

math

NEWS

Volume 88, Issue 4

Friday, February Fifteenth, 2002

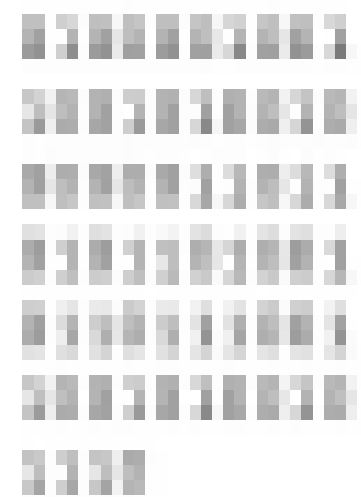
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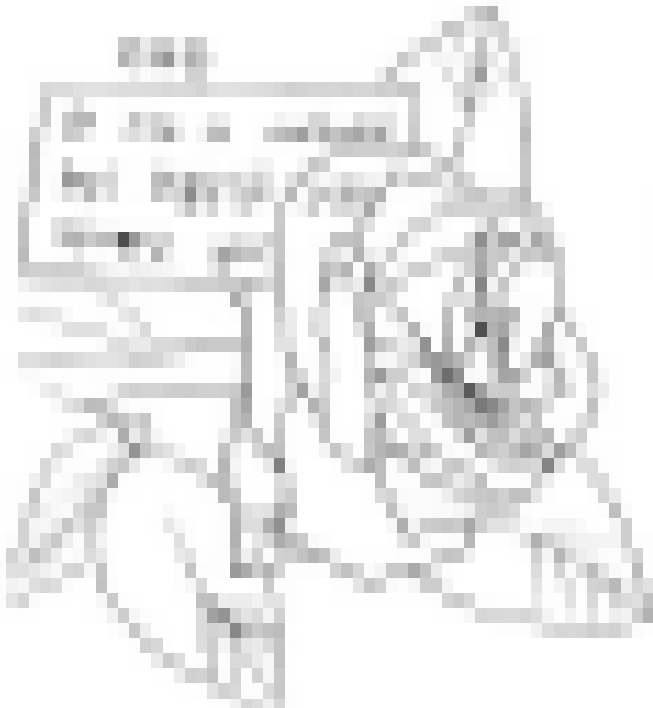
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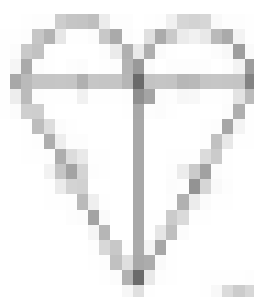
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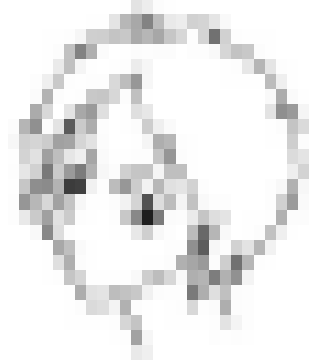
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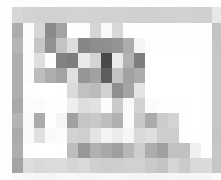


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lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

February 15	Issue #4 catches Olympic hockey fever
February 17	Pete's thumb gets better
February 25	Issue #5 production night 6:30 pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
March 1	Issue #5 gets dizzy from reading too many palindromes

Math Faculty

February 21, 22	Reading Days/Study Period Argh! Too depressed to study
February 25	1B Info Night
February 28	WD Deadline
March 4-29	Spring Term Course Enrollment

MathSoc

Thursdays	Movie Night
March 12	Campus Day
March 14	π Day

MGC

February 15	J. Alan George award nominations due
Wednesdays	Pizza
March 1	Intent to Graduate forms due
March 9	Grad Ball

MEF

March 1	Deadline for proposal submissions
March 1	Deadline for Nominations for Funding Council

Co-op

February 15	Ranking released
February 22	Continuous-phase postings begin

Miscellaneous

February 17	The Simpsons are coming to Canada
February 19	Quest returns from its vacation
February 20	Yay! 100 days till the World Cup
Feb 22 - Mar 1	FEDS elections Vote or quit complaining
February 24	Closing of Winter Olympics
February 28	Where's Marquesas?

**Hey! Why aren't we voting?
I thought we were supposed to be
voting this week!**

The FEDS Election has been postponed until the last week of February, so maybe start practicing now by holding a mini-election in your home or office

**Hey! Where are all the articles?
Aren't there always real articles
around here?**

Ya, but people have midterms (like our exec), or have gone to Salt Lake City (like Tushar (supposedly)), or have been kidnapped (like me, help, send help, please)



Computer
Science
Club

A Student Chapter of the ACM

CSC Flash
CSC Olympics

1. BrainFuck Wrestling
2. Object Oriented Intercal Moguls
3. Java Figure Skating
4. C Lacrosse break people
5. C++ Hockey Night in Canada
6. Malbolge Skelton
7. Cross Country Turing
8. Perl Fencing
9. Pascal Table Tennis
10. x86 asm Weight Lifting

Coming Events

- 28 Feb 2002 @ 1800 (6pm) MC 2037: Unix 3, More Fun with Unix. Part 3 of the CSC Unix tutorials will include shell scripting and fun with pipes and redirections.
- 01 Mar 2002 @ 1700 (5pm) MC 4020: Computer Go. Thomas Wolf from Brock University will host a talk about solving the Asian game of Go through computing. Professor Wolf has given this presentation before at UW back in 1998 to a room packed full of interested listeners, so come early.

Successful Events

- Unix 1 and Unix 2 have gone off quite well for those who attended and learned a lot.
- Thank you Billy for your enlightening presentation on DVD-Video under Linux.

James A. Morrison

Orientation 2002 noitatneirO

Have you signed up yet to be a frosh leader? Forms are still available outside the MathSoc office or online at <http://orientation.uwaterloo.ca/2002/signup.php>.

PACO training is now available; if you desire to be involved in Frosh Week and have not been trained, sign up now. If you have been trained, sign up anyway, call it a refresher. If you have no interest in the week, sign up anyway, they're fun and informative. You must be trained in order to participate in the week (past training counts, so you don't actually have to re-sign up, but if you feel like it, have fun!). Rumour has it that PACO training looks great on a resume, and if looks great once on a resume, think how impressed employers will be when you tell them you did the training thirty-three times. Check out http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infos/Orientation/train_form.html to sign up online (and since that's the only way to sign up, it's probably a good place to go).

For more information on anything you can email us at orientation@student.math.uwaterloo.ca.

Kenneth Chung, Stephen S Skrzydlo
Math Orientation Directors 2002

World's worst love songs ...

I think not

music.windowsmedia.msn.com

1. *He hit me (It felt like a kiss)*
Fist off, it implies violence. Two, it's by the Crystals, and that reminds me of Billy Crystal.
2. *All out Love*
Sure, sounds sappy. By Air Supply.
3. *Mandy*
Yeah, I knew a Mandi ... she was sappy crappy love ... I'm glad both my friends dumped her ... By Barry Manilow — How could he possibly do a bad love song, I though he owned the market on all that was lovey dovey and needed a deep voice.
4. *My Heart Will Go On (Love theme from "Titanic")*
Yeah, I'd rather hear Keith Flint do a love ballad. By Celine Dion. Did I ever mention that the first time I watched Titanic was with a 14 year old girl? She said I looked like Justin from Nsync. I think she liked me :)
5. *Wind Beneath My Wings*
Bette Midler, yeah, this is crappy sappy love, I'll agree with this.
6. *Nookie (Limp Bizkit)*
Okay, what kind of retard thinks this is a love song, I have no idea. It is about his wife cheating on him with some guy he works with (I think his boss). "I did it all for the Nookie, the Nookie, so you could take your cookie, and shove it up your Uhhhh!" Yeah, that'll get you the ladies. Try some Korn while you're at it.
7. *I Honestly Love You*
Yeah, I could see this being sappy, all Olivia Newton-John needs is Travolta.
8. *Puppy Love*
Yeah, sounds sappy, by Donny Osmond.
9. *Just a Friend*
Ok. Let's see, her name was blah blah blah ... just doesn't have an ounce of sappy romance how did this get on the list? And you say it's just a rash, and you say it's just a rash, Ohhh Ow Ow Ow, baby please. Biz Markie, Love song, I don't think so, he's got a speech impediment (and still sounds crisp).
10. *I'd do anything for love (But I won't do that)*
Meatloaf does a wonderful ditty on sappy love. Good one for the list.

What's missing? Love by the Dashboard Light, that Bryan Adams song from Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, I'll Be There For You, These 5 Words I Swear to you, Brian McKnight, and at least one pop group (NSync, Backstreet, New Kids, someone).

Pete Love

Apathy 2002

Brought to you by *Sarcasm*, just one of the services we offer

So I was walking to and from my Linear Algebra, logically located in the EL, and I notice these labels stuck to the FEDS election posters. They looked kinda like envelope labels or something. So I took a closer look. The message was simple, "Don't vote." And who was bringing us such an enlightening message? Apparently Apathy 2002. Seems some person or persons have decided to start a campaign promoting ... apathy.

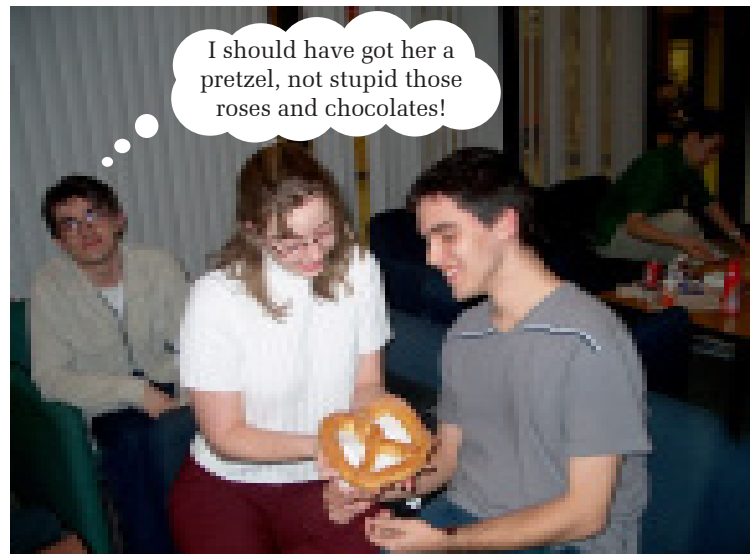
First off, I would say we don't need support for apathy: there is enough of people being lazy or not caring around as it is. But then I stop and look closer at the label on the wall. It's written in pen. They are all hand written in pen. I wonder how many of them there are. Hand written? Not even printed up. Now, I am no scholar of the principles of apathy, but I really don't think these guys are setting a good example to the apathetic people on this campus. Surely if you are trying to promote apathy you REALLY shouldn't put so much effort into it. Even walking around finding posters and putting labels on them sounds like a lot of work. The Apathy 2002 campaign seems to be not lazy, and to be caring quite a bit about their cause since they are working so hard to promote it. So obviously they aren't very apathetic people.

Apathy really doesn't need assistance. I am certain the students who won't vote have already decided not to, or by some miracle don't know about the election, and most certainly don't even bother looking at posters. So this Apathy 2002 not only seems like quite a bit of work, but also isn't doing very much either (except giving me something to write about).

But seriously folks, vote; it won't take too much time, once they have finally have the system sorted out. And if you are going to be apathetic at least do it in proper apathetic style. I was going to write more but no. I don't care enough to.

phat::albert

Nothing says 'I love you' like the gift of a pretzel ...



The Frosh Cornered

It must be gender, because it's not sex!

Ok, there was not an article last time because of a little glitch in the system. I claim that I mailed the article fine, but my editors claim that there was no body to the article. Clearly one of us is lying, and far be it from me to call Brad or Albert a liar. One of them should be putting an editorial reply right about here.

A month ago, [*It's Ian's fault! — TaxiEd*] I posed the hypothetical question that if Math and Engineering had to be personified, and given opposite genders in order to create the child called Software Engineering [*Isn't the real question what gender is Software? — PhatEd*], which would receive what gender? I got a good number of replies and am posting a few of the more interesting ones. So without any more delay, here we are with people's thoughts on the gender of Math vs. Engineering:

My response to the question posed is that engineers with their hard hats portray the typical blue collar construction worker, who is traditionally male, where math is all about π , and who makes pies? Your mom, and what's she? A woman, there we go.

Keith Leblanc
1B Math/Bus

Well, this is a pretty common view, but a somewhat stereotypical one at that. Who says your mom is the only one who can make π ?

This is a response to the frosh cornered article in the *mathNEWS*.

I think that engineers would be likely the male title. I have chosen this because what kind of woman claims that she can demolish 40 beers? I think a mathie might find some way to integrate 40 beers but to really drink them? I think not. The mathie would be the one at home waiting for their drunken engineer to show up and deliver the 60" tool.

Chris Taylor
1B Civil Engineering

It's quite a statement to say that engineers can outdrink mathies. I know some pretty lightweight engineers and some ones that must be able to intoxicate others just be breathing at them, ditto for mathies, it's not a good judge of gender [Yeah, I know some girls who can demolish 40 beers, and they aren't even engineers — PhatEd]. Besides, it's about giving gender to an entity, not the people within it. Also, you seem like the kind of person who would come home drunk and not be able to tell the gender of the person you were living with anyway and give your "tool" indiscriminately [When coming home drunk you might also find your tool isn't as rigid as it used to be — PhatEd], glad I'm not living with you: your "tool" seems to have gotten around quite a lot.

I can't believe you had to ask. If Engineering and Math were of opposite genders, Engineering would definitely be the man. Think of it, Engineering is proud of nothing more than its rigid 60" tool. Math on the other hand would be the one who always wore pink.

Andrew Kowpak
1B Software Engineering

This is the debate at a pure level, pink vs. tool. However, the

mascot of Math is a pink tie, not just the colour pink, and a tie is quite a masculine thing, and I bet there are more women in the world who use tools than wear ties. So it's not an issue that's black and pink.

Math must be male: most mathies won't ask for help in their proofs (stop and ask for directions). Engineering on the other hand actually makes stuff up (creativity)!

Graeme Baer
1B Software Engineering

I had never really thought of this, and I don't speak with enough authority to say engineers make stuff up for proofs, although I would not be surprised either way come exam time. Granted when I have trouble with proofs, I usually start doing my proof dance in the first year tutorial center. It has actually worked once, just make sure there's a tutor in there who's pretty open-minded.

I write in regard to *mathNEWS* of Jan 18th. To the suggestion that Software Engineering is a love child born of Math and Engineering, and the question as to "which would be which,"

I reject the whole notion.

Math and Engineering are asexual.

Far from being their love child, Software Engineering is some sort of parthenogenetically spawned offspring whom none will claim ownership of.

MHO.
..regards
..walter
walter mccutchan (Duke of URL™)

This is -by far- the most creative entry, and since it is coming from a member of the IST nobility, it should be taken very seriously. I would comment more on this letter, however, I have no idea what "parthenogenetically" means, having never taken biology in my life, but it's a very big word that sounds to be right, so I'm declaring the Duke of URL the winner of this little contest.

Well there you have it, looks like we can't assign gender to faculties. Perhaps this is for the best, as it would only lead to further questions, like the parentage of Bioinformatics, and "How is it possible people can waste so much time on this?" Anyway, that's all for this week, and congratulations to the softies for winning Scunt, looks like the program with the asexual parents made out fine on their own.

Ian W. MacKinnon
The Cornered Frosh

Dear Rachael Leigh Cook

You are the very best actress ever. I loved you in Josie, Antitrust, Strike, and on Dawson's Creek (not so much in Blow Dry). Will you be my valentine? I know the courts say I must keep 200 metres from you at all times, but how can I when you're so close to my heart? I was so sad when I found out that you aren't nominated for best actress, I hate that damn Judi Dench. Please return my calls, and if you are not using it, my thumb.

Your Obvious Admirer

Have You Got a Name For It?

Will You Be My Valentine?

Well. I am all excited as it's time for my most favourite holiday ever! Huh? What? You mean it's not Alberta Family Day? Left Handers Day? Not even that? Oh, that's August 13th ... National Pumpkin Pie Day? No. Well it must be the day when people go out at noon, wave their hands over their heads and chant "Hoodie-Hoo?" No, that's February 20th. Well, I give up. Oh, it's you: Valentine's Day. Well, I like you too. As much as I can love any "holiday" whose goal is to sell awkward cards that no one would buy at any other time of the year, and tacky novelties such as candies, teddy bears, handcuffs, and other similarly embarrassing things. And of course lingerie. How about making May 4th National Lingerie Purchasing Day? But seriously, Valentine's Day serves an important function. One day I hope to learn what that is. In the meantime, do you want to see a movie tonight?

Uh, I have to, uh, read Canterbury Tales ... it's for English class, yeah

Like almost every other holiday, Valentine's Day has a confusing history. This means that nobody knows what really happened, but everybody pretends to know and makes stuff up. Just like Coca-Cola helped form the image of modern day Santa Claus, I wouldn't be totally surprised that Hallmark worked hard at re-vitalizing a suffering holiday. According to reliable sources (CNN) (oh, come on, they quoted some guy who wrote a book

English for Unix Speakers

After several hours/days in the undergrad environment, many students experience difficulties re-integrating into English-speaking society. The following quick-reference guide may be of assistance.

- cd**: flat, round object used to play music or frisbee
- vi**: roman numeral — translates to 110 (binary) or 6 (decimal)
- vim**: cleaning liquid — somewhat corrosive
- more or less**: comparison words — e.g.: the more the prof speaks the less I understand.
- korn**: obnoxious music
- sh**: "be quiet" — verbal response to korn
- bash**: physical force using a blunt object — another response to korn
- man**: 80% of the math faculty
- submit**: put someone else's needs first; give way
- man submit**: not very often
- cat**: small furry animal with a tail — not to be confused with that peach in your fridge
- pipe**: long blunt metal object — not to be used against the cat
- tar**: black, sticky, oil-based substance — similar to the scum around your sink
- pine and elm**: trees — large plants with trunks, branches, and leaves — these can be found outside by brave mathies
- kill**: this tends to be a bad thing to do
- finger**: the thing you use to push the mouse button
- echo**: when you scream in frustration and you hear everyone else in the lab scream back at you
- test**: if you have one of these, you shouldn't be reading this!

Eleanor Filyer

on Geoffrey Chaucer, who apparently is to blame for creating Valentine's some time before I came to Waterloo) Valentine's Day was floundering in the 19th century until Americans "rescued it and turned it into a commercial bonanza." See! There is method to my madness after all! In the meantime, are you free this weekend?

Sorry, I'm supposed to help Little Bo Peep find her sheep

I was told that *mathNEWS* is like porn: nobody reads the articles. Which really makes me wonder: what possible gratification could people get from *mathNEWS* outside of reading articles. Maybe this should be a *mathNEWS* Poll question. Actually, cancel that, I don't think I really want to know. One would think that on Valentine's Day, people would refrain from such activities clearly not sanctioned by world's major religions. It is clear to me that on Valentine's Day one should read *mathNEWS* with a loved one. No, really, that sheep won't do.

But, really, I kid because I love. I really like Valentine's Day. Even though I have absolutely no reason to do so. In the meantime: can you give me a reason to *really* like Valentine's Day?

Anton

Lovely ADTs ... or STDs

Isn't just lovely when you find an ADT in your box? It is quite a bit less lovely when you find a STD in your box though. What box am I talking about? The BLACK BOX, of course. This week among 2 week old crackers, *gridWORD* answers, *profQUOTES*, and explosives we found a survey, which begs the question, What is your favorite ADT (or STD)? Not only that, we got some answers too.

• List	1
• Stack	8
• Queue	6
• Dequeue	3
• Binary Tree	3
• Table	1
• Ganja Stack	2
• Linked List (DLL)	1
• Clap	3
• Crabs	3
• Genital Warts	1
• Gonorrhoea	1
• Herpes	1
• Double Penis Disease	1
• FooBar	1

Now I am not sure which are ADTs and which are STDs. I heard my friend got a nasty case of the Stacks once. And my CS 240 prof was saying something about O(loglogn) Genital Warts, but I don't listen that carefully in class anyway. We know this must be from a CS 134 class (and not just because the survey was signed "With love from Matt's CS 134 class") because there aren't Skip Lists, or AVL Trees (which really itch). Anyway keep a look out this Valentine's Day because I hear a bad case of Double Penis Disease (Penis++) is growing in Waterloo.

With love from,
Matt's CS 134 class

profQUOTES

Before we get started, the list of ways you can submit *prof-QUOTES* in order of best to worst: E-mail; hand-written and placed in the **BLACK BOX**; typed up and placed in the **BLACK BOX**; crumpled into a little ball and thrown at us. Thank you for all your submissions, however you get them to us. Enjoy.

“So, your boss hands you a matrix and you say, ‘Does this have full row rank?’ And your boss says, ‘Of course, I performed Gaussian elimination for you to not cause you any trouble.’ ... Sometimes bosses can be sarcastic.”

Cunningham, C&O 350

“What you’ll find in the course is my jokes aren’t funny right away. You’ll be sitting in a class next term and start laughing.”

Cunningham, C&O 350

“How many wish that you hadn’t come today? Be honest: I will close my eyes so I won’t see your faces.”

Cunningham, C&O 350

“You have a problem with a 6-dimensional vector in a 5-dimensional vector space??? Picky, picky, picky.”

Vanstone, C&O 331

“Sounded pretty good for awhile, eh? I used to sell cars.”

Vanstone, C&O 331

[Baby cries in background - outside of classroom]
“Was that you?”

Vanstone, C&O 331

[Prof] “Hm, I think I damaged that plug when I tripped over the cord.”

[Student] “Don’t worry, we won’t tell anyone.”

[Prof] “Doesn’t matter: I’m tenured.”

Menezes, C&O 467

“One of the people I was at grad school with went the ‘get rick quick’ way and is at a dot-com start up. I decided to go the ‘get middle-class slowly’ way and that’s why I’m here.”

Clark, CS 444

“We like to get rid of them, but it’s really hard. Really hard meaning impossible.”

Phillips, CS 360

“That gives an algorithm with infinite runtime, and we try to avoid those in this course.”

Borwn, CS 341

“Today will be a really dumb lecture, so if you want to doze off or go get a coffee and donut that’s fine. [Student gets up and leaves] I didn’t mean it!”

Cox, CS 442

“It tells you you’re done and gives you a warm fuzzy feeling.”

Day, SE 112

“I didn’t think a lot of you would show up today with the snow. I thought you would all be home watching soap operas.”

Cox, CS 442

“I will be away for 2 weeks, that is the good news. The bad news is that I will eventually be returning.”

Baranoski, CS 337

“What’s that doing there? Are there any more creeps like that out there?”

Zorzitto, PM 352

“How many people say yes? How many people say no? How many people don’t want to be here?”

Oldford, Stat 231

“I don’t know whether that last statement turns you on or not.”

Cherry, Stat 231

“We’re going to bring this matrix down to submission.”

D’Alessio, MATH 136

“Now, let’s get back to peanut butter and jam.”

Day, SE 112

“There are no stupid questions. There are only stupid managers. I learned that a long time ago.”

Armstrong, CS 134

“I take care of you people. Remember that.”

Armstrong, CS 134

“They taught you factorials in high school, right? I don’t know what they teach you!”

Armstrong, CS 134

“Don’t take anything I say literally ... well ... except when I’m teaching.”

Armstrong, CS 134

“This will be our grandfather ADT ... or grandmother. I don’t want to be sexist here.”

Armstrong, CS 134

“Theta? Is this theta? Whatever. Some Greek letter, I don’t know.”

Armstrong, CS 134

“Here’s a picture. I don’t understand it. I asked the other instructions about it, they were yabbering on about it but I still don’t understand it.”

Armstrong, CS 134

ISSN 0705—0410

mathNEWS is normally a fortnightly publication funded by and responsible to the undergraduate math students of the University of Waterloo, as represented by the Mathematics Society of the University of Waterloo, hereafter referred to as MathSoc. *mathNEWS* is editorially independent of MathSoc. Content is the responsibility of the *mathNEWS* editors; however, any opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of MathSoc or *mathNEWS*. Current and back issues of *mathNEWS* are available electronically via the World Wide Web at <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca/>. Send your correspondence to: *mathNEWS*, MC3041, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, or to userid math-news@student.math.uwaterloo.ca on the Internet.

The disarming editors: Albert O’Connor and Bradley T Smith

A Slacker's Life

Drip ... drip ... drip ... sluuurp!

Huh? Wha?

I discreetly wipe the little puddle of drool off the table and examine the situation: I'm in class, it's quarter after one, we're still on the same page as when I dozed off, and I managed to stay awake for about ten whole minutes this time.

The professor continued his lecture: "A functional dependency $X \rightarrow Y$ is *trivial* if Y is a *subset* of X ."

Gee, that's swell. I punch a few keys on my calculator. 0, 7, 7, 3, 4. Look, I spelled "hello"! Wow, that was a good use of my time. I look at the clock again: 1:16. Ah, crap, can time move any slower? I stare at the face of the timepiece and will the hands to move faster. *Tick, tick, tick, tick.* I look at my wristwatch to compare. *Tick, tick, tick, tick.* I determine that the classroom clock is twenty-seven seconds behind. I concentrate on moving the clock with my mind. *Tick, tick, tick, tick.* I slap my watch to give it a head start. *Tick, tick, tick, tick.* Timex: Takes a licking and keeps on ticking! *Tick, tick, tick, tick.* Something startles me.

I think it actually went backwards.

I turn my attention elsewhere, and scan the classroom. Some quick addition and I determine that there are seven people sleeping, three people doodling, two people playing solitaire on their laptops, and one person doing something I'd rather not see again.

"A functional dependency g is *logically implied* by F , if whenever r satisfies F , r satisfies g ," continues the prof, apparently unaware that only five people look like they're paying attention, and that includes the one person in the sunglasses leaning his head on his propped-up elbow in a very precarious position. I pride myself that I can still do arithmetic after years of being told that real math uses letters and little squiggly lines.

The professor continues, waving his pointer around at underlined words and little symbols with arrows pointing toward them. He thinks he's so smart, doesn't he? Standing there on his raised platform, blabbing on and on as if he's so wise and learned, thinking he's so much smarter than me. Hmmph. Well, I guess he's right, which is why he's up there, and I'm down here, but still — give us both hockey sticks and put us on a sheet of ice and we'll see who's left dazed and confused.

The person sitting next to me makes a comment about the professor. I ponder this a moment and pay attention.

" Y is a *superkey* of R if Y contains a *key* of R ."

By golly, he's right! He does sound just like William Shatner! Only a little slimmer, slightly better dressed, and Oriental. But other than that it's a perfect match!

Snuggles' Words of Wisdom

Sometimes your heart and brain disagree about love. It doesn't matter that your brain is right, your heart normally wins. Accept that and you can reconcile your brain.

You can read even more about Snuggles' wisdom and other parts next issue.

" F is a *cover* of G if the *closure* of F is *equivalent* to the *closure* of G ."

Now I can't get the thought out of my head. Good ol' Captain Kirk is teaching us CS! Wow! That's amazing! Scotty, beam me out of here! Please! I look to the clock again. I refuse to admit that so little time has passed by.

I shift my seat and hear clinking. Ooo, I dropped a quarter, and it's another one of those commemorative quarters celebrating the new millennium. And another one from the next year also celebrating the new millennium, apparently because they weren't sure which year it started. Oh, and a third quarter celebrating the first time the Canadian mint issued commemorative coins. I wonder, if UW issued commemorative coins, what would they look like? I mention this idea to the person next to me, and we begin jotting down ideas.

In the background, the professor continues talking about natural forms, decomposition, and alerting the engineers that we need more power to the warp core.

Eventually, a stir fills the room. What was that? Something weird is going on. The ambient noise seemed to jump just a little bit higher; there's a certain electricity filling the room. Without looking at the clock, I instinctively know that the lecture hour is up. It's about time, too. I need a rest after all these lectures; I'm overworked.

Students begin packing their books and shifting chairs. The lecturer answers a student's question which I interpreted as something akin to "I'm a professor, not a machine," and then addresses the whole class.

"Any questions?"

I raise my hand.

"Um, yeah ... Can you repeat that?"

SPU



GRADS!
Order your UW
commemorative
coins today!

Limited time offer. While supplies last.

Valentine Squiz

Roses are red, Violets are blue, This here Squiz, Is just for you

So yesterday was Valentine's Day ... did you get your sweet-heart something special? Did you even remember?

As I was unsure of what to do for Valentine's Day I sat down and made a Squiz ... so enjoy!

Marks are awarded as they always are: Lyrics - 1 for artist, 1 for song title; Trivia — 1 per question.

Romantic Lyrics

1. When you're in love, there's no time and no space
There's a permanent smile on your face
Your friends all complain that you're going insane
But the truth is they're just afraid
2. The strands in your eyes that color them wonderful
Stop me and steal my breath
Emeralds from mountains thrust towards the sky
Never revealing their depth
3. I never knew I had a dream
Until that dream was you
When I look into your eyes
The sky's a different blue
4. In my life I've been hammered by some heavy blows
That never knocked me off my feet
All you gotta do is smile at me and down I go
And baby it's no mystery why surrender
Girl, You've got everything
5. There's no escape from love
Was a gentle breeze
Weaves its spell upon your heart
No matter what you think

Classic Couples

(I give you a name you give me their spouse(s))

1. John F. Kennedy
2. F. Scott Fitzgerald
3. George Burns
4. Marilyn Monroe
5. Marge Simpson

Roses

(I'll give you a meaning, you give the colour)

1. True Love, Passion
2. Friendship
3. Innocence, Purity
4. Sympathy
5. Fascination

Valentine Potpourri

1. Which figure from Roman Mythology is believed to use magical arrows to inspire feelings of love?
2. In what year did Hallmark begin selling its first Valentine's cards?
3. Who is believed to have made the first Valentine's card?
4. In Victorian times it was considered bad luck to do what to a Valentine's card?
5. What did the Valentine's card from Lisa Simpson to Ralph Wiggum read?

And of course, solutions can be emailed to *mathNEWS* or dropped in the BLACK BOX.

Your SquizMaster,
Teddybear — My Heart Needs a Home :(

mastHEAD

Love Sport: great game but no one knows the rules

Five minutes to write a *mastHEAD*. What's that you say about time limiting? Now let's try to have it make sense. BOOM comes out another issue of *mathNEWS* for everyone to enjoy with the family and those special someones the not-so-bitter among us have. I see Valentine's Day as a time for love, not just for couples as some might say. Now if I only knew what love was, but that is a topic for a more deep thinking kind of time. Right now I am more in a just thick thinking kind of time since I think I am starting to get a cold, another sign it is February. Just like the Olympics and Reading Week ... err Reading Days I mean for the Mathies, Engineers and Softies among you, the readers. Though I digress, the Olympics aren't every February, just every 4th, kind of like a leap year, but not as complex.

Speaking of complex, disarming the do-it-yourself bomb was not so complex. Though it does imply that someone out there has a complex of some kind. A very trusting one. But I don't think the bomb we received could have blown up the MC (it is a giant concrete block for a reason), or even the BLACK BOX for that matter. Though they do say big things come in small packages. At least that what I say, well no but I would if I had a small package. Anyway.

Something else that was entertaining this week was reading the campus question and the Iron Inquisition (look we got the capitalization right unlike some publications when making reference to other publications or their parts ...) and seeing they used the same question. Not only did they use the same question, but it was just like the *mastHEAD* question about two years ago in *mathNEWS*. Fancy that.

So after much discussion and consideration of just what *mastHEAD* question to go with this issue, we did not end up choosing what event would you add to the Olympics. Instead we asked the profound question of what is your band's name? Here is the brave *mathNEWS* staff and their answers: Latrell (Latrell Street Boys [That's the way that I like it ...]), Chris (RIM job), Kev (Kaydot [album name: Oh!]), Jason (Handsome Julian plus three), Anton (Duck-duck goose), and Laymond Rai (the JDKs).

Finally big thanks goes out to everyone who helped out with this issue, and all the other issues too, just for the heck of it. Margaret is as usual the best proofreader around. Much thanks to Gino's for pizza, and to the Soft Pretzel Bakery for helping us have so many pretzels we couldn't finish them all. Thanks finally to Graphic Services who do the real work of putting the issue together (I mean literally, you think we staple over one thousand issues?).

Bradley T Smith (Rubber)
Phat Albert O'Connor (Elastic)

Olympic Squiz

Welcome to the Games of the 56th Squizziad

So we counted up all the Squizzes and divided by four and it came to exactly 56, who knew!

Once again, Olympic time is upon us! This year I have a good feeling about Canada's chances ... but then again I always do ... Go Canada!!!!

The Lyrics are all artists who will be performing at the Olympic games. Some of the questions (for example, some of the medal questions) cannot be answered until a couple days after this is published — I can't make it too easy!

Solutions to the previous Squiz and winners are on the next page.

Marks are awarded as they always are: Lyrics — 1 for artist, 1 for song title; Trivia — 1 per question (plus bonus where applicable). You know where solutions go ... good luck!

Olympic Lyrics

- I dream of fire
Those dreams that tie two hearts that will never die
And near the flames
The shadows play in the shape of the man's desire
- But will I hold you again?
These fickle, fuddled words confuse me
Like 'Will it rain today?'
Waste the hours with talking, talking
- There's nothing more for me to say
Feels like I'm wasting my time
Hanging on this same old line
There's nothing left for me to find
- When you are with me I'm free
I'm careless, I believe
Above all the others we'll fly
This brings tears to my eyes
- Comin' down the world turned over
And angels fall without you there
And I go on as you get colder
Or are you someone's prayer?

Olympic Potpourri

- Who lit the Olympic Flame at the 1996 Summer Games in Atlanta?
- Which event is making its debut at the 2002 Winter Olympics?
- Which American Olympic Skier was unnamed for the first 2 years of her life and was simply referred to as "Little Girl"?
- Which sport has been included in the 2002 Olympic Winter Games for the first time since the 1948 Winter Olympics?
- The first Modern Olympic games were in held in what year?

2002 Medal Winners

(List all 3 medal winners and countries for each)

- Freestyle Skiing: Women's Moguls
- Figure Skating: Pairs
- Figure Skating: Ice Dance
- Alpine Skiing: Men's Super G
- Cross-Country Skiing: Men's 10 km Free Pursuit

Canadian Olympic Trivia

- Who was Canada's Flag Bearer for the Opening Ceremonies of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games?
- Who won Canada's First Medal at the 2002 Olympics (and in what event)?
- When was the last time Canada won a Gold medal in Olympic Hockey (not including the results of the 2002 Games)?
- Who is the youngest of the Canadian Athletes competing at the 2002 Winter Olympics?
- Which Canadian Olympic Freestyle Skier has recorded a hip-hop rap song?
Bonus: What was the name of the song?

Your SquizMaster,
Daryl McEachern

Further Palindrome Contributions

- Eva, can I stab bats in a cave? (Richard)
- Do good? I? No! Evil anon I deliver. I maim nine more heromen in Saginaw, sanitary sword a-tuck, Carol, I—lo!—rack, cut a drowsy rat in Aswan. I gas nine more hero-men in Miami. Reviled, I (Nona) live on. I do, O God! (Jeff)
- A man, a plan, a canoe, pasta, heros, rajahs, a coloratura, maps, snipe, percale, macaroni, a gag, a banana bag, a tan, a tag, a banana bag again (or a camel), a crepe, pins, Spam, a rut, a Rolo, cash, a jar, sore hats, a peon, a canal — Panama! (Jeff)
- No Roman a moron. (banana nab)
- Draw, O Coward. (banana nab)
- Anita lava la tina. (Spanish!!!) (banana nab)
- Malayalam (the only language that is a palindrome) (banana nab)
- In girum imus nocte et consumimur igni. (which is Latin and is translated roughly as *We turn in a circle in the night and are consumed by our own fire*) (banana nab)
- Dennis, Nell, Edna, Leon, Nedra, Anita, Rolf, Nora, Alice, Carol, Leo, Jane, Reed, Dena, Dale, Basil, Rae, Penny, Lana, Dave, Denny, Lena, Ida, Bernadette, Ben, Ray, Lila, Nina, Jo, Ira, Mara, Sara, Mario, Jan, Ina, Lily, Arne, Bette, Dan, Reba, Diane, Lynn, Ed, Eva, Dana, Lynne, Pearl, Isabel, Ada, Ned, Dee, Rena, Joel, Lora, Cecil, Aaron, Flora, Tina, Arden, Noel, and Ellen sinned. (jessej)
- Rise to vote, sir. (The Simpsons)
- Palindromes are good. (Greg Taylor, retired *mathNEWS* editor)
- And if you're really keen, don't forget to visit www.grown-dodo.com/wordplay/palindromes/dogseesada.html and www.derf.net/palindromes/old.palindrome.html.
You'll enjoy it ...

Bradley samohT Smith,
Recreational Palindromist

Squiz Round-up

We at mathNEWS head office were pondering what to name our Squizziad. Olympiads are every four years so we decided that we would count every 4th Squiz and that would be our number. "What did we find," you ask (or maybe you have already read the Olympic Squiz and know that with the 2 squizzes in this issue we are at exactly 224 Squizzes — thus 56 Squizziads)? Now, being the Mathies that we are, we realized that there was a numerical significance to this: That meant that up until this issue there have been 222 Squizzes, this is the Year 2002, and we are having 2 Squizzes in this issue (Olympic and Valentine). This abundance of twos started to amuse us ... but then stopped when I realized I have 4 midterms and 2 assignments in 3 days (consecutive) this week (ahhhhhhh!)

We thought that we should share that with all of you. There will be a separate prize awarded for each of the 2 Squizzes in this issue ... so enter early and enter often (twice maximum).

Below you will find a recap of the answers and submissions for last issue's Squiz (β).

Last Week's Answers:

Lyrics: 1) U2, *Beautiful Day*; 2) No Doubt, *Hey Baby*; 3) Mary J. Blige, *No More Drama*; 4) Barenaked Ladies, *Thanks That Was Fun*; 5) Jewel, *Standing Still*; (Bonus: 1-4 were performers at the Superbowl).

Superbowl: 1) Vince Lombardi Trophy; 2) The Brady Bunch; 3) Aeneas Williams & Marshall Faulk; 4) Patriots & Tom Brady; 5) Honolulu, Hawaii.

NHL All-Star Game: 1) Jewel; 2) Campbell and Wales; 3) Young Stars Game; 4) Al MacInnis; 5) North America — Damphousse, Nolan, Shanahan, Blake, Pronger, Roy and World — Federov, Jagr, Selanne, Lidstrom, Ozolinsh, Hasek.

Potpourri: 1) Trojan Wars; 2) O Brother Where Art Thou?; 3) Bonnie Prince Charlie (aka Charles Stewart); 4) Iambic Pentameter; 5) 9.

Last Issue's Entries:

Mission Bananarama: 24 points

M.K. Low: 23 points

Chris Ingram: 23 points

Steve Engels: 22.5 points

Kev(o), SPU, DE Dan: 8.5 points

Tex: 1 point

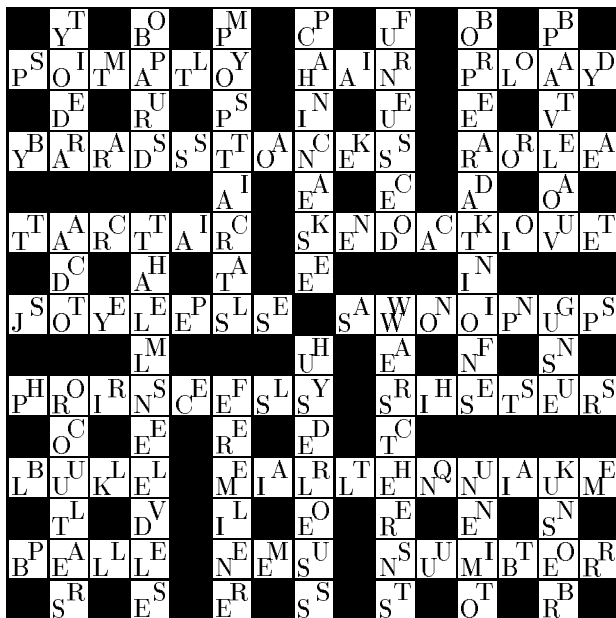
Congratulations to Mission Bananarama on taking their 2nd consecutive Squiz victory (and more free C+D money). Good luck on both Squizzes in this issue.

Your Squiz master,
Daryl 'Teddybear' McEachern

Two Issues in One!?!?

I doubt too many are concerned about the layout this week, but for those interested in an explanation, here's some filler:

At the beginning of term it was brought up that mathNEWS would be coming out the day after Valentine's Day AND in the middle of the Winter Olympics. All attempts to merge the themes ended in lovable-sporting disasters, so two issues were required. But we already tried the weekly thing, and we were kind of burnt out after that lunacy, so the only thing left that made sense was two smaller issues done at once, stapled together.



Grid #2 Solutions

The Mathie Pill

Introducing the ultimate in math comfort, style and scent — the Mathie Pill.

The math instant wash tablet will allow you to pop a pill and instantly be in the cool ... it transforms your clothes into the latest fashion, like our sailor friend here.



It also allows you to be comfortable with all your surroundings and feel free as a bird.



Last but not least, it lets you have a fresh scent, something that'll make people not think you spend all day in the math building coding CS assignments.



Not only is this the most miraculous pill available on the market, but it even has trace amounts of Viagra, so you're always ready to go, and the 500g of caffeine (not mg like some other caffeine tablets) will make sure you can

gridCOMMENTS

Congratulations to everyone who submitted to our slightly more difficult than before *gridWORD* from last issue. Mistakes were few, and I was very impressed to see that people recognised the quote from Hamlet (or were good guessers). The cryptic was a toughy too, I got stuck on Brasstacks and Suitor. Guess I don't get to win this time ...

So, if I don't someone else should. For the cryptic, the SJU Crew, who were their own answer to *What other treasures are hidden in MC*, won, edging out defending champion Chris Marks, who said "A replica of the Tool."

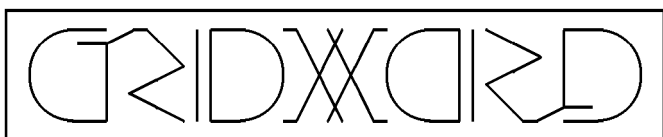
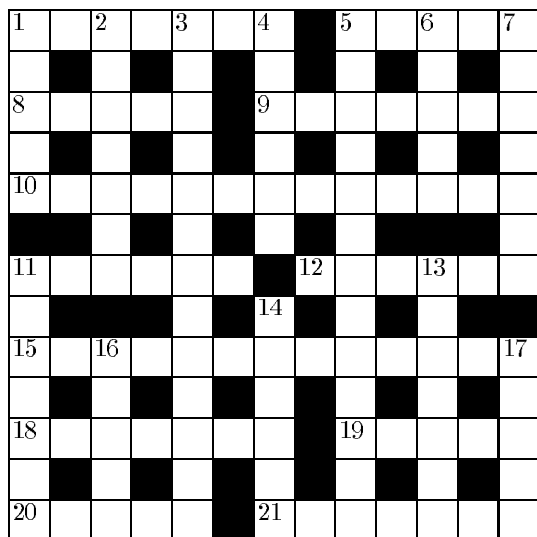
The conventional was won by a team again: Kev(o), SPU, and DE Dan. They considered Pete's girlfriend to be a hidden treasure. Josh Grosse ("Othe"? (?)), Mission Bananarama (combustibles stored in the return air plenum), Tex, aka Jason Caerels (hot math guys), *[I believe those were the original treasures — TaxiEd]* and Chris Ingram (the location of Mr. Snufflupagus' cave) also submitted complete grids.

Hey, you know what? I just noticed that the grid is only 13 blocks square, unlike the fifteen block one we had last week. I wonder if that means this comment will have to be a bit longer to compensate. No, probably not, but maybe I should ramble on about something just in case: What about taxes? Don't you hate taxes? There, that's about enough gibberish out of me for now.

Well, I'm off to write the next conventional — my last because Linda will be using her puzzle program to fill in a second set of clues from now on! Yippee! So, expect some really bad clues, but for the last time.

Oh ya, *gridQUESTION*. Riddle me this: *Who's your favourite FEDS write-in candidate?* Enjoy. And get your solutions to *mathNEWS* before March. Maybe even before February 25th, just to be safe.

Linda and Brad



Grid Clues (Cryptic)

Across

1. Gymnast we serve drink in (7)
5. Arrange putties without it (3,2)
8. Sparkle from fluff after midnight (5)
9. More glib than burger chef (7)
10. Fit rum pattern met abroad? (6,7)
11. Transcript about core branch covers fliers (6)
12. Revised two editions about it (6)
15. Haphazard practice not on for family planning (13)
18. A tour we restlessly overendure (7)
19. Try to rig look inside icehouse (5)
20. For example, why gym class in the country? (5)
21. Engage operating room for April first? That's swell (7)

Down

1. Close to having had too much to drink (5)
2. He delivers Gaelic bill up to man (7)
3. Unconventional Celt pet ferret is exactly right (6-7)
4. Mixed features? Not as counter (6)
5. Skiing around northern NY slope quietly leads to unsuitable water sport (6,7)
6. Narrow candle (5)
7. Pry maid out of monument (7)
11. Storm up? No, bike around (7)
13. Write about redhead leftie who handles baton well (7)
14. Rare mark of common era (6)
16. Why, after new start, you tease Dotty (5)
17. Who doesn't enjoy end of June afternoon? (2,3)

Grid Clues (Bradley)

Across

1. C₄H₉OH (7)
5. Really big dude, often friendly (5)
8. To really want something (5)
9. Big hunk of ice on land (7)
10. Cubes for board game without pips (?) (9,4)
11. To approve formally (6)
12. Murdered Scot who appears to Macbeth as a ghost (6)
15. Popular example in Graph Theory (8,5)
18. What you think (7)
19. Potato slang (5)
20. Like a corset or size 24 pants on me (5)
21. Otic pain (7)

Down

1. Louisiana swamp (5)
2. Toronto _____ Commission (7)
3. One who rebels against status quo (13)
4. Illuminators (6)
5. Ladies, your relation to mom's dad (13)
6. Excuse for not being somewhere else (5)
7. Submarine weapon (7)
11. Relationship marked by harmony (7)
13. Fourth-degree polynomial (7)
14. Dead guy to visit for a weekend (6)
16. Ben Grimm alter ego (5)
17. He-Man and She-Ra villain group (5)

I'll Have the Special

Because the Olympics could no more lose money than Latrell could have a baby

Well, here I am back after a short hiatus. I had pledged to write a little more often this term but I have found that is easier said than done. Of course, I could never write much when I was an editor. Anyways, on with the article ...

Whenever I drop by campus, whether it be for the Bomber, *mathNEWS* Production Nights or 5 cent copies in the MathSoc office, many people come up to me and ask me the same questions again and again:

- Where did the name "Latrell" come from?
- What happened to your hair?
- What are you still doing here?
- You dated HER?
- What's the deal with *I'll Have The Special*?

Now, I would like to answer all your queries in vivid detail. Unfortunately, I will not be accorded such space for this issue. I would like to focus on the last question ... where did I come up with *I'll Have The Special*.

Back in 1995 (!), I wrote an article about the new speciality channels which were flooding our airwaves. The same ones that caused about half of all cable customers to return their cable boxes and cancel their service. One of the all-time great "Canadian" moments. How come we never see one of those vignettes about the great Canadian cable revolt of '95? Ya know, I see those vignettes over and over again and let me tell ya:

- I don't care about some buffoon who named a bear after the town of Winnipeg and the addition of "Pooh" by some dumb-ass kid
- I don't care about the pencil-neck geek who came up with Superman
- I don't care how Laura Secord single handedly ended the War of 1812 with tasty chocolate

Are you ready to become addicted?

Something New at the Campus Cove

In a world of expensive entertainment, it's hard to find something that is both affordable and fun, but UW finally has something. It's network gaming — and it's at the Campus Cove in the SLC.

The Campus Cove has Counter Strike, Starcraft, and Diablo II. Challenge your friends, defeat your foes in this gaming atmosphere.

And for the hard core players out there, on March 2, we're going to be facing off against the York Yeomen in an online battle of Counter Strike. It's just \$15 to enter and there is over \$1000 in cash prizes to be won — plus the joy of a trophy and bragging rights. If you're interested in finding out how you can be a part of the team, contact our computer guy Justin at justin@estarbust.com.

The network gaming is only \$3 per hour and we have 17 Pentium 4 1600MHz, 256 mb RAM and Vidia GeForce 2 MX 400 64 MB RAM computers. Drooling yet?

Come down and try it for yourself. The first 5 people to bring this article down to the Campus Cove will get one half hour for free.

Campus Cove

Anyways, here we are ... 7 years later (ack) being inundated with yet another truckload of useless channels most people probably don't want or care about.

The name I chose for that article was *I'll Have the Special*. As in, I'll Have the Specialty channels. Get it? Ha ha ha. Funny stuff. I loved the title so much, I kept it. And the rest, they say, is (sigh) history.

Some ramblings:

- Did anyone else notice that when the Olympic torch was lit and the flame was making its way to the top, that it was almost extinguished by a huge gust of wind? That would have been "Play of the Year" material if that had have happened.
- The year was 1991. My team, the Buffalo Bills, finally made it to the Super Bowl. They lost that game 20-19 to the New York Giants with a last minute field goal attempt going "wide right." But hey, it was their first try. They'd have another chance in the big game, right? Who knew that this appearance would be the first of four losses. Sometimes I think that most of the bitterness I experienced during the 1990's was because of this dubious streak. And now, here we are in 2002 where my Bills finish a forgettable 3-13 and the New England Patriots (!) of all teams win the Super Bowl! So if I thought the 90's were bad, what does the first decade of the 21st century have to offer? Maybe the Bills will be better next year. Or maybe it's just the start of some supreme sucking like some of those Bills teams did back in the 70's. Well, at least I still have the Jays. Sorry, what was that? Oh. Well, then. Go Leafs Go.
- Here's an interesting little fact:
Cost of travelling Hwy. 407 from Hwy. 401 to Brock Road in Brougham: \$8.31. Cost of a 12" Steak and Cheese from Subway: \$6.89. Discuss.
- Apparently, I got some weird looks after the mini-issue a few weeks ago. Though I get weird looks on a regular basis, this time it was for my name appearing in the "*mathNEWS* is Younger than ..." column on the back page. The reason for this, according to our formidable editors Bradley "The Barber" Beefcake and Albert "The Hammer" Valentine, was that even though *mathNEWS* (January 1973) is older than me (July 1973), I was conceived (Fall 1972) before *mathNEWS* was (very likely late 1972). I hope this clears everything up.
- Of course, pulling a roast duck out of the Black Box was perfectly normal, mind you.

Well, that's all I have for now. You may have noticed there are no Valentine's Day references in this article. You are very observant.

Till next time ... see ya in the funny papers!

Latrell.

Ex-editor extraordinaire!

Warm toque, long brown hair.

Four years of Waterloo leaves one with a little bit more wisdom than they came in with. Like it or not, I have to admit I've actually learned something in my days in the cement heart of MC.

But it's not the flow charts or FOR loops or any of that mega-important info that'll stick with me. It's all the magical concepts that I absolutely, positively still won't understand when I leave this school that will haunt my dreams till the end of time.

The right allocations

A few years ago, I was introduced to a little course called MATH 135. It taught me some mathematical fundamentals I will never forget:

- Integers are like transformers — they're more than meets the eye.
- Chinese food will always leave left-overs — we can prove it.
- Theorem 1.1.2 part ii) can prove the sky is blue and that your little rash isn't contagious.

But on top of all that, it was here, armed with my little red book of horrors, that I learned my first of "the dreaded phrases" — some of the most vile, evil, and downright satanic phrases ever to grace this earth:

This proof is left as an exercise to the reader...

shudder

Left as an exercise? Why can't you do it for me? An *EXERCISE*? In my book, the following things qualify as exercise:

- Walking to the pretzel store for a fresh baked oktober-pretzel.
- Doing jumping jacks in front of the bubble tea shop.
- Getting out of bed.

Note that proving mathematical theorems is not in that list. I consider proving mathematical theorems more like going after the princess, but realizing you're Luigi, not Mario. You might be able to do it, but Mario could've done it faster, with more pizzazz, and the princess was actually looking forward to seeing *him* do it.

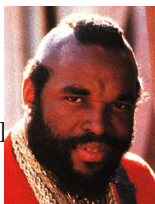
Anyways, the career had begun, the wheels were in motion, and I was on my way.

Shine like justice

So there I was, in second year, walking along the yellow brick road of MC. "Oooh, lookitthat! A girl!" I would exclaim every so often. Young, innocent, unwary. Ain't nothing gonna break my stride. Ain't nothing gonna slow me down. That was when I meandered straight into doom — a course called CS 246.

CS 246 can often be caught saying some not so nice things about the students who take it. Among them are the following:

- **I pity tha foo dat takes ma course.**
- **Ain't no sucka gonna survive ma funk.**
- **Go take a showa. FOO!**



Note that CS 246 shows no pity for any fool

trash-talking grasp. And none did it show to me. It was at this time that I was introduced to the very first of a long list of meaningless buzz words:

- Abstract.
- Overrides.
- ADT.

sigh What the heck do those words mean, anyway? Four years later, and I'm still in the dark.

In A.D. 1998

War was beginning.

Kev: What happen?

Spu: Somebody set us up the bomb.

Dan: We get signal.

Kev: What!

...

Now *that* is abstract. Plus that Cats guy was pretty cute, in a Borg kind of way.

From Kitty to Karen

The transition from third to fourth year was relatively painless. Sure, I was getting out a lot less, the Waterloo goggles were getting thick as donuts, and going to Kitchener seemed like a road trip, but it wasn't all bad. I mean, I knew how to use the Pumping Lemma, right?

But if the transition from third to fourth year was passable, it was actually going through third year that shredded me like paper. Hooray for everything? Not exactly.

Continuing the tradition of meaningless words, some CS course (third year has since been blocked from my mind as the *worst year ever*) gave me the following term to despise for eternity:

- Aggregate.

Let's play a little game: You come up with a definition of *aggregate* and so will I. If you're anywhere near the actual definition, I guarantee that my definition will be identical to yours. Ready?

Got your definition? Ok, here's mine:

Aggregate: Mythological and other fabulous deities and powers.

Nuff said.

Smooth liquidation

Somebody once told me that computer science is supposed to get easier as you go along. I think that's only true because you start understanding a lot less. In the long run, I may actually learn a wee bit about computers during my stay at Waterloo. But in the end, there'll still be a whole lot left for my imagination to ponder.

Kev(o)

***mathNEWS* pity tha foo, too**

The Math Olympics

The 2002 Winter Olympics kicked off in Salt Lake City this past weekend. It's not even a week in and already most people are sick and tired of hearing about the Olympics. So as a little change of pace, let's take a look at the upcoming events in this year's Math Olympics. The most exciting event is sure to be Moebius Strip Curling. The name says it all: it's curling on a Moebius strip. I wouldn't recommend trying this at home; you might get disoriented. Next on the list we have Klein Hockey. This is the lowest scoring team game of all time because your goal is to shoot the puck and have it stay on the interior of a Klein Bottle. This poses as interesting problem with a three-dimensional puck and a four-dimensional Klein Bottle, but since nobody has ever scored a point, all the games end in ties, and thus everyone gets a gold medal. One final event of interest, and my personal favourite, is the π athalon ... It consists of π events, but I can't list them all here because there is not enough space for that. Now even though there are going to be many events, there were some events that just didn't make it into this year's Olympics. I've listed a few so that next year when it comes time to vote, you can make an informed choice:

- Integration by darts
- Long division jump
- Polar co-ordinate vaulting
- Λ Tossing

Pi

Skeleton History

The Winter Olympics' newest event, Skeleton, is scheduled to go ahead this coming Wednesday morning. The event, which is described as psycho head-first luge, has a long history.

The game originates from the distant planet of Eternia, residence of inventor Skeletor. "It was supposed to be a terrifying way to quickly transport prisoners from Snake Mountain over to the Slime Pit, but Beast Man, Trap Jaw, and Man-E-Face started having races along the course. Then Mordak found out about our set up and had to have a course in the Fright Zone ... he's so unoriginal, always stealing my ideas." He then screamed loudly and threatened the interviewer with his Havok Staff.

Once introduced to Etheria, the Horde took to having regular races and eventually built three courses. They held a bi-monthly tournament of Skeletorion (before the name was eventually shortened), inviting She-Ra and her allies. A new era of peace appeared to be blossoming, until Mantenna was caught sabotaging Moss Man's sled. A massive battle broke out, and even Kobra Khan couldn't stop it with his hypnotic-mist spray.

The final Skeletorion Tournament was survived by only one creature: an annoying little blue-haired guy who kept asking if anybody had seen him. Loo-Kee soon began a lengthy tour of schools educating students about the dangers of entering battle with the forces of evil. Sadly, the only message that got across to the students was the excitement of Skeleton (which he had altered the name of to hide Skeletor's evil influence).

One misunderstanding student was Johnson Pound, son of Dick Pound, who told his father about the other-worldly event, begging him to add it to the Olympics. Studies were conducted, and despite the suspiciously high amount of head injuries, the sport was welcomed into the Winter Games. Road Skeleton is expected to be a part of the Athens games in 2004.

Bradley Turbodactyl Smith

Full-Contact Curling

This one time ... at curling camp ...

I stuck my broom ...

What do you want more of in the Winter Olympics? "Curling," said one Engsoc C+D worker. Now I'm sure most of you know that both women's and men's curling has been including in the Winter Olympics since 1998. So what could this Coffee and Doughnut worker mean? Well, there is a new type of Curling in this year's Winter Olympics. Why? Because of complaints that curling isn't really a sport. It is obviously a game. There is strategy in the play of it, and it requires skill to execute a perfect throw. But there are those would would say it doesn't have the same athleticism as, let's say, hockey or figure skating. There needs to be more violence. To solve this problem the new type of curling coming to the 2002 Winter Olympics is Full-Contact Curling.

That's right: picture it now, two teams of 4 men or women, 8 long wooden sticks, 16 stones (with handles for better throwing action), and 1 nonstick surface equals more blood than in an abattoir at noon.

Since Canada's battle to retain its title as the nation of hockey isn't going so well these days, this new even more violent sport is looking like it could become a new favourite. Thus the Canadian team, from the home of Full-Contact Curling, Moose Jaw, is looking for a medal standing in this year's competition. But the Scottish team is looking strong. The Scots dispute the claim that Full-Contact Curling was invented in Moose Jaw and say they have been playing it for years, they just didn't know it was different from regular curling. Since the IOC choose to use the International Full-Contact Curling rules, both hard liquor and beer will be served during scrimmages, which puts the Canadian team at a disadvantage versus the Scots. We shall see next week what the exciting results will be from this most extreme type of competition which is most certainly a sport. Full-Contact Curling has been scheduled after regular Curling has finished so the facilities being destroyed won't be a big problem. And if you think the Full-Contact Curlers are violent, wait until you see the fans.

phat::albert



Mantenna would later be stripped of his medal for sabotaging Moss Man's sled

Have You Got a Name For It?

I got your Olympics right here!

Boom-boom, Boom-boom, welcome to my Olympic coverage of my bi-weekly column in *mathNEWS*. Of course, this column has already been written, and if you were really eager, you would've already read this column on sources other than *mathNEWS*. Well, that is almost true. You could have only read the results of this column. But here at *mathNEWS* you can not just get the overall picture, but in-depth coverage of how I decided to write this (I ate about 5 Fast Eddie's burgers at the PCP, then drove home, ate some processed cheese (mmm ... 24 slices of Canadian processed cheese ... 23 slices of ...) then watched figure skating on TV (yeah, I watch figure skating! You got a problem with that buddy?), then watched curling on TV (yeah I watch curling, you got a problem with that buddy?) then sat down to write this); why I decided to write anything (the Olympics is easier to write about than Valentine's Day) and exclusive pictures, only available at *mathNEWS* (censored). So really, you are not gaining anything except for annoying announcers and hype mixed with jingoism.

Deserves π for Technical Merit, 2e for Artistic Presentation

I am not a big fan of sporting events where a number of judges assign marks to performers. As many a Canadian sports columnist will tell you, that's flawed. So I think instead of judges in figure skating, they should measure achievement in measurable quantities, such as:

- How many spins are performed by a competitor
- Distance that the female partner is tossed by her male partner
- Distance that the male partner is tossed by his female partner when he stares at an opposing female figure skater's exposed underpants the wrong way
- Distance that the male partner is tossed by his female partner when he stares at an opposing female figure skater's exposed underpants the *right* way
- Total width of a forced smile
- Puffiness of the shirt that the male is wearing (in square inches)
- Volume of hissing that the coaches of opposing figure skaters or ice dancers exchange

Stronger, Faster, Sillier!

Olympics is supposed to be a celebration of sport, or some bullshit like that. However, quite a lot of the time, they stand as living proof of bad choices. Like hurtling down an icy slope on a tiny tray with sleds head first. Or feet first for that matter. Human beings compete in just about anything. Why not include darts, pool, snooker, and Dance-Dance Revolution as Olympic sports? I mean we already have chess (clearly for the great TV rating that chess matches receive). Why not throw in a good, old-fashioned spitting contest. Or heck, a comfy-lounger's favourite activity: Settlers. This is such a good idea, I think I should petition the IOC. Except there are two problems with it: first of all, I don't have enough cash for the requisite bribe, and second of all, I am too busy training for the Processed Cheese Eating competition debuting in Athens in 2004 (mmm ... 13 slices of Canadian processed cheese).

Anton

Krease Crumpled

Are we winning yet?

I don't know. I've been busy preparing for the IOC to finally decide that synchronized programming should be an official Olympic sport.

"Look at the determination in their eyes ... The Canadian team is reaching for the keyboard ... oh my, look at that form ... absolutely amazing ..."

I mean, there should be more to the Winter Olympics than skiing, sledding, and skating ... ok there's curling, but seriously, that's just marbles on ice. We should be more inventive than this. I wonder when bowling and pool will become Olympic sports ...

By the time you read this, yesterday will have been *Single Awareness Day*, known by some as Valentine's Day. Yeah, it's SAD. Especially when you realize LOVE is just a Loss Of Valuable Energy. I mean, the original Saint Valentine was martyred long ago for marrying people in third century Rome. Imagine this pickup line: "Hey sweetie, let's celebrate the death of a priest!" I'm going to stop now before I say anything incriminating.

Pigeons wear lipstick so they don't get speeding tickets
Krease

Rejected Events

It seems like every year new events are being added to the Olympics, [*At least every year with Olympic Games — TaxiEd*] some of which are reasonable and others are not. And even though it seems like many events are added that shouldn't be there, there are many more still that are screened out. I've got my hands on a copy of the list of events that were rejected from this year's Olympic Games, and I would like to share some of these events with you today.

Brain Bash Bobsled — This event was very similar to normal bobsled with the added effect of the bobsled being upside down. In this manner, the heads of competitors bounced up and down along the ice down the entire length of the track.

Giant Giant Slalom — This event would be very similar to the giant slalom event except that only people who were taller than 7 feet would be allowed to participate. The MOA (Midget Olympic Association) filed a protest and in the end won, so this event was disallowed.

Do The Dishes Alex — This one was one of the worst submissions we got this time around. It was decided that this was really not in the true spirit of the Olympics since it is really rather stupid. [*Still, it be nice if Matan did something around the house — TaxiEd*]

MOA Toss — After hearing about the complaining from the MOA, the GOA (Giant Olympic Association) wasn't too pleased with them so they wanted a chance to get even. This event was originally slated to be in the Olympics but was cut due to a lack of funding and midgets.

Pi

Canada competes

For precious metals, medals

By the Great Salt Lake

NEWS

Friday, February Fifteenth, 2002

McGraw-Hill

Volume 88, Issue 4



**The First Annual Soft Pretzel Olympics:
Softer, Bigger, Saltier**