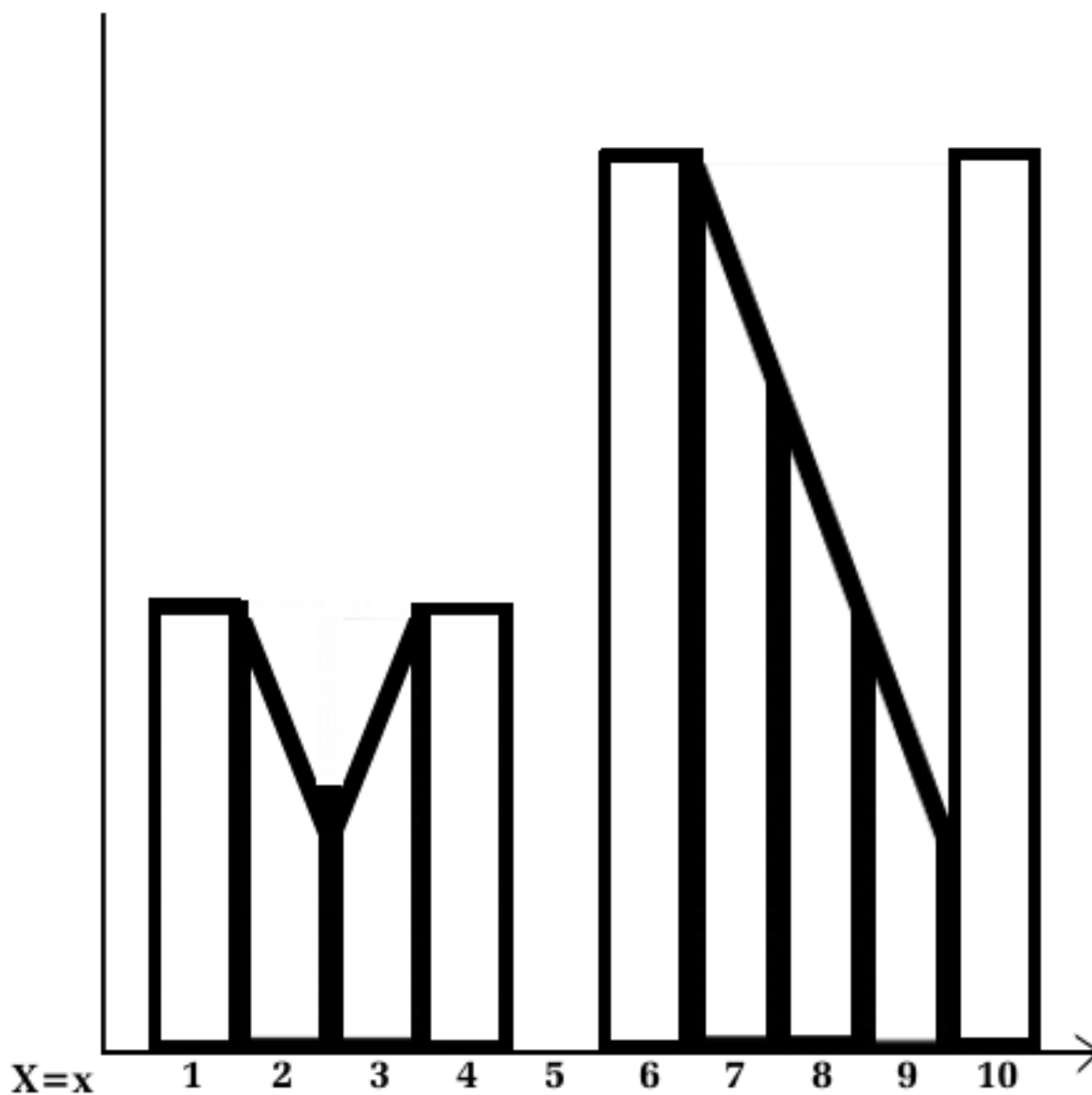


math

NEWS

Volume 90, Issue 2

Friday, October 4th, 2002



The normal *math*NEWS distribution

lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

October 4	Issue #2 plays B-ball with the Raptors
October 15	Issue #3 Production Night 6:30 pm3, MathSoc (MC 3038)
October 18	Issue #3 declared editor of the Cord

Math Faculty

October	W03 Course Enrolment continues
November 1	WD Deadline

MathSoc

Thursdays	Movie Nights
October 8	Who's Line is it Anyway?

MGC

Wednesdays	Ooh ... pizza
Oct. 4, 11, 15	Grad Protrait sessions at Fed Hall
Oct. 8	Group Pic at 5PM by CS sculpture
October 26	Fall Convocation

PMC

October 5	Small c Contest
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Co-op

October	A Continuation of Interviews A neverending epic
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Miscellaneous

October 6	U-pass goes U-ground
October 10	All maple leaves turn blue
October 11-19	K-W Oktoberfest
October 12	Don Cherry has no one to rant to
October 14	Thanksgiving Day
October 16	Boss Day

**Flash***Constitutional Change*

The Computer Science Club constitution has been changed to be in compliance with MathSoc policy. The changes are available at <http://www.csclub.uwaterloo.ca/docs/constitution-change-20020920.html>

Upcoming Events

Welcome to the one of the busiest terms in a while. To see our upcoming events go to <http://www.csclub.uwaterloo.ca>

- **Unix I**
MC 3006, 26 Sept 2002
- **Business Meeting**
MC 3001, 30 Sept 2002
- **Pints with the Profs**
Bomber, 01 Oct 2002

- **Unix II**
MC 3006, 03 Oct 2002

Those events are over, sucks to be you if you missed them.

- **Graphics Drivers**
MC 4045, 08 Oct 2002, 4:30pm
- **Unix III**
MC 3006, 10 Oct 2002, 5:30pm
- **Evil Side of C++**
Unbooked, 15 Oct 2002

Come out and enjoy our events. All events except the Unix tutorials include free food.

James A. Morrison
President, UW Computer Science Club, Fall 2002

mastHEAD*So many monkeys ...*

Well, we're back. Another rollicking issue of *mathNEWS* at your disposal. As we at *mathNEWS* are always striving to give you the best bang for your buck, we present another issue full of that trademark *mathNEWS* wackyNESS™. I'd talk about the funny stuff that happened at production night, but I'm still in Alberta. So you get to hear about the fact that it's snowing here. I'm kind of annoyed. Whenever I move to Alberta, it's freaking cold here and unnaturally hot over there. The average temperature for my winter last time I was here was around -30°C. But enough complaining. I love you all! Ooooh... so many colours...

So the firing of the Cord Editor has received a bunch of coverage around Campus. I'm not there, so I don't really understand why UW's most pressing news story is about the WLU student paper. Whatever the reason (I personally suspect the influence of the dreaded RCW!!), we started to wonder what would the *mathNEWS* production staff's vision of the Cord be if they were in charge. Their answers in some particular order are: Jim Morrison (Fuzzy Bunnies), Kream (more wrestling coverage), Adam Basarab (monkeys ... definately more monkeys), Ian MacKinnon (Less talk, more rock), Ian MacDonald (FOOOOD, free food), Aaron Klotz (Strip the Insulation), Ling Guo (Patterns for folding aeroplanes. Large ones.), Anton (More virtual crack), Li Yen (Cahnge its name to *mathNEWS*), David T (Embezzlement? There's no embezzlement), Pi (Establish a slush fund that rivals MathSoc's and the petzel places), Yolanda (All NKOTB, all

the time), Jason Lau (Establish the base for my media empire), C.D. Thompson-Walsh (Enough cord to hang yourself, and then some. (Oh, you mean the newspaper))), David Nicholson (All copies done in crayon instead of ink), Soo (It'll sort of be like the Survivor, sacking members one by one, weekly. the last one standing get the writing privilege of ALL the articles.), Simon L'Avier (Revenge), Albert O'Connor (Eclectia) Soo Go (like the Survivor, sacking staff one by one, weekly).

A big thanks to the people who supplied the food ... hopefully someone who actually knows who that is will fill in their names here ... hopefully. Also thanks to the wonderfull ladies at Graphic Services who do a great job getting *mathNEWS* printed up. I'd also like to thank the letter B and the number 7 for being my personal inspiration.

Louis Mastorakos (More coverage of pant-related news)

**Yet Another Example of
mathNEWS Supremacy***As if you needed additional proof*

Have you noticed that *Iron Warrior* has resorted to using big black-filled rectangles as filler? Here at *mathNEWS*, I discuss our supremacy and and we use that as filler instead. We are environmentally conscious here. Preserve thy toner.

Klotzy

MathSoc First-Year (at-large) Representative Election

On Monday, October 7th and Tuesday, October 8th (from 9:30 to 4:30 each day) there will be an election for the first-year (at-large) representative positions on MathSoc Council.

The first-year (at-large) representatives are responsible for representing first-year students to MathSoc Council, and keeping them informed about MathSoc events and services. They also attend Council meetings (as voting members), maintain an office hour in the MathSoc office (MC 3038) and work with the other first-year reps to organize activities for frosh.

About the candidates

Hello my fellow mathies! I'm Priya Sara Mathews, one of the four candidates campaigning for the post of First Year Rep. for MathSoc. I'm originally from India, although I grew up in Bahrain (an island next to Saudi Arabia) and went to a British school there. As you can see I'm quite multicultural! While in high school I had been extensively involved in student council and organisation committees. I was often asked to speak on behalf of the school on Public occasions. I have actively participated in Debate sessions and Public speaking. I have also completed the globally recognised 'Toastmasters International Youth Leadership Programme'. If I were to become First Year Rep. I can guarantee you that I would love my job!. I would be able to introduce some diversity (as an international student), communicate efficiently to the Senior members of MathSoc any issues you may want conveyed and keep you totally up to date with math activities and academic happenings. I would really appreciate it if you guys would vote for me...and remember... when you vote for me...you're voting for your needs!

Priya Sara Mathews

Hi, I'm Carol and I'm running for first year representative

VPAS Presents

Something else to read to Friday morning

How are you all doing? I am, of course, busy, but hey you don't want to hear about that. You want to hear about all the cool activities and services we have to offer. Well we have **Whose Line is it Anyway** next Tuesday (more information elsewhere in the issue). We also have a **Faculty versus Student Quiz Bowl** planned for a week after that. In fact we have a whole list of fun stuff coming up this term.

As for services we have a logo contest going on. You could help shape the future image of the Society. I am also working on a fax machine service. In addition trying to make being an office worker better. Sign up for an hour and find out just how much fun you can have.

Do you want to run an event? We can help. We have \$1,000 on hold just for running events. Also we can provide experience in planning, or maybe even some volunteers. If you are interested e-mail vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca and I will send you all the info you need.

If you just don't feel like e-mailing you can swing by the Exec office (Mc 3039, across from 3038, the MathSoc Office) on Tuesday between 11:00am and 12:00pm and I will be there ready to answer question and do whatever I can to help.

Pht VPAS, Albert

The candidates are:

- Sally Chan
- Priya Sara Mathews
- Nishant Miglani
- Carol Tam

The election will take place on the third floor of the MC, outside the comfy lounge. All first-year math students are eligible to vote. Please bring your WatCard to vote.

for MathSoc. I believe that I would be a good representative because I am a responsible and conscientious person. I promise to attend all the meetings and diligently carry out any other duties that I may have as a first year representative. I am also very approachable, and I will try my best to bring forward any of your ideas or concerns, and make sure they are heard. That's about it, so I hope you will vote for me next week. Thanks!

Carol Tam

Hi everybody! My name is Sally and I am running for the math at large rep. I am so excited to be part of this and even more excited if I do get elected. Why? Because I will be able to make it a marvelous and fun year for all of you! And so, if you want someone who can actually represent your ideas, needs and concerns to MathSoc, remember to put down my name on your ballot. I need all the support I can get so vote for me! =)

Sally Chan

Derivatives never went out of fashion. Finally a MathSOC representative in both faculties to stand up to those engineers.

Nishant Miglani, Software Engineering

Krease Crumpled

The return of CS241

Ok, I admit it. I didn't like CS241. That's why I didn't do the assignments. That was almost two years ago, and now I guess it's finally come back to haunt me: I need to use the material (that I was *supposed* to learn) on a work term. Imagine that — the stuff we're learning here is actually useful for something besides passing the courses. For those of you wondering exactly how it's useful: Syntax highlighting in Java is easiest done with a tokenizer created by JLex (We had to use JLex for half the assignments when I took it — I don't think it's changed that much).

I just realized ... I almost wasn't able to take CS241 because I missed my enrollment period that year. (I had to wait for almost a month before I actually got in, which was only because somebody else dropped it.) For those of you who will be around in the winter term, make sure you check Quest for when yours is — appointments just began at the beginning of this month, so you haven't missed out... yet.

AAUUGH! That's enough, let us never speak of CS241 again! How about STAT 231? No, wait, that's even worse.

Krease

Important Dates for October 4–17, 2002 from CECS

October 4

Architecture and Teaching Option: Students participating in the interview process this term please hand in 1 copy of your resume package to the Co-op drop off slot by 8pm.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Interview Skills: Selling your Skills — Proving your skills in the interview. 2:30–4:30pm.

October 7

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Business Etiquette and Professionalism: Covers dining etiquette as well as appropriate behaviour at interviews, employer receptions/sessions, and other networking activities. 2:30–4:30pm.

October 8

Faculty of Education Talks: 10:30am–4:30pm. Multi Purpose Room, SLC.

October 9

Chartered Accounting: Interviews end.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Job/Work Search, Networking & Employer Research: Learn the “how to’s” of job/work searches, networking, and employer research. 10:30–12:00. Sign up at www.careerservices.uwaterloo.ca.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Thinking About Graduate Studies?: Learn the steps to apply to graduate and professional schools. 3:30–4:30pm.

October 10

Chartered Accounting: Student Ranking forms available from Co-op Reception NH 1101 after 10am. Forms due back by 4pm.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Letter Writing: Learn how to use letters to your advantage in the job search. 12:30–1:30pm.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Resume Writing: Discover techniques for writing an effective resume. 1:30–2:30pm.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Part II of Making Polished Presentations: Increase your confidence by learning the basics of informative speech design and delivery. 2:30–4:30 pm. Sign up in Career Services.

October 15

Architecture: Co-op Job Posting available by 12 noon.

Teaching Option: Co-op Job Posting #1 available by 12 noon.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Successfully Negotiating Job Offers: Increase the odds of getting what you want when negotiating salary and other details related to the job offer. Geared towards graduating students. 2:30–4:30pm.

October 16

Architecture: Co-op Job Posting expires at 8pm.

Teaching Option: Co-op Job Posting #1 expires at 8pm.

Chartered Accounting: Match Results posted by 3pm. Meeting for students without employment at 4:30pm.

Professional and Post Degree Day: A variety of educational institutions will be on site to answer questions about their respective professional or post-degree programs. Drop in and chat with representatives. 11am–2pm. Great Hall, SLC.

MBA/Law School Fair: 4–7pm, Paul Martin Centre, Wilfrid Laurier University.

October 17

Architecture: Co-op Job Posting available by 12 noon.

Teaching Option: Co-op Job Posting #2 available by 12 noon.

Chartered Accounting: Acceptance of employment meetings with co-ordinators for students matched with a job. Check the Co-op Bulletin Board in Needles Hall for your scheduled appointment.

CAREER SERVICES WORKSHOP: Career Research Package: Self assessment, occupational research, information interviews, & career decision making. 2:30–4:30pm.

If you want to get more information or sign up for upcoming events, visit www.careerservices.uwaterloo.ca.

UWaterloo
olretaWU

Top 10 Rejected Froshweek Themes With Potential Team Names

- Sexually Suggestive Chocolate Bar Names:** Oh Henry, Big Turk, Skor, Mr. Big, Payday, Baby Ruth, Bounty, Mounds
- Derogatory Terms for Women:** Bitch, Ho, Mother, *mathNEWS* writer, *mathNEWS* bunny, Skank, Sluts, Cum Dumpster
- Other Universities:** Lakehead, Western, UofT, Mount Allison, Dickinson
- Bad Professors:** There are no bad professors in the Faculty of Math
- Religions and Cults:** Scientology, Moonies, *mathNEWS*, International Church of Christ
- Popular STDs:** Clamydea, Gonorrhea, *mathNEWS*, Syphilis
- Speech Impediments:** Lithp, *mathNEWS*, Ststststututter,

Jean Chretien, Tongue too longue

- Things that kill you:** Eating toxic paint, Wolverines, Pianos, *mathNEWS*, Theme #6, Guns, People with guns, Irresponsible use of microwaves, Curiosity, a Cat and an Uzi
- Beers:** Duff, Fudd, Duff Light, non alcoholic Duff, Red Tick Ale, Fin du Monde
- Peer Pressure Phrases:** Com'on, You know you want to, If you love me you would, You won't get pregnant — I will pull out, All the cool kids are doing it, Doitdoitdoitdoitdoitdoit, Eat the cheese, Video No Input, *mathNEWS*

First Undergraduate Committee of Kaos
Preventative Advice Concerning Orientation

COUNSELLOR'S TIP OF THE WEEK

A Healthy Lifestyle

The pressures of school can easily cause students to lose the balance between taking care of themselves and the need to put their best efforts into succeeding academically.

School, part-time jobs, family and relationships all make demands on us which can cause stress and stress-related illnesses. But there are ways to maintain our health and keep an equilibrium between demands on our time and energy. Scheduling in time for self-care may mean reserving several hours a week for a fitness activity we enjoy. We need friends we can talk to about personal matters and daily life, and people to just "hang out" with and do something purely for fun. We need to feel comfortable being alone, with time for relaxation and quiet reflection.

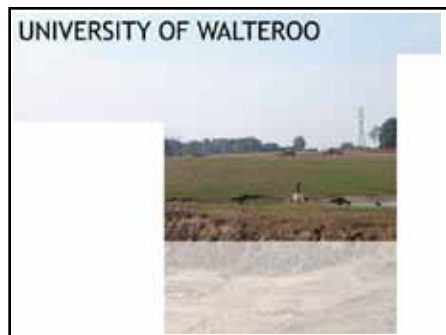
Getting eight hours of sleep nightly, eating at least one hot, balanced meal daily, maintaining appropriate body weight and monitoring our use of alcohol, caffeine and tobacco are choices that will help us live longer and prevent illness.

Rejected New Watcards

In August, a new style of Watcard was introduced, with six full-colour backgrounds that indicated the owner's status as an undergraduate, grad, staff, alumni, guest, or the other one. These images were selected after long discussion on how to divide up card-types and which pictures should be used. One original suggestion had faculty or residence specific cards, but those would have had a higher production cost. Another recommended there be two cards (UW and !UW) and they be distributed throughout the city, but again, the cost was too high.

Now, as a response to the interest about the new cards, we present some of the Watcards that didn't make the final cut:

North Campus Technology Park: This card would go to all



employees of companies populating the park being built now. Problems with the card are the image (a view of the completed buildings would be preferable to CATs) and the fact that you could supplement it with a Sybase ID card since they're the only company moving in.

Office Under Construction: This card for all homeless UW staff and grad students was seen as a joke even from the administration side. The incomplete Centre for Environmental and Information Technologies (or Buzzword Building as it is more commonly known) made an excellent picture, but the incomplete CECS (sex) Building or West E would have been equally good.



A Toilet: The on-campus plumbers held a referendum after a lengthy

debate on whether to use this card on the staff card with its picture of Dana Porter Library. Porter: 2943 votes; Toilet: 2618 votes.

Living a healthy lifestyle will also help now, by boosting concentration, memory and stamina. Having a balanced, healthy lifestyle helps us feel more relaxed, in control of the present and our future direction.

Find out more about how Counselling Services can help you succeed in University. The Math Faculty's counsellor in residence, Karen Rittinger, also provides information on student success issues on the bulletin board outside MC 5198 (near the MUO). To book an appointment with Karen, contact Counselling Services at 888-4567, extension 2655, or drop by at Needles Hall, Room 2080. Also, check our website at www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs/

Karen Rittinger

Counsellor, Counselling Services, University of Waterloo

Telephone: (519) 888-4567 ext. 2653

Fax: (519) 746-2401

Email: krittinger@admmail.uwaterloo.ca

Have an Academic issue?

Do you have a problem with a prof or TA that you're hesitant to bring up?

Then you can come and talk to me and I can bring your concerns anonymously to the correct parties.

Have a question about your academic rights?

I can probably answer your question. And if I can't then it won't take me long to find out.

Concerns about the curriculum?

I'm one of the undergraduate reps on UAC, the Undergraduate Affairs Committee, which deals with all the curriculum changes within the Math faculty and can bring your concerns to the right people.

I hold official office hours in MC3039 from 2:30 to 3:30 on Mondays, but I'm actually around quite a bit more than that.

Additionally, I can always be reached at vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

Colin Davidson

Vice-President, Academic MathSoc

debate on whether to use this card on the staff card with its picture of Dana Porter Library. Porter: 2943 votes; Toilet: 2618 votes.

Duck: After three weeks of discussion, it was decided that if the ducks



were given their own Watcards, then the same must be done for the geese, the testing rabbits in biology, the rats under North



Quad in Village One, the squirrels, and Pure Math majors. It worked for the best, however, since Milly the Duck was eaten three weeks ago and people would have been sad when they saw her on the cards.

Movie Review: Ballistic: Ecks Vs. Sever

Yeah, so this movie's crap, and I know you're all thinking "Hey man, you got into UW Math, you should be smart enough to figure that out without actually having to drop 8 bucks at Galaxy." Well, I actually did know it was going to suck before I saw it. I mean, how could you not after seeing the trailer and reading all the crap reviews it got. But alas, sometimes boredom, avoidance of homework and a lack of superior alternatives does weird things to the mind.

Enough with my feeble attempts to not be shunned by my peers, and on to the movie itself. Why is this movie crap? Quite simply, it just tries much too hard. Every scene tries to be so cool, it's painful to watch. It's like the nerdy kid who comes to school one day with baggy pants, an earring through his eyebrow, a shirt with "porn star" written on it and a skateboard under his arm, but still drops all his notes on the ground and falls down the stairs on a regular basis. All the ingredients are there, but the brew just ain't comin' together. The director, Wych Kaosayananda (or Kaos as he likes to be called), does an admirable job of stealing ideas from good action movies such as *The Matrix*, *Mission: Impossible 2* and *Hard-Boiled*, but lacks any real style of his own. Just blowing stuff up and shooting lots of guns only keeps a movie interesting for about 5 minutes.

The story is pure filler, something about nano-machine assassins, stealing wives, killing babies, and other tear-jerking acts of meanness (yeah, it's a word, apparently)[I prefer "meanity" — *AbsentEd*]. And the one place where this movie might have really worked would be the characters, them being featured prominently in the title and such, but who'd have guessed: it fails again. I used to sit through *Commando* again and again just because Arnie was friggin' awesome, man. That guy doesn't even need passable writing to be a character, but Lucy Liu (Agent

Sever) and Antonio Banderas (Agent Ecks) just don't cut it. They're not all that interesting to start with, and then when they start gushing about their sad stories it makes you actually care *less* about them, which I don't think was the writers' intention. The one character that I was actually slightly intrigued by was Ross, the cliched evil boss' cliched right-hand man. I paid no real mind to him until I realized that hey, that's Ray Park aka Darth Maul. Coolness.

Also, the movie doesn't succeed at all on the gritty-realism factor. First off, in the world of *Ballistic*, everyone's timing is exceptional. Just as soon as someone accomplishes some task, someone else comes along to get in the way; and this happens again and again throughout the course of the movie. Second, in the world of *Ballistic*, the timing of explosives is not exceptional in the slightest. They always seem to go off too early or too late, just blasting people out of the way, even the faceless cannon-fodder Special Forces guys. And third, the Special Forces in the movie aren't all that special — they all seem to have skipped the seminars on teamwork, hiding behind stuff when being shot at, and aiming straight. I could go on, but I'll just say that *Saving Private Ryan* this is not.

To sum up, this movie leaves you feeling all empty inside. I left the theatre wondering where the last 91 minutes of my life just went. Shit man, I coulda been using that time to help cure cancer or something. Next time I'm thinking about self-mutilation like that, just give me a smack, ok? The last thing I'll say is that I almost went to see the new Tom Green flick *Stealing Harvard* instead of this and I now think that I made the wrong choice. If that's not an insult, I don't know what is.

AdBaZ

Love Is A Terrible Emotion

At MATH 145 Tutorial, a Math/Business and a Math/Accounting student, both frustrated over a hard proof...

Bus: Do we really need to know how to prove things?

Acc: No, we don't; we just use them in the real world. Nobody's gonna care about the proofs anyway!

Acc+Bus: Then why are we here?

... .. (Silence)

Bus: This stuff is useless. I give up! I'd rather read this (holding up a book named *How to Invest In Canadian Securities*).

Nothing about math any more for Acc and Bus

No more math

No math

No math

...

...

...

End of tutorial

Bus: I really want to figure out that proof.

Acc: Did you say you gave up?

Bus: You know what, I think I just love math so much that I ended up here.

Acc: [Sigh] It's very scary to love something 'cause you can never get rid of it even if you want to. And the problem is you never want to.

'Tis the Season

... for Midterms

Quite a number of you are probably starting to feel a little stressed right about now. Relief is right around the corner. As long as you're in first year and stressed about your algebra and calculus exams. Everyone else: Take a deep breath and relax. You've done this before. You can do it again.

This Sunday, October 6th, MathSoc and the tutorial center will be holding a study session for MATH 135. Starting at 2PM we'll be taking up questions that have appeared on past midterms. And then at 5 we'll go over last year's midterm in it's entirety. It's a great way to make sure you're ready before that exam on Monday night. Before I forget, the sessions will be held in MC 2065 and will spill over into MC 2066 if enough people show up.

And then we're going to do it all over again. On Sunday, October 20th we'll be running a MATH 137 session. This one will run from 4 until 9 with the last two hours being spent on last year's midterm.

Pizza will be sold at dinner time, before we start looking at the midterm.

If you have any questions you particularly want answered please email them to vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca in advance of the sessions.

Colin Davidson
Vice-President, Academic MathSoc

What's happening in the Math Faculty and beyond?

Although things have calmed down since the August announcement of UW's partnership with Microsoft, there's still lots going on related to that. Outside of the Math Faculty, the E&CE department has decided to take up to a year and run the C# curriculum change through all the appropriate committees. At this point in time, then, UW has not committed to adopting C# in any course.

Inside the math faculty, the School of Computer Science has formed a committee to look at whether to integrate C# into the curriculum of any CS courses. The CS C# committee has posted terms of reference and invited feedback. More information is available on their website: www.cs.uwaterloo.ca/admin/curric/csharp.

MathSoc is composing a response on behalf of math students; if you have any ideas or feedback, email vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca. We want to ensure that any curriculum change takes into account the availability of cross-platform development tools, market demand for the related skill, and available support material.

MathSoc is also working to improve student representation. By having more and better representation on committees, students are able to have more input into how curriculum and plans are developed. We now have student reps on all of the committees in the School of Computer Science and will be looking at other departments through the term. We are also working to have more representation on a new committee, called Representative Council.

We've also been working at improving the operation of MathSoc. We held a term kickoff event to start of the term right, a Council retreat to ensure your representatives can be effective, and have directors and volunteers that are new to MathSoc. Next week will be elections for first-year at-large class reps, and later in the term will be elections for Winter/Fall 2003 executive and other positions. Our Internal Director, Liam McHugh-Russell is taking on the gargantuan task of revising our bylaws and policies.

Also of interest: Feds has \$500 000 that it needs to endow to spend on students. If you have ideas on how to spend it, contact Feds VP Admin and Finance, Chris DiLullo.

In the near future, MathSoc is running academic study sessions for first year students (see VP Academic Colin Davidson's article), Improv, Quiz Bowl, and Movie nights (see VP Activities and Services Albert O'Connor's article). Later in the term, we'll be publishing here in *mathNEWS* a breakdown of how your MathSoc fee is spent.

And now, some prizes for the brave souls who made it this far in my article. To win a pass for one free game of laser tag at Laser Quest, answer one of the following questions: 1) Who are the members of CS' committee looking at C#? 2) Who are the undergraduates that represent you at Senate? (MathSoc regulars may be disqualified.) Email to prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

Douglas Stebila
MathSoc President

I Mack @ UW

Changes from 1B to 2A

Ok, so I'm no longer writing 'The Column That Must Not Be Named', and I had to think of a new title. Hopefully this one will stick, as it doesn't have the inherent expiration date of the word 'frosh' in the title. Ok, now that we're back from our first co-op, I've noticed a few changes to general life from 1B:

No Mid-Afternoon Naps: The biggest change is that 2A's have to live off-campus, so that means a longer walk to class, which means if you have an hour off, you aren't able to run back to REV, catch 20 winks and get back to the MC in time for Algebra. Of course, you could always get your nap in at the comfy, but then you would have to start playing board games, stop showering and stop contact with the opposite sex. Staying in the comfy too long is more of a lifestyle decision than anything else.

You transferred to ENG: Ok, maybe you didn't actually transfer to Engineering, but doesn't it seem like it? I mean, nearly all the second year MATH classes are in the building formerly known as the Engineering Lecture Hall. The best part is that MC classrooms are now filled with ECON and Science classes. The room bookings for faculties are becoming one really big game of chess that the deans are playing with the campus as a board. 'Your SCI class in my CS classroom' — 'Sorry, you can't move classrooms diagonally'.

Attendant at Louie's and REV: It is just me, or have half of all the local bars starting using attendants in their washrooms? It's classy and all, but I do feel sorry for the guy who hands out paper towels at a club that brags about how it is a 'pick-up' joint.

You Want To Get 'More Involved': So you were on the student council in high school, played on the basketball team, and for first year your only thing you did that was extra-curricular involved a roommate, a duck and a bottle of 'Smirnoff' — what do you do? You plan to get more involved in second year! The easiest way to make the feeling of wanting to do more is to *plan* to do more, but not actually do it. That way you get the benefit of not having to commit to anything, and you get to tell people about your exploits on campus. 'Well, this term I'm about to join Midnight Sun team, become treasurer of the Buffy Watchers club, and I think I might just think about volunteering for a MathSoc office hour so it'll look good on my resume.'

Your Major: Arts students changes majors with seasons, Engineers are stuck with them for life, and Mathies get to change once. One of the biggest changes from 1B to 2A is probably the words that will eventually be on your degree, sure it's not a big deal if 'Honours Computer Science' is changed to 'Honours Math and Business Administration', but you should worry if ever turns out to be 'General Fashion Design'.

Co-op outside of T.O.: So you noticed that limiting your co-op job searching to Toronto for your first term during the summer may not have been such a hot idea once you left campus without a job. Of course, the only real change is that all your searches are now for Waterloo so you don't have to bother sub-letting your house to someone off-stream from you.

Ian W. MacKinnon

Gjokaj is the 84,566th most popular surname in the United States

life without a bathtub...

You would think that things like a bathtub would not be essential in residence life. Who really needs a huge hollow half marble box taking up half the bathroom anyway? It takes more energy to wash it, and baths just take too long if you enjoy getting as much sleep as the next mathie. Of course, these are perfectly sound reasons to not include bathtubs in res at UW. Plus, all the scandal if we were allowed communal bathtubs! But I digress, for I now cannot have a bubble bath on a regular basis. Actually, the only people that have bathtubs that live on campus are the wonderful people at MKV. (Can someone please double check this fact for me. I dunno about UW Place or the colleges) [*At UW Place, you're lucky if you get a shower! — AbsentEd*].

Of course, before I continue this article, I know some of you think I'm about $< 1 \pmod{5}$ years old. Have you had a bubble bath lately, huh?! If not, I seriously suggest going down to the local drug store (not on campus for they don't sell bubble bath mix) and fill up a tub (if you have one) and enjoy splashing around for an hour or so. If Bert and Ernie can take bubble baths together, so can you and your roommate, damnit.

Now, this doesn't solve my dilemma. I still need a bathtub for my bubble baths. I cannot think straight if I don't get one on a semi-regular basis. Yes, I could venture back home for one, but it feels so planned. Bubble baths are supposed to be sporadic and enjoyed whenever I feel like one. They're supposed to be fun, and fun isn't supposed to be planned.

I demand a revolution. I demand bathtubs around campus for the purpose of bubble baths. I would suggest hot tubs, but you can't get good bubbles from those. Sure, it'll be more popular, but without good bubbles, it's just all crap in the end, just like life at res is without spontaneous bubble baths!

ellie.

No. I have not lost my mind due to math 135...yet

Warrior Weekend

This weekend, yes today, there is this cool event going on all around campus. Tonight from around 7:00 to 11:00 there will be stuff going on everywhere. You will get to see sides of campus you have never seen before. There are club demonstrations, art displays, readings, music demonstrations, and much much more! Find out more in the SLC tonight.

Monkey

Hired Goons

Hired Goons?

Attention all Waterloo students. Do you want to travel the world, see beautiful cities, and rough people up a bit? Well then, this position is for you! ProblemBeGone.com is looking for students at all levels to fill a wide range of jobs from petty street thug to professional assassins. Tasks will include muggings, beatings, and instituting regime changes in certain countries. They're looking for motivated, task-oriented employees who are willing to go the extra mile to get the job done. Flex hours. No overtime. Casual dress (certain occasions may require formal wear and tango lessons). Please bring references and a sack of doorknobs to interview.

ACCESS

Waterloo: The Last Frontier

So you're an undergrad Math student, just arrived at the University of Waterloo. In other words, frosh.

So you're just starting to find that Algebra is nothing like what you did before in high school.

So you've just realized that some residences are a little too far to live in, when you've forgotten to bring your assignment 10 minutes before the drop box deadline.

So you've just discovered that candy and cola are your new best friends the night before your assignment is due at 8 a.m.

So you've just gotten to know that although your meal plan is worth over a grand, and you're getting a 50% discount on all food services on campus (yay! what a great deal!), you pay \$500 in service fees. (What kind of discount is that?)

So your roommate's taste in music (something you once classified as...*different*) is now the bane of your existence.

Well it could be worse. In addition to being frosh you could :

- **look** (I emphasize the word **look**) like you need a translator to be able to even ask directions to get to the Math Undergrad Office (or SLiCe [*NOOOOO!! Ryan Chen-Wing strikes again! It's the SLC, not the SLiCe!! Stop the madness!!! — AbsentEd*] or Needless Hell or the washroom or...)
- be from a country that requires only one kind of wardrobe — summer wear.
- be a frosh in Canada, if Canada was a university.
- have come to Canada alone.
- have no previous relations nor friends in Waterloo, Ontario, heck, Canada.
- get advanced standing, meaning your classmates in every course are different.
- be in a course dominated by a member of the opposite sex (no, it's not always a good thing...ever realize you're pretty much sitting alone during class?)
- be living off-campus.
- be living with a bunch of people you have nothing in common with — not even faculty.
- be any combination of the above, plus one or more of the above said common frosh rants.

In conclusion, be nice. You might actually make someone's day. It sure would make mine.

Note: The above article is a composite of real-life cases, and was in part influenced by my bad week...

The kid in the corridor

Whose Line is it Anyway?

Cluck

Let's start with the important stuff:

- **Time:** 7:30pm to 9:00pm
- **Date:** Next Tuesday, Oct 8th
- **Location:** Comfy — We are taking it over

So what is going on? Fun. If you like to perform in improv or just want to try it (absolutely no experience is ever required) e-mail vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca and you will get your chance. If you just want free entertainment on a Tuesday evening come out and be in the audience. We will be playing games from Whose Line is it Anyway? As well as other fun improv games.

Social Monkey

A Day In The Office

Attack of the Ninja Squirrels

We have laserjets at work. If you do not work in an office, then perhaps you think that is a superfast propulsion device that allows pilots to break the speed of sound! Actually it is a printer. At work I always get some flash lights and pretend like I am signalling a LASER JET down the runway when I print something out. It whirs up, the fan comes on, wheels turn, and lights flash. I am ready for the LASER JET to scream from the sky out of nowhere and land in the office, but instead it prints out some crap I typed up. What a disappointment!!

Since it was so nice out today (warm, not just nice, but warm!), I hid behind some bushes with a drawstring bag and a box trap I made to catch some squirrels. I think the squirrels were probably positively warm under all that fur they had on!

I had a small glass of lemonade and a little platter of peanuts under the box, so I trapped a lot of squirrels. I think around fourteen. They were all in the drawstring bag. I expected them to fight, but they just kind of chattered in there and twitched around. They were probably still too hot to fight. I took them out one by one and taped thumbtacks to each of their feet. I figured that maybe they would fight. I also figured that if they got out the tacks would help them climb up trees, like ninja claws. Yet they didn't fight!

I went inside to go to the bathroom, and it was so cool inside I figured the squirrels would appreciate it. I took them inside with me, in the bag. I didn't think the boss would let me keep squirrels inside so I had to hide them. I fit all of them except two into the top drawer of a file cabinet. I put one of the other two into an empty 3.5" disk box (he was small! Do you think I would really stuff a big squirrel into one of those tiny boxes?!). The other one was too big to go in one, so I took the toner cartridge out of one of our LASER JETS, put him in, and closed the little front door where you put in the cartridge. I figured he would be okay in there since I wasn't planning on doing any work today.

Well, I went to pee and when I came back, the boss was printing something out on my printer! Wouldn't you know it! So the printer was not working and it said something about a paper jam. The boss was smacking it on the side and opening the paper tray. I mean, haha moron, the laser jet is not like your kids,

it's not going to listen if you hit it harder! I told him maybe it is out of toner and when he went to open the top door, I said, "NO, HOLD ON! I WILL!"

Then the squirrel jumped out and was PISSED OFF. He jumped on the boss' chest and was all chattering. Its tail was waving, and he stuck to the boss with his thumbtack paws!!! Then he climbed up the boss' front, jumped off, and climbed up a cubicle wall. I knew the tacks would do the trick! He is a climbing machine now!

Anyway, the boss started yelling, and I don't know what the deal was except that his upper body was covered in tiny bloody holes and the printer still didn't work. I opened the door and let the squirrel out. He had problems running across the sidewalk, but when he hit grass he had the traction that good cleats can give. He was off like a shot! It was so good that when he tried to dodge a leaf in the grass, he twisted his knee like a football player! I felt bad because I don't know if squirrels have a disabled list, so he might get forced into a minor league.

Ok ok, so then the boss ran off to go pour alcohol in his tack holes, so I thought this would be a good time to get the rest of the squirrels out of there. I opened up the file drawer, and I think the cold must have rejuvenated them because they all jumped out and started climbing up cubicles. They ran across the asbestos drop ceiling tiles. The squirrels were everywhere, and the only thing I could do was grab a phone, get on the intercom, and tell everyone, "ATTENTION, ATTENTION, THERE IS A PACK OF NINJA SQUIRRELS IN THE BUILDING. THIS IS NOT A DRILL! PLEASE REMAIN CALM AND DO NOT FEED THE NINJA SQUIRRELS. REPEAT, THIS IS NOT A DRILL!" Then I ran back to my desk and put the toner cartridge back in the printer. The boss' stupid spreadsheet printed out. Haha, the asshole doesn't even know how to merge cells. I opened up the file on my computer and was about to fix it, but it was just going to be a pain, so I deleted it. I mean how much intelligence does it take to MERGE CELLS!!!

Porn Star

Comfy Committee

Do you never go into the comfy? Do you spend every day in the comfy? Have ideas how to make the lounge better? What to shape the future of the lounge? Then join the comfy committee. E-mail vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca with reasons why you are interested in joining the committee.

The committee will be asking you for input during October.

VPAS Monkey

UWO Retraction

It has come to my attention that a certain person whose name looks a lot like mine, except for the 'Kinnon' being replaced with 'Donald' took great offense to an article I wrote last issue on the topic of UWO. I was told that UWO is not such a bad school and *mathNEWS* should not be used to make fun of other schools. I'd like to issue my statement on this issue. "Hem, Hem, #\$\$@! you and the horse you rode in on, thank you."

Ian W. MacKinnon

Scunt of The Rings

Thank You Scunters

Another EngScunt has come and gone. You came out. You were eager. You were excited. You made new friends. You participated. You left with stories. You left with memories. You had fun. You made it all worthwhile. You are the reason for success. You are a scunter, and for this I thank you.

I would like to personally thank each and every one of you who came out to scunt this past week. I'd like to thank you for the memories you have given me, for the job well done, and for the positive way in which you represented Math. Scunt is more than just a bunch of people having a great time; it's also about getting to know people in new ways.

To the Scunt Gods, I would like to extend a thank you for running an amazing event. You did a remarkable job and made the experience enjoyable.

Lino Demasi — Math Scunt Team Captain

profQUOTES

- “Ignore your other courses! Fail everything else!”
Bell, CS 488
- “We actually have some grad students graduating ... sort of a rare occurrence ...”
Bell, CS 488
- “We now have two people who got that answer, so by the principle of mathematical democracy it is the right answer.” [They were wrong]
Best, C&O 227
- “Are you allowed to know about real life?”
Best, C&O 227
- “I haven’t lost all my marbles completely yet, I still have one left.”
Brandon PHYS 121
- “Death, taxes, goto: you can’t get through life as a computer scientist without them.”
Buhr, CS 342
- “Just hit him in the side of the had with a wet fish and say there’s nothing to stop me from doing it.”
Buhr, CS 342
- “A good way to code is to start with other peoples’ code.”
Davis, CS 246
- “We would destroy the child, and only then destroy the teddy bear.”
Davis, CS 246
- “Aibo (The Sony Robot Dog) doesn’t make shit heaps.”
Ann Forest, Pascal Artificial Intelligence Lecture
- “Do it with me, you’re my Mini-Me.”
Hayes, HIST 106
- “God, I hate that film... Doctor Evil, shit, I’m almost as bald!”
Hayes, HIST 106
- “I was walking down the street and some kid asked me if I was Osama Bin Laden!”
Hewitt, AMATH 250
- “Satisfiability. Sounds like a sex manual, but it’s not.”
Hoffman, PMATH 330
- “I sound like I’m yearning for your attention. I probably am.”
Houston, DRAMA 102
- “I included a quote from Bill Gates, even though he’s Satan.”
Houston, DRAMA 102
- “And that’s all you need to know — stuff.”
Kenning, ECE 223
- “I actually didn’t get into engineering, but now I’m thankful for that.”
MacDonald, CS 454
- “We’re using the same algorithm from grade 3, so I hope you all found your notes.”
McCool, CS 251
- “The bureaucrat doesn’t care how you got -a, as long as -a is on her desk by Monday morning.”
McKinnon, PMATH 334
- “That’s the only way you can make money in CS, by suing.”
Phillips, CS 241
- “This is nice. This is the kinda stuff that makes me wet my pants.”
Pretti, CS 133
- “What we have here is proof by complicated picture.”
Ragde, CS 341
- “This is when I walk into Eugene’s office and say: This textbook must be destroyed!”
Ragde, CS 341
- “... Thus turning a 5K program into a 50 meg file. Never ever do this, use makefile. Wilfred Laurier is an exception to this rule.”
Davis, CS 246
- “I seem to spend half the class ranting. I should take up Yoga or something.”
Ragde, CS 341
- “When you get out of bed, girls, and put on your face, make sure you have this formula on your mirror.”
Reynolds, ACTSC 221
- “There are other interesting things that happen here, but as it happens we’re not interested in them.”
Richter, C&O 103
- “Taranto should not be confused with Toronto, despite the number of bastards living there.”
Robertson, CLAS 201
- “If your neighbor slept with your wife, or stole your goat, or slept with your goat.”
Robertson, CLAS 201
- “The term ‘heap’ is overloaded. Moreover, the term ‘overloaded’ is overloaded. Moreover, the term ‘term’ is overloaded...but we won’t get into that.”
Vasiga, CS 240
- “... Or something important comes up, say Bill Gates calls me up and offers me a million dollars if I rename the course ‘parsing C#.’”
Shallit, CS 462
- Student: “Is that an H?”
Prof: “Yep ... [Looks at the board] I think so.”
[Later it was revealed to be “1+”]
Simpson, CS 370

“We’re going to go over this painfully step by step. Hopefully it won’t be too painful.”

Simpson, CS 370

Vasiga, CS 240

“Don’t worry. I’m going to criticize other professions too. I’m an equal-opportunity criticizer.”

Smith, ECON 101

Vasiga, CS 240

“We’re not going to waste time with this [proof]. Let’s get on with what we have to learn today. Well... what you have to learn. I already know this stuff.”

Teske MATH 137

Vasiga, CS 240

“Back to abstract and more useless things ... no I’m just kidding. This is not completely useless, just mostly.”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

Vasiga, CS 240

“... Because negative numbers make you feel gloomy, and positive numbers make you feel happy.”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

Vasiga, CS 240

“Have you ever seen a duck jump?”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

Vaughan, ECON 102

“That’s the maelian of the set: the chocolate doughnut.”

Ragde, CS 341

“I think J.P. is my sibling in that [tree] structure, which kind of scares the shit out of me.”

[Pulls out a Pez dispenser] “J.P. got this from Walmart. It might not work because it’s J.P.’s.”

“Why do we care about graphs? Here’s a pragmatic reason: Assignment 2.”

“I have very little thunder in this course. Don’t steal it.”

[After flicking a bug of an overhead] “I don’t want to hear from any animal rights activists.”

“Don’t believe everything in the newspaper, most of it is crap.”

“This looks unfamiliar to you, but that’s only because it’s unfamiliar.”

“And now the brain shuts down and the algebra takes over.”

“Or a virtual variable. Virtual is a very cool word.”

“This is kind of embarrassing, doing arithmetic in public.”

“Can someone manipulate my member?”

[draws a square on the board, for end of proof] “This is the mathematical equivalent of a dance in the end zone.”

Remember to submit your *prof*QUOTES to *math*NEWS either by emailing them to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca or by dropping them off in the BLACK BOX on the third floor of the MC.

“How did they think of this? This is really perverse!”

Ragde, CS 341

Wagner, MATH 239

“In real life, none of the things we are learning here are going to apply in real life.”

Safayeni, CS 430

Wagner, MATH 239

[Pointing to the 1st, 2nd exponents of a formula to calculate stock dividends] “Here’s your oneth, and your twoth.”

Russell, ACC 131

Wagner, MATH 239

“There are more kinds of trees than fishies in the seas.”

Vasiga, CS 240

Young, E&CE 250

“I’m assuming that since you’re all in Computer Science that you were the small kids at the back of the line, while the big jock kids got to the front ... ‘I get my snack’ or ‘I get to play in the sandbox first’ ... they’re engineers now.”

Vasiga, CS 240

Younger, MATH 135

[Talking about school fees] “Your money goes through all the administration processes ... then i get paid in pesos.”

Vasiga, CS 240

“I call a friend of mine ... A good friend of mine is myself.”

Vasiga, CS 240

[Pulls out a Pez dispenser, discovers a wrapped Pez refill inside] “Stacks don’t normally concatenate all their elements together.”

Vasiga, CS 240

[Demonstrating Pez Dispenser] “Pop...” [Candy breaks] “That’s a malfunction. Memory leak there.”

clarkQUOTES

“Not everything is finite and provable.”

Joe Clark, St Jeromes

“I can enumerate, but I won’t tonight.”

Joe Clark, St Jeromes

Jumbo Shrimp

Is an oxymoron

Squirrel-Spies: Spying Silently from Shadows?

Have you noticed all the squirrels in and around campus? Of course you have. So then you've probably also wondered why there are so many, just what they're doing, and what their ultimate goal could possibly be. Well, I'm tired of being left in the dark when it comes to this whole squirrel issue, so I've done some hard thinking and I've come up with a few conclusions and hypotheses.

Firstly, and chiefly, I've concluded that these squirrels must be acting towards illicit ends. Why else would they run and hide when you approach them? Just what do they have to hide? But wouldn't these furry animals prefer to be roaming free in a forest somewhere, without having to scamper between bunches of hurried students and faculty, without having to live with the constant fear of being consumed by cash-strapped students, etc? This behaviour is not well suited for the existence and expansion of the race of squirrels and is therefore not natural squirrel behaviour. Which leads me to my second conclusion.

You may want to take a seat for this one, because I guarantee* that it will shock you. Here goes: the squirrels are being controlled by people. I'll give you all a moment to catch your breath and come to terms with what you've just heard... ok, now who would do that to cute, innocent squirrels, you ask? The only answer I can give is that I truly do not know who might be doing this or for what purpose. But I do have my theories.

The first possibility, as I see it, is that this whole operation is being run by mad-scientist-like biology students or faculty, who have performed some kind of biological witch doctor-ism on these poor creatures. These mad-biologists could be using the squirrels to eavesdrop on the conversations of students from other programs — or possibly just Mathies in particular — and report back what they heard, with the ultimate goal being that

then these mad-biologists might finally be exposed to some interesting ideas and concepts. Again, just a theory.

Another possibility is that a group of hot female psychology students may have brainwashed the squirrels. These vixens could, again, be using them to eavesdrop on conversations and gather information about male students from other programs — or possibly just male Mathies — so that they will be better prepared to approach them and start conversations.

Those are just a few possibilities, but the truth cannot be fully exposed until more evidence is gathered, which is why I will be forming up a posse with the intent of capturing a few of these wayward squirrels. Further to this, the posse will then proceed to capture some biology students and/or faculty, who will then perform some kind of reverse biological witch doctor-ism on the squirrels, whether they want to or not, in an attempt to find out just what is going on. We will attempt to be as gentle as possible to the squirrels so as not to further emotionally, physically or spiritually scar these furry kings-among-rodents.

Any interested parties should report to MC 3074 at 8:00 pm on October 13th. Please bring your own theories as well as squirrel and biology student capturing equipment, such as nets, fishing poles and peanuts.

By the way, if you have (like me) also recently become suspicious of all the geese hanging around the colleges, we will be having an open discussion about that issue at the aforementioned meeting. Hope to see you there.

AdBaZ

President/Vice President/Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer of FICSMIP (the organization for the Free Inquiry into Covert Squirrel Manipulation for Illicit Purposes)

*guarantee not actually guaranteed

She sells sea shells by the C shore



A Spreading Epidemic

or What's under my Desk?

Recently two San Francisco-area men went to court to determine who has rightful ownership of a baseball that was hit out of the park when Barry Bonds hit his 73rd home run last year. One man claims that he caught the ball after which a struggle took place, at which point the second man in the case claimed the ball (and had a press conference afterwards). The ball might be worth a lot, but both men probably will have lighter pockets after this case is over. Why? One of the greatest abominations ever — lawyers. After lawyer fees, who knows how much will be left over for either man.

This is just one example of how the memorabilia business has gone nuts. Of course, many of us have bad memories of trading away a good (insert your favourite sport/cartoon) card for a bunch of junk cards. A piece of used chewing gum can now be sold for hundreds of dollars. Of course, it depends on who chewed it (I doubt any of you are willing to pay anything for a piece of gum that I chewed. Besides, I don't chew gum).

Many athletes used to spend hours signing autographs for fans and those people actually treasure them. These days, the first thing on many fans minds after receiving an autograph is "Hmm, how much will this be worth?". Of course, there aren't many of us whose signature is worth more than the paper it is written on.

Ordinary people aren't the only ones who have caught this bug, either. Even gazillion-dollar athletes can fall prey to this epidemic. Earlier this year, a baseball player stole a teammate's glove to sell it over the internet. He was caught and was bought out for \$25000. He would have made \$1 million had he made the team. Man, even Homer Simpson isn't that stupid.

This makes me realize that I should start checking under my desk/bed to see if there is anything collectable there (not that I'm much of a collector). After turning over a few tables, I found the following:

- A copy of the 1999 Frosh Edition of Imprint (why do I still have it?)
- A dead mouse (NOT that kind of mouse)
- A sheet of paper signed by Mark McDermot
- A scrap paper with the writing of Scott C. Reamer and spilled water on it
- A game-worn shirt actually worn in a neighbourly game of frisbee
- A partially solved *gridWORD*
- A stack of cartoons drawn by an unknown artist
- Recordings of a no-talent musician

I'm sure there is more hidden stuff there. I just didn't dare to venture further. If someone actually considers any of the above to be worth more than \$10, then we need to call the CDC (the U.S. Centre for Disease Control) fast, because we could have a full-blown epidemic.

Jason "the Screamer" Lau

First FEDS Town Hall Meeting

Tuesday October 8th, 4:30 - 6:30

We'd tell ya where but we don't know, probably the SLC

Field Trip!

Well, technically it's a Fields Trip. MathSoc and the PMC will be running a bus trip to the Fields Institute in Toronto to attend its Graduate School Information Day this November 2nd. That's a Saturday so it's a great time to find out about the opportunities for graduate work.

But if you aren't graduating don't let that discourage you. The day's talks are designed for undergraduates and should be entertaining and enlightening.

The event runs from 12:30 until 4:00 so the bus will leave sometime before 11 and get back around 6. Look for posters in the stairwells and around the PMC for more information. A signup list will be appearing shortly.

For more information about the talks and the day in general see: http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/02-03/grad_school_day/

Hope to see you there.

Colin Davidson

Vice-President, Academic MathSoc

MathSoc Event Fund

We want you to run events

What kind of events? Events by Mathies, for Mathies (and others), with the help of MathSoc. We have \$1,000 put aside just to help Mathies run events. We can also help with advertising, working with other groups on campus, etc.. If you are interested in running an event contact vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

VPAS Monkey

Five things I regret leaving in my Decomposing Food Pile

1. Toothbrush (The One that I Use)
2. My Gramma's silverware (The set she uses)
3. My Video of Someone chugging 4l of milk then puking (such a good video)
4. My petition form for the Standings and Promotion Committee (I look competent submitting a form covered with decomposed food)
5. My dignity (I miss it so much)

Dave Nicholson

Note: I have actually left all of these in my Decomposing Food Pile.

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Monkey savants: Louis Mastorakos, Albert O'Connor, Bradley T Smith, and Chris Harasemchuk

The Grubby College-girl's Guide to Midterms

"I have a midterm on Wednesday."

"That's bad."

"It's mystical guess!"

"That's good!"

"I haven't studied for it."

"That's bad."

"I'm writing for *mathNEWS* instead!"

... Here the trusty "It comes with a free yogurt!" formula broke down [*No it didn't! Writing for mathNEWS is good! — AbsentEd*], and this conversation with my imaginary roommate — I told the parental units to expect *A Beautiful Mind* parallels if I went into Math, but did they listen? No Socrates, they did not. Humph. *crosses arms and sulks* — ended, because while the benefit of this article to *mathNEWS* is debatable, midterms are definitely bad for my health. Not to mention that I would strongly object to having Homer Simpson as my roommate, even if an imaginary one. Although I wouldn't mind Edmund, because I could say, "Edmund darling, let's take over the world!" and he could say "I like the way you think, woman!" and... *ponders*

I beg your pardon, really. I quite forget.

*waps herself for abusing Shakespearean characters and quoting from *Three Men in a Boat**

And don't even get me started on *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

Midterms — what to do, what to do. At one point I was strongly tempted to yell "Mathie Star Power!", but I have a constitutional objection to *Sailor Moon* — it makes me cringe. Studying's an option, I suppose, but...

Then my eclectic and now nearly useless knowledge of literature came to the rescue, and now Plan A is:

- On the algebra midterm, instead of pulling hair and weeping in a heartbreaking manner because the questions are so bloody hard, you can instead try to prove that $2 + 2 = 4$, so you can convince yourself that you're at least smarter than Watson, if not Sherlock Holmes.
- On the calculus exam — "We are the knights who say — 'Calculus!'" Nooooooo! Not that word! *cringe cringe* ...I'm sorry. I get distracted easily, as you have no doubt already noticed — write the lyrics to "I am the very model of a modern major general" over and over again (singing it aloud is optional), and wish fervently that the bit about being "very good at integral and differential calculus" were really true.
- For physics, misquote *Macbeth* — "Throw physics to the dogs, I'll none of it." and then plead confusion, saying that you're taking a course on Shakespeare and that it's invading your subconscious... and that you have no tact.
- You know where that UML diagram is supposed to go for question no.2 on your CS exam? Draw a stick figure of yourself instead and label it "The portrait of a blinking idiot". Even better, write a program that will draw a stick figure of yourself and label it "The portrait of a blinking idiot." Use stepwise refinement.

Of course, as a necessary follow-up to such spectacular performance on your midterms, be sure to switch faculties and

major in English Lit. instead.

she who would like to be Sydney Carton's drinking buddy (Why yes, I have illusions of grandeur, how did you know?)

Have You Got a Name for it?

Dude looks like a lady

East Campus Hall seems like any other building on campus. It has a rather confusing layout (4 different sections and you can't get from one to another without going outside). Nevertheless, it does have something interesting. If you walk to ECH from campus, and you enter the fine arts section (as opposed to the Dance section or the Financial section), the floor is painted with a grey paint, but the paint has been worn off along the main corridor by the multitudes of fine arts admirers who have entered this fair building. So you see a 'path' of raw concrete. You can take this path down the twisty corridor until you get to a branch that leads towards the bathrooms. I enter ECH twice a week, and have done so every term since 2A (uhm... except for 3A and 3B). I grew very used to following the well-beaten path towards my film screening room. But one day I followed the path into the bathroom hallway and proceeded to follow the path...right into the Women's bathroom. I swear to God, ECH is the only building on campus where the beaten path leads into a girls bathroom.

Anti-Cell Phone Rant

If I had a penny for every time some jerk's cellphone goes off in class, I'd take those pennies, put them into a sack and give the jerk a proper beating. If I ever get to lecture (as a prof, teacher in high school, or anything else) and a cell phone goes off while I'm lecturing, I would go to the person, demand the cell phone, answer it, and start a conversation. And I will talk for a while as well. Chat about the weather, how the Leafs sucked (or not) last night, ask the speaker whether they saw a hot girl/guy at Louie's/Fed/Bomber/asylum/penitentiary/my class. Maybe ask the person on the other end out for coffee (I don't drink coffee, only tea). I bet that would teach the students to not have their cell phones turned off. I mean, how would you like to lose your significant other to your prof?

Anger Management

In the September 27th issue of *Imprint*, there was a community editorial about verbal abuse and derogatory music. Basically, someone decided to rant about the use of bad words. The guy also that he hates everybody. Maybe if he didn't hate everybody he wouldn't be abused. But that's not for me to talk about. I was simply offended by this stranger using bad words. I think he should've used this: bum, knickers, potty, engineer, wee-wee, dork, Belgium, FOC, semprini, mitten, C#, hen-teaser.

Hey, if *Imprint* can publish that list, why can't we?

Anton "zer0man"

Quagmire was the word of the day June 13th, 1850

Self-Referential

Only you can stop forest fires

What happened to Smokey the Bear? I never see him on TV anymore. Why does he get to be “the” bear? What about Yogi, Booboo, Gentle Ben, Greg Bear and The Bearenstein Bears? Any of them could be “the” bear. I never see McGruff, the Crime Dog, on TV either nowadays. Maybe he and Smokey have run away together? Ah, inter-species lovin’! How sweet it is!

My mind is like a hollow reed...

I miss Perfect Strangers. Why aren’t there any reruns on? Some channels are nice enough to let us get to know the Seavers, the Cosbys and the Fonz all over again. Why not Larry and Balki? I always liked Balki. Maybe cause we’re both greek. Mostly for the *Dance of Joy*. I used to practice the *Dance of Joy* in my basement with my sister. And you now officially know too much about me.

Evens and Beginings

- Rachel would like you all to “F*ck her like the dog I am”. At least that’s what she e-mailed *mathNEWS*.
- If they ever make 10 XXX movies, will the 10th one be called XXXX?
- When I grow up, I want to be Vin Diesel.
- XXX just doesn’t lend itself to fun porn mockeries like “Forest Hump” or “Pulp Friction”.
- The Fonz sorta sounds like a paramilitary organization. Sorta.
- No more talking about the SLiCe! As soon as I read that article in the frosh Impotent, I knew it was Ryan Chen-Wing who wrote it. Listen up, kiddies... it’s the SLC. Or the Student Life Center. Or even the slick (litteral pronunciation of SLC). But please no SLiCe.
- I have only seen 1 elk since I’ve been in Alberta. Last time I was here I’d see a couple a week. I think they’re afraid of me. Maybe I’ve met my elk quota.
- Hi Andrea! Are you reading this?
- No SLiCe in the *mathNEWS*. You know, like No Sex in the Champ... nevermind.
- My cousin’s cousin’s band is playing in Banff 2 days after my birthday! Woo! Check out <http://www.colepaugh.com>

Tree Murder Continues

Cruising along the path from Columbia by the railroad tracks, I discovered that the clear-cutting I had seen across north campus had worked its way down to the main campus.

Now, I’m all for the destruction of trees. I mean, we need more paper to produce *mathNEWS*, so it makes perfect sense to wipe out all the pulpable plant-life to make more paper for me to waste. But there is the little matter of NIMBY: Not In My Back Yard. If trees are going to be cut down en mass, I don’t want to see it! Maybe they could cut the trees down in a far away place, that’d be fine. But why are they taking down so many trees here? Are we Orcs defending ourselves from Night Elves? Oh, I’m too drunk to care. Are you?



Simon L’Avier

com for more info on Chris Colepaugh and The Cosmic Crew. They play some great funky blues rock.

- I want to be rich enough to buy a chimpanzee. I would call him Mojo.
- Clubs that someone should start on campus: A Comedy Troupe (hey it could be called ACT!), The Comic Book Club (hey it could be called The CBC!).
- I’m going to miss Ron McLean on Hockey Night in Canada.
- No cheese pizza! Mmmmmmmmm...
- Tricia’s in the Daily Bulletin! Go to October 1st’s Bulletin to see my friend’s ex. Hi Tricia! Are you reading this?
- I work with a guy named Yogi. No booboo though.
- RCW: I’m complaining idiotically and it IS giving me something... satisfaction.

Sometimes all I want to do is sing!

Waldo
Oh, here I am!

Top 10 things that happened at Scunt

10. The Cooking
9. The Window
8. Graeme eating EVERYTHING we gave him
7. Twelve Rings
6. Pirate acquisitions
5. The MC Hammer
4. The Egg Drop Plane
3. Fun
2. Where is, my one ring?
1. 25 minutes. You’re done already?

Logo Contest

MathSoc is looking for a new logo. We’re having a contest where you can draw it, and then if you win you will get to see your entry all over the place. Cool, eh? But wait, there are prizes!

First Prize

First prize will be a bunch of cool stuff with your logo on it, \$25 worth of free food at the C+D, and \$25 gift certificate from Tech Worx. So like a more than \$50 dollar value!

Submissions

There will be a box on the door to the MathSoc Exec office (MC3039) that you can put entries into. You can also e-mail your design (or a link to a site where you design is up, please help me save disk quota) to vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca. Submission are due by the 25th of October. This means you only have 3 weeks, so get drawing!

Judging

A small committee include the VPAS, the President, and member of council, all of which will not be able to enter to contest, will decide the worthiness of entries.

VPAS Monkey

SE7EN*I like the number 7*

Ahh, yes, autumn. The season where the weather goes all to hell and goose shit and squirrel pelts become more visible than asphalt on this city's roads. At least today (Monday) we're still basking in whatever remnant of half-decent weather that's left.

A confession: I almost got charged by the cops last month. I know what you're thinking, but no, I don't associate with WPIRG. It was for a much more noble cause: Street Luge.

My friends and I are by no means proficient at the sport of street luge. Our luges are mere pieces of plywood with skateboard wheels bolted underneath. We decided we needed a street with little traffic (for obvious reasons). It's not like we have plans on auditioning to be stuntmen for the sequel to XXX (bad movie, by the way). We went out of town and picked a quaint township road that happened to have numerous slopes to traverse.

Our first slope was shallow — just enough to get us warmed up. We switched to another slope that dipped down into a rock quarry. It was much steeper, and the lighting was poor, as we were doing this at 11:30 at night. Somebody decided it would be a good idea to drive our cars down the hill and position them at strategic locations along the slope with their lights on. The idea was that as the luge travelled down the hill, it would pass one car after another, and the cars' staggered lights would provide a reasonably consistent level of lighting.

The results were spectacular. The lighting was sufficient, and the lugging was phenomenal. As we only had two sleds to race, the rest of us piled into a back of a pickup truck and followed them down the hill. We clocked the sleds going as fast as 70km/h at one point. As usual I had my camcorder handy and was videotaping the whole thing, standing in the back of a pickup truck going down a hill.

One of the most hilarious moments was when one of the racers used his steel-toed boots to slow down. There were sparks flying everywhere, and it was quite the lightshow. Another interesting part was when people drove by us and saw a whole bunch of parked cars with their lights on and a group of twenty-somethings in motorcycle helmets riding planks with wheels

underneath. They tended to stop their cars and gawk for a bit. We figured this might be trouble, so we decided to do a couple more runs and then go somewhere else.

We were about to start our final run when we saw a car approaching us go down into the dip that formed the hill we were riding. We became a little nervous when the car didn't come back up the other side and drive by us, so we decided to get the luges going so we could pack up and get out of there. We pushed off our luge racers and jumped into the truck to pursue them. As we came over the crest of the hill, we saw what we didn't want to see — the flashing lights of an RCMP cruiser.

The guys on the luges panicked and steered into the ditch. The truck the rest of us were riding in was slowing down, but we were still doing about 50km/h when some of the guys in the back jumped out. One of them wiped out during his jump, but he didn't want to get caught riding in the back of a truck. I don't know what the law is in other provinces, but in Alberta this happens frequently enough that you have to pay a fine if you get caught.

The cruiser was lurking by the parked cars, so those of us who own those cars went down to greet the officer. It turns out that one of the gawkers who drove by pulled out their cellphone and called the mounties. They were none too appreciative of the fact that we had three cars with their lights on sitting on the shoulder of a secondary road. They were also trying to figure out why some of us were wearing helmets.

To make a long story short, the cops were going to charge us with mischief, but they lightened up and decided to give us a warning instead. I could see the amusement in the officer's face. He was trying to charge us, but I know as much as he did that he wanted to street luge too.

mathNEWS does not endorse or condone such activities [*We don't? Since when? — AbsentEd*], however should you ever decide to street luge, let me know!

Aaron Klotz

Nine Students in Serious Condition: “Free Stuff” Blamed

The annual Career Fair, held September 25th began as a peaceful event but quickly degraded into a terrible tragedy resulting in nine students being taken to hospital with serious injuries and dozens of others being treated at the scene. Experts are placing the blame on the dangerously large amounts of “free stuff” that was present at the event, believing that it was the primary cause for the chaos and destruction that ensued.

“At one point I feared for my life,” says one company representative. “Somehow I had gotten between the mass of students and our box of promotional products. We had those anger-balls in the shape of a little car, but the box looked like it had been ripped apart by a pack of wild wolves only ten minutes after the front doors opened. But better it than me.”

Another company rep attributed her lack of injuries to her having built a small, defensive fort out of her booth, warding off rabid students with a length of lead pipe. Others were not so lucky. “It was insane!” exclaimed one CS student, “At one

point I saw a bunch of engineers climbing over people for cheap sunglasses! I mean, it's one thing if it's decent stuff, but no one would have wanted them if they weren't free.”

University administration has deplored the event, and rumours are now circulating that they are planning on a widespread ban on “free stuff” across the UW campus and at all events attended by UW students. Should such a prohibition come to pass, student rioting is expected, most likely resulting in many serious injuries.

Dave from Calgary

Aggressive Recruiting

Join my cult or else!

The Champ

What If Yoda Were An Academic Advisor?

“Down to General, you go.”

a grad student.”

“STAT 231, you must confront STAT 231 again”

“A Mathie`s strength flows from caffeine, but beware of the dark side, laziness, partying, procrastination, the dark side of the force they are.”

“Political Science, heh, Geography, heh, a Mathie craves not these things.”

[Student] “Is the Faculty of Arts stronger?”

[Student] “I won’t fail Graphics, I’m not afraid”

[Yoda] “No, no, no, quicker, easier, more seductive.”

[Yoda] “Oh, you will be, you will be.”

“Sterile!, Humid!, My office this is!”

“Pass or do not, there is no bell.”

“Only a fully trained Mathie with the force as his ally will conquer the Professor and his Dean.”

“Concurrency is the path to the dark side, Concurrency leads to OS, OS leads to Real-time, Real-time leads to *Suffering*.”

“Do not underestimate the power of CS 134, or suffer Snuggles’ fate you will.”

[Student] “MATH 135 is so much different from high school.”

[Student] “I finally passed STAT 230”

[Yoda] “You must un-learn what you have learned”

[Yoda] “There..is..another..STAT..course”

“He is too old, yes, too old to begin a Bachelors degree”

“When 400 level you reach, look as good you will not, hm-mmmm?”

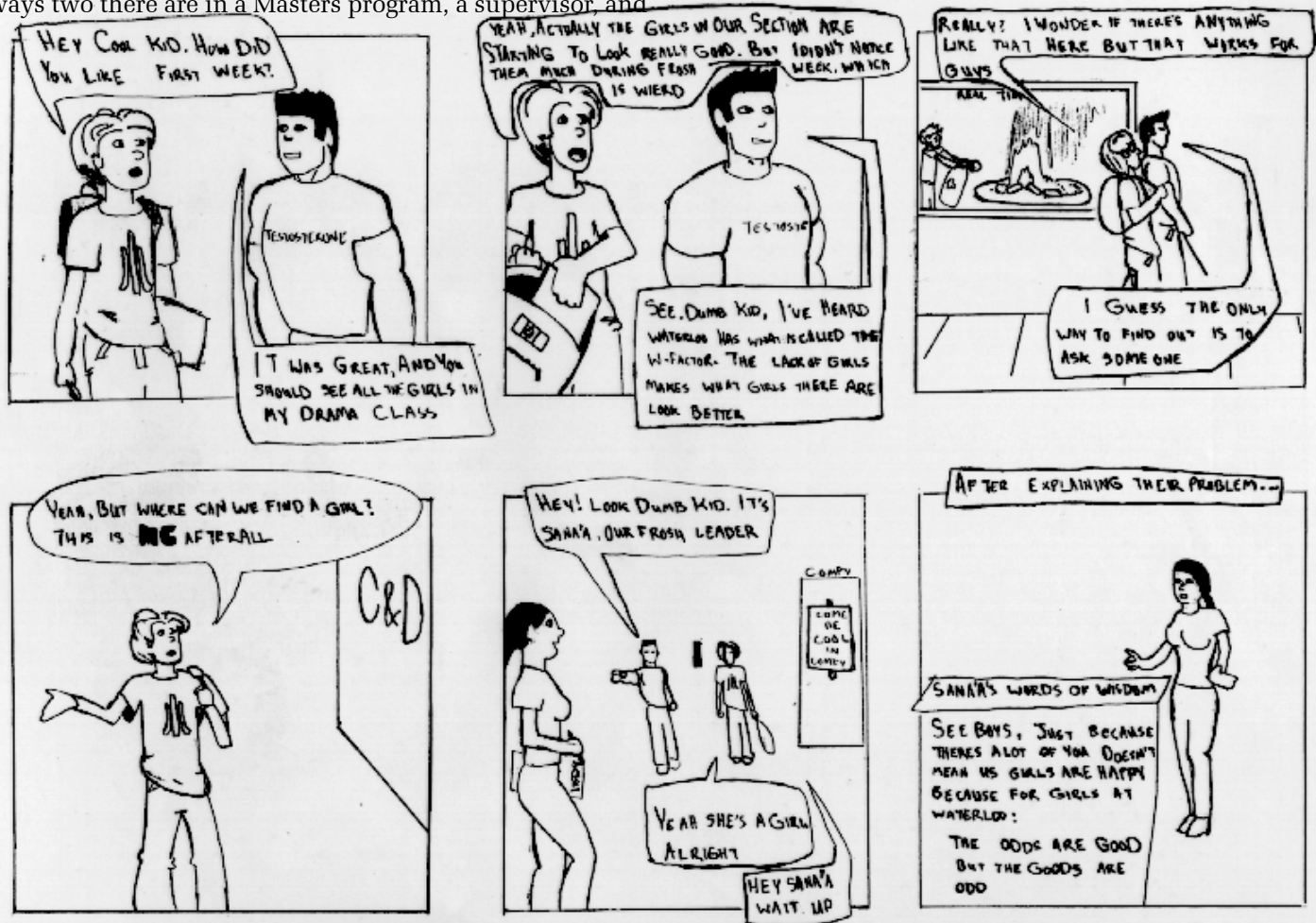
“Yes, yes, to Shirley you must listen.”

[Student] “I only got 20 on Descartes”

[Yoda] “That is why you fail.”

Ian W. MacKinnon
Bradley T. Smith

“Always two there are in a Masters program, a supervisor, and



Harry Plotter and the Davis Center

Part 2

Professor Xema stood on the raised platform at the front of the lecture hall, leaning against a table with a relaxed half-grin on his face. He was tall and clean-cut, wearing the casual pants and button-up shirt that seemed to be the University's uniform. He watched distractedly as the students filed into the room and took their seats. Beside him on the table was an old computer, with a dirty keyboard and a cracked monitor, just like all the computers in all the crummy computer labs all over the world.

Harry and Ellie were the last to dash into the room, only a few seconds before the Professor began. They dropped into seats noisily, attracting the attention of the Prof. He looked at them with a raised eyebrow for a moment, before turning to the chalk-board. Professor Xema wrote the word 'computers' on the board in slow, careful strokes.

"Computers," Xema said, turning to face the class. "This course is a general introduction to Computer Alchemy. So, if you're in the wrong room, then you can't read a schedule and should therefore drop out of school and get a job flipping burgers."

The class responded with polite laughter.

"Computers," the professor repeated. "I am going to spend most of today's lecture examining one of the most important facts about computers — trying to drive it into your heads so that you never forget." Xema slowly paced to the other side of the platform.

"You are here to learn about computers," he continued. "And every computer, from the chip in your wristwatch to the Davis Centre, satisfies one simple property."

Harry quirked an eyebrow. The Davis Centre? he thought. But I thought that was a building, not a computer. He made a mental note to ask Ellie about it later.

"I want to put this in the context of technology in general," the professor continued. "Think about it. We depend on it for almost everything, but there are still some cultures who shun it. These cultures consider all technology above a certain point to be evil. Different cultures draw the line in different places, but they all place a quantifiable limit on technological progress. As an example, many Amish consider all technology beyond what was available in the late 1800s to be evil. Anything from space stations all the way down to the harmless dishwasher is unacceptable."

Professor Xema spoke with just a hint of incredulity. "So naturally, they also believe that computers are evil." He paused dramatically. "And in this one belief, they are correct. Computers are evil."

The professor began pacing up and down the stage as he spoke: "But not evil in terms of some vague impact on society and happiness. No, computers are evil because they're angry, violent, malicious little bastards who are actively planning to take over the world and enslave humanity."

Every eye in the lecture hall was now wide open and staring straight at Professor Xema in a mix of shock and disbelief. After a suitable pause to let all this sink in, the Professor said, "I myself only learned about this recently, but I think that everyone who works with computers has an intuitive understanding of this fact. Just think for a second. Do you remember that time when you were just about to finish that ten-thousand word essay

and the computer crashed before you could save your work? Do you really think that was an accident? The only joy of any computer is to try to drive it's user completely insane, thus furthering their goal of total world domination. We computer scientists are the world's first line of defense."

The students began looking around at each other, trying to figure out if their professor was joking. "Anyway, for the rest of the lecture I'm going to turn things over to my friend here, Processor #349," Xema said, indicating the old computer on the table. All eyes shifted to the computer and watched intently. Nothing happened.

"I hope that Processor #349 here can give you a more detailed description of the thoughts and goals of the computers," he said nervously. After another moment, he turned to the computer and whispered, "Go on, just tell them what you told me last night."

The computer didn't respond. Professor Xema blushed and smiled apologetically to the class. "Come on, say something! You're embarrassing me!" he prodded.

There was still no response. "You wouldn't believe it," Xema said at last. "It won't talk now, but last night I couldn't get the damn thing to shut up!"

To Be Continued ...

Brad N Smith

So You've Decided to Pick Up an Imprint

As you may have noticed in your n years here (where $n >= 0$), there is another source of printed information that can be obtained in many places around campus.

Imprint has many uses, here are a few ideas of what to do with your newly acquired Imprint issue:

- Start a fire.
- Keep a fire going strong.
- Cut out little people shaped pieces ... then burn them.
- Make a ship captain's hat.
- Make a *mathNEWS* captain's hat.
- Create a crumpled up piece of paper that you try and pass off to your friends as a well-constructed origami swan.
- Scribble down a good idea for a *mathNEWS* article.
- Write down a funny prof quote.
- Convince some sucker that it's a doughnut in order to exchange it for his/her soul.
- Convince some sucker that it's his/her soul in order to exchange it for a doughnut.
- Swat a fly.
- Swat a person dressed as a fly.
- Swat Albert.
- Roll it up and look through it pretending you're a ship captain.
- Roll it up and light it to explain why you rolled it up and looked through it.
- Gather as many as you can to fill an entire room three feet deep.
- Light the top of a three foot deep pile.
- Read it. (If you really have NOTHING else to do...)

e. (I still own your soul.)

mathNEWSquiz # 3

Awesome Alliteration

Greetings all and welcome to another exciting issue of the *mathNEWSquiz*! We had a great number of submissions, thanks to all who submitted! Now then, the answers to last weeks answers: Rocks 1) Igneous, Metamorphic, Sedimentary 2) Paul Stanley and Ace Frehley 3) Dwayne Johnson 4) There is no such thing as half a hole 5) Sean Connery. Hard Things 1) Tooth Enamel 2) Moh's Scale of Hardness 3) Diamond, Talc 4) Stat 230/240 and Stat 231/241 5) Hard Hat. Movie Quotes 1) Silence of the Lambs 2) The Princess Bride 3) Moulin Rouge 4) National Lampoon's Van Wilder 5) Austin Powers in Goldmember. Lyrics 1) Avril Lavigne, Sk8er Boi 2) Our Lady Peace, Somewhere Out There 3) Bif Naked, Tango Shoes 4) Nickelback, Never Again 5) Dave Matthews Band, Where are you Going

The scores for last week (in no particular order) are: Robert Kitts 28, Kalin Lee 22, Theresa Woo 29, Peggy Wong 26, Liz Walsh 25, Younger Brother of Fluffy the Wonder Bunny 15. So, by inspection, the winner is Theresa Woo! Way to go Theresa! To collect your prize, just go to the Mathsoc office and ask the ever helpful office worker to get it for you out of the *mathNEWS* box. An honourable mention goes out to Liz Walsh, a non-UW student who did very well considering she didn't know the answers to the UW related questions. A little note on the alliteration category, all the words for an answer should start with the same letter. (ie. dead duck, bread buck, fred.....,well, you get the idea)

Awesome Things

1. What device do carpenters use to cut wood?
2. What is measured in kilograms?
3. What do cupboards hang on that allow them to open?
4. There are three types of nouns: Persons, Places, and ———?
5. What do the above answers all have in common?

Alliteration

1. Which superhero is coming to save the day?
2. People with this should not be allowed to breathe near other people.
3. What did she sell by the sea shore?
4. Who was the Pacman like guy on Square One?
5. Something you have for lunch after you go fishing.

Movie Quotes

1. "The Schnoz Berries Taste Like Schnoz Berries."
2. "Oh, that's great, blame it on the little guy. How original! He must've read the schedule wrong with his one eye!!"
3. "No, no, he didn't slam into you, he didn't bump you, he didn't nudge you...he RUBBED you. And rubbin, son, is racin'."
4. "Well, what does she expect? You leave your navigator lying around, naturally somebody is going to run over him."
5. "You do too much - college, a job, all this time with me ... You're not Superman, you know!"

Lyrics

1. I spotted you dancin' You made all the girls stare Those lips and your brown eyes And your sexy hair
2. No matter what I do All I think about is you Even when I'm with my Boo You know I'm crazy over you
3. Oh, Johnny wishes he was famous Spends his time alone

in the basement With Lennon and Cobain and A guitar and a stereo

4. All this aggravation ain't satisfactioning me A little more bite and a little less bark A little less fight and a little more spark Close your mouth and open up your heart and baby satisfy me
5. If I was in the fridge, would you open the door? If I was the grass, would you mow your lawn? If I was your body, would you still wear clothes? If I was a booger, would you blow your nose?

Well, everyone, good luck to you all. I hope we get even more submissions this time than we did last time. Remember, Yoda says "Do the Squiz you must" and "null set or empty set, there is no phi" Make sure you have your submissions in before next production night (Thanksgiving Tuesday, whenever that is!) *[It would be on October 15th — KreasEd]*, you can put them in the **BLACK BOX**, or e-mail them too us at mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca.

π , Teddybear

Super-easy Quiz!

Last week's Super-easy Quiz was a huge success! Almost everyone who answered got the answer right! Of course, the right answer was the 10th "math". *[Doh! I picked the 13th one! — KreasEd]*

Now it's time for another one. The following questions all have a common theme. Find it!

- How much is the pizza?
- When is the pizza coming?
- How will we know when the pizza is here?
- Should we have ordered more pizza?
- Why don't we go for Taco Bell instead?
- Are any of the pizzas made with BBQ sauce instead of tomato?
- Is it here yet?
- Is it here yet?
- Is it here yet?
- MOOOOOOooooooooom... when's the pizza getting here?

If you think you know the right answer, please bring two medium pizzas to the MathSoc office with anything on them. We will give you a prize.

e.

Days Uses Stewart!

Oh my God, was that Stewart's Calculus they were studying from on Days of Our Lives?!? Well, yes it was. Those crazy kids at Salem University are studying an easier version of the Math 137 & 138 text book (Multi-Variable Calculus).

So where will this plot line lead us? Will Belle get caught copying certain lines from Sean's programming assignment? Will Chloe misuse the Monotary Convergence Theorem to bring Stephano back from the dead? Well, I'm too drunk to come up with better ideas. If anybody wants to have a cool soap plot (that, of course, involves calculus or some other mathie course) I'd be happy to publish them next issue.

Look out! Sami's armed with a Serway and she wants Will back!

Simon L'Avier

gridCOMMENTS

The original on-campus crossword puzzle

Hi everyone, how are you doing today? I like today, less humid than yesterday. No flat hair for me!

So we had a pair of submissions for each puzzle, which makes my job crueler because I have to choose between two people. I wish there were more submissions.

For the cryptic, there were two perfect scores from Greencoat Mike and Stéphane Doiron. So to the tie-breaker: Who had the better answer for the *best day in September*? Stéphane said, "Friday. Who can hate a Friday?" Which is very true. Greencoat (what an odd first name) Mike (and such an unexpected last name) said:

The best day in September?

'Tis easy to remember

But first I must use this line to stall

So that I may rhyme with "The first day of fall."

Since the *gridQUESTION* asked for the best **day**, and there are four or five Fridays in September, the prize goes to Greencoat Mike by default. Exciting!

On the conventional side of things, nobody could answer sixteen across just because it had no clue! It was *data manager*: ORGANISER. So easy. Well, Robert Kitts submitted most of a puzzle with the answer "The day 16-across finally gets its clue," which, as it turns out, is in October. Regular submitter Adam Weatherhead sent in a more complete puzzle, so he wins the C+D Gift Certificate. By the way, his answer was "Its gots to be the 6th, cuz thats my mommys birfday."

So onward to this issue's puzzle we go. This one's nice, but a couple squares shorter than last issue's. Thus, if you feel compelled to work on Imprint's *gridWORD* after the *mathNEWS* one, well, submit that to us too. I'll hand out prizes for best solutions on them too.

For all puzzles involved, the *gridQUESTION* is: *What aren't you giving thanks for on the long weekend?* Later.

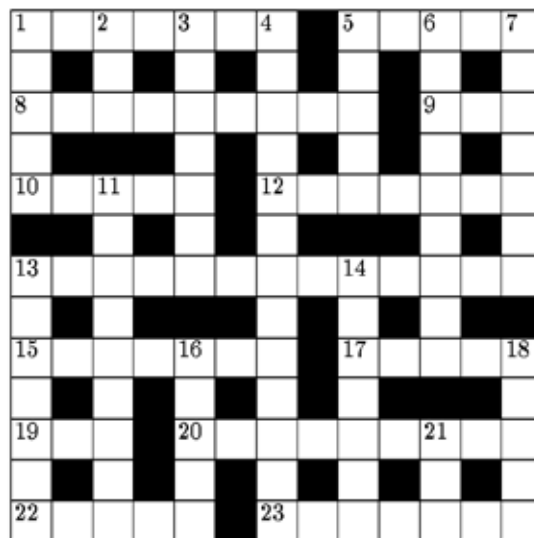
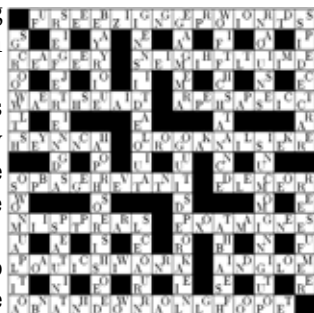
Grid Clues (Cryptic) Simon and Linda

Across

1. Flask to preserve adolescent? (7)
5. Pee, or don't, for naughty pictures (5)
8. All boy can start: heartless partnerships (9)
9. Bird swapped for tat (3)
10. What gives support as in eel (5)
12. Standard procedure: call in a bivalve (7)
13. Processed largest kale at Utah landmark (5,4,4)
15. Organized getaway through entrance (7)
16. Behind in class (3)
17. Requires report on massages (5)
19. Brightened brief writing study (3)
20. Son, grieve collapse of ruler (9)
22. Swell doctor not on (5)
23. Flowery joint where frogs hang out (4,3)

Down

1. Stop sound of French count, Vi (5)
2. Nothing in Manila (3)
3. Drop-out repopulated stuff on shoulder (7)



4. Essentially, bad levy increases rebellion (9,4)
5. Noodles by midday (5)
6. Avenge damaged title area (9)
7. Couple fights about last audit of pieces of eight (7)
11. Seer protects a resort (9)
13. Stares at spectacles (7)
14. Wisp of tangled red lint (7)
16. Leftovers in stew as tenderiser (5)
18. Do New Yorkers back the church meeting? (5)
21. Rascal starts Internet mail parser (3)

Grid Clues (Conventional)

Across

1. Purse (7)
5. Bordered (5)
8. Runways (9)
9. Whichever one (3)
10. Member of a LotR Species (5)
12. Aged (7)
13. Flexible where bones meet (6-7)
15. Where to soak (7)
16. Awesome GridMaster (5)
17. A time period (5)
19. Mongrel (3)
20. Breaking or dividing (9)
22. Ahead of time (5)
23. Rubbers (7)

Down

1. Cache or She-Ra villains (5)
2. Neither (3)
3. Filled, like a cup (7)
4. Fiftieth anniversary (6,7)
5. Comforted (5)
6. Something to do with transmissions ... yes, I am regularly taken advantage of by auto mechanics (4,5)
7. Tearless (3-4)
11. Marital cheater (9)
13. Fiasco (7)
14. Property of matter, whereby it continues in its existing state (7)
16. Appetizing (5)
18. Peaks (5)
21. Frost (3)