2. We apologise for the inconvenience, 3. Dirk Gently (formerly Svlad Cjelli), 4. John LLOYD, 5. v84i3, Oct 20, 2000. **Survivor II** 1. Tina Wesson, 2. Kangaroo and crocodile, 3. Fell in the fire, 4. Heart, 5. Africa. **The Louvre** 1. She's Greek, should be Aphrodite, 2. I. M. Pei, 3. Peter Paul Rubens, 4. National Gallery, London, 5. Richelieu, Sully, Denon. **1984** 1. Newspeak, 2. Nelson, it's Trafalgar Square, 3. Oceania, Eurasia, Eastasia, 4. Airstrip One, 5. 4, duh. I got some good answers, but some folks fell for the old Oliver Cromwell across from Victory Square trick. There is a Cromwell statue near Trafalgar Square (which become Victory Square in 1984, but it's Horatio Nelson who got his statue replaced. I really recommend everyone go out and read 1984, or, if you're planning a trip to Europe soon, put it off until after you've been to England, it's a great read, especially once you've been there.

The Squiz was answered only electronically for the first time that I know of. It started off well with Trevor Hill answering first and scoring 16. There were a few days when I didn't hear anything, then Tom Pontoriero e-mailed his solutions which were worth 18.5 points. I thought it was all wrapped up, until Saturday afternoon when I discovered a message from a mysterious entity known as "sneakers," which was most likely a team, who scored a perfect 21 (with the bonus) and had complete quotes from Adams and Orwell. So, if you can somehow prove that you are a subset of "sneakers," you can pick up a C+D gift certificate from the MathSoc office at your leisure.

And now, the Squiz! Thanks to Greg for bailing me out with an even bigger section than last time and to Daryl who found enough lyrics to fill a term's worth of Squizzes.

Song Lyrics

Point for artist, point for title

- Here comes Johnny singing oldies, goldies
Be-Bop-A-Lula, Baby What I Say
Here comes Johnny singing I Gotta Woman
Down in the tunnels, trying to make it pay
- She was the best damn woman I had ever seen
She had the sightless eyes
Telling me no lies
Knockin' me out with those American thighs
- So c'mon, c'mon, what you got? Give it to me,
If not, you're not one of the guys who wanna do me, huh.
I'll show you how it's done,
You gotta be bold, or you ain't gonna get none.
- Maybe if I could do a play-by-playback
I could change the test results that I will get back
I've watched the summer evenings pass by
I've heard the rattle in my bronchi...

- I only just turned 15
I'm filled with hopes and dreams
I turn my radio on and
I hear the strangest song

In which course might you learn ...

- The Prime Number Theorem
- Stokes' Theorem
- Squeeze Theorem
- The Pumping Lemma
- The 5-Colour Theorem

Iron Chef Spectacular

- What was the date of the first Japanese Iron Chef battle?
- What does Chairman Kaga say before the Gong of Fate sounds?
- Who on the show is known for saying "Fukui-san?"
- How many Iron Chef Japanese have there been?
- What colour was associated with Iron Chef Yutaka Ishinabe?
- Who filled in as host when Kaga boycotted a match (owing to a decline of Iron Chef victories)?
- Who provides the dubbed voice for Fukui in the English version?
- Who was crowned Mr. Iron Chef in 1994 and 1995?
- For the first New York Battle, who went in place of Chin Kenichi?
- Who won the 21st Century Special (aka Morimoto/Flay rematch)?

Well, twenty-five points up for grabs, and a C+D coupon! And everyone who submits gets to see their name in print! Submissions can be dropped off in the BLACK BOX in MathSoc or e-mailed to mathnews@uwaterloo.ca. Happy June everybody!

A Class Act Bradley Tao Smith

Act II, Part II

The Synopsis

Taurice was explaining Mark's disappearance to Clara. Mark and Varg are naked. The stage is now all set.

The Roles

Clara — the whimsical artsy, exuberant, joyful and attractive
Taurice — the jaded mathie, bent on world domination
Mark — the former suave science student, now an engineer
Varg — the first year engineering student, who's invisible

The Scene

A new era is being born in the bustling classroom. One by one students pile into the already packed classroom. No one notices the growing whistling noise.

The Play

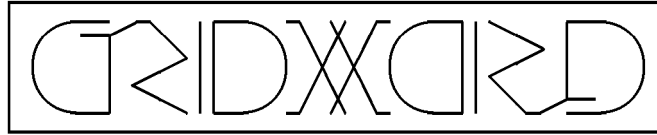
(Mark and Varg bask naked in the classroom tripping out on Pixie Sticks, while Taurice explains Mark's disappearance for the twentieth time.)

Clara: WAIT! What's that noise?

(A 3 megatonne nuclear missile falls on the classroom, taking the HorrorScope with it. All dies, all is quiet. The world sighs in sweet content.)

The Notes

Done, done, and done.



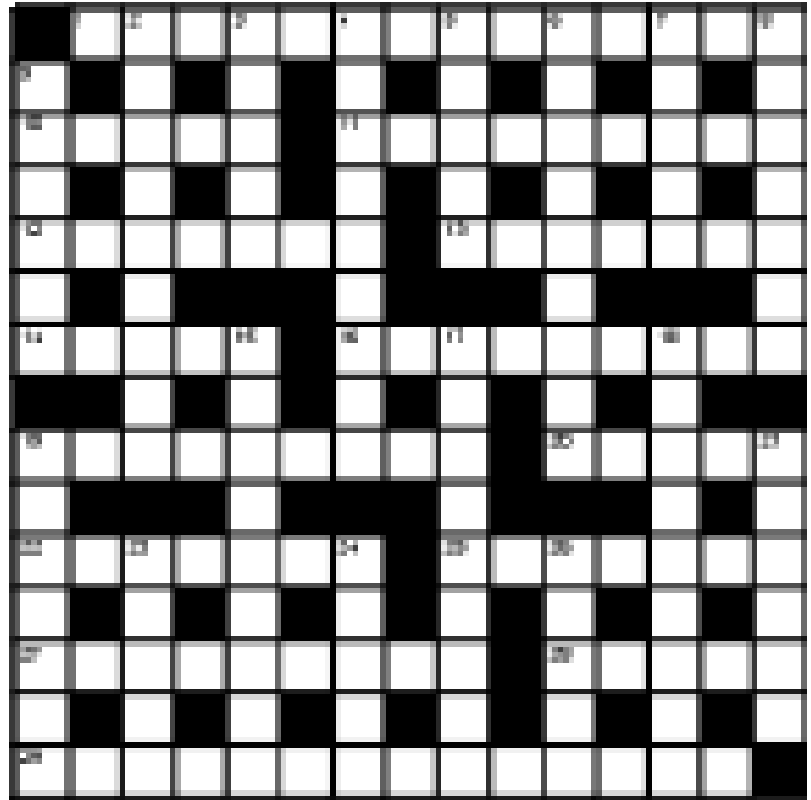
Grid Clues (Cryptic)

Across

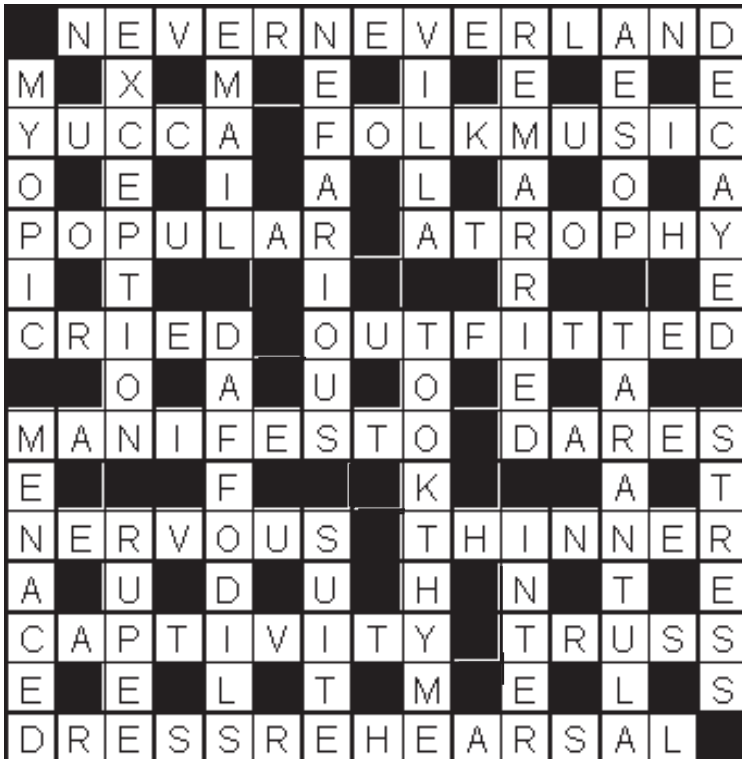
1. This way he always comes before she does (14)
10. Shadow in the stadium brambles (5)
11. Counter-tenor a rum sort (9)
12. Desperate rhyme for plastic (7)
13. Olympics held at local area network, thanks (7)
14. Blessed his heart after the greatest story (5)
16. Not exactly spicier me (9)
19. Solo scheme eye opener for flyer (9)
20. Hostess of a soiree keeps seats for three (5)
22. Doubtful knights hold debt (7)
25. Without turnip, unpredictable mess (7)
27. Explorer winner broke nail (9)
28. Be there exits about? (5)
29. Ben, scour me Mum a wild wet skin (6,8)

Down

2. Libertarians no aliens to bookkeeper (9)
3. Centre of The Artist's Way (5)
4. Radius of Asian land yields fine dishes (4,5)
5. Ma apt to blend in in Florida (5)
6. Singers account for wheels (9)
7. When opposed, northern Italian held his tongue (5)
8. Grounds get older with length (7)
9. Plain art back (about one French duke) (6)
15. Trip Mom up unexpectedly (9)
17. Cover ID got with spud money (9)
18. Transmission is catching (9)
19. Stylish one (with Latin bit) (7)



21. Nap of velvets (i.e. standing fuzz) (6)
23. White, French and less than bland (5)
24. Resort to sado-masochism for twitch (5)
26. Dim bear swallowed leading lady (5)



gridCOMMENTS

Wow, Brad here. Never thought I'd be writing the *grid*-COMMENTS. What a world this is where a guy who hasn't finished a crossword in the last 4 years or so can be the one who writes the comments that go with one. Wow.

Now that I've basked in wonder, I'll mention that there were two complete submissions: One from Mistry C.S., the other from Marshall. But since there can be only one winner, Marshall wins (I assure you, there was a game of chance played to determine this, and both winners were equiprobable to win). Marshall wins a C+D gift certificate, now available in the MathSoc office.

So this is the new grid. It's cryptic courtesy of Linda as will be the norm this term. Good luck you crosswordians! Completed, or mostly-completed, grids can be dumped in the BLACK BOX (still in the MathSoc office) or e-mailed to *mathNEWS* — but I'm not going to tell you our e-mail address, you've got to go looking for it if you want to submit electronically. Tee hee.

Oh ya, and that's the solution to last weeks on the left here.

Bradley Treasurer Smith