

On Tuesday night, the first meeting of the year of the Computer Science Club was held. There was a large turnout, with almost every available seat in M&C 1052 being filled. One of the first things done was the election of a new executive. In previous years, Jim Parry had been the president, and had handled almost everything, with the other elected members not really doing anything. However, he has departed this year, and so we have the following people heading up the CSC this term:

President	- Russell Crook
Vice President	- Robert White (rag)
Secretary-Treasurer	- Ed Attfield
Librarian	- Peter Raynham

As all these people have never been on CSC executive before, the direction the CSC will take this term is still unclear. Dr. Gentleman was appointed the Faculty Advisor, a position he has held before.

Memberships for the Fall term were accepted after the meeting, with seventy-seven members being signed up. If you want

to join the CSC, but couldn't make the meeting, drop by the Math Soc office during the day. The CSC office is now located there, and at certain times during the day, a CSC representative will be there to sign you up. There is a fee of twenty-five cents.

Hopefully during the term, the CSC will be able to organize field trips, movies and perhaps bring speakers in. There is also the CSC Chess project, which anyone who is interested can work on. The Chess project is responsible for maintaining Ribbit, adding new features, and for entering Ribbit in tournaments. Members of the CSC will also probably be receiving resources on the Honeywell. In previous terms, users were given a user id if they didn't have one, and thirty six links (blocks) of file space. However, this is being changed, and a decision about what members will get as far as the Honeywell goes has not yet been made. It was noted, that in the past, when the Honeywell resources became available to CSC members, the total enrollment tripled. The CSC also maintains a library of various manuals and reports dealing with computers, which members may borrow overnight or for a few days.

The next meeting of the CSC will probably be held in two weeks. Watch the CSC bulletin board, next to room MC 2066, for more details, as well as for general information about what's happening in the CSC.

ISSUE 6.2
FRIDAY, SEPT. 27, 1974

math NEWS

only YOU can prevent:

TERMINAL PAPER RIP-OFF

Many students these days have to plan their budgets carefully, and like to avoid spending too much money on supplies. They try to economize in lots of different ways. One of these ways is, rather than lay out a lot of money for a pad of blank paper, just rip some off from the terminal room. It's cheap (free), easily obtained, of reasonable quality, and large quantities are available. Most people like this system, in fact the only people who really mind are the people who pay for it. Often, people who want to get work done on weekends also mind, because the rip offs leave no paper for the terminals. The smart user is often prepared, however, because he stole some paper so that he'd have some to use on the weekend. However, if people didn't walk off with piles of paper to start with, then there'd be no need for this.

Now and again, attempts are made to curtail the illicit disappearance of paper. One method involved having the paper delivered without the perforation down the right side. This meant it was not so easy to make the foolscap-sized sheets into regular 8-1/2 by 11 paper. Needless to say, the idea didn't work too well. Now the Math Faculty is going to try and ration paper to the Honeywell terminal room in an attempt to stop rip offs. Traditionally, about three boxes a day were supplied to the terminal room. Calculations show that only about one box is needed for terminal typeouts, and so only one box is going to be supplied. Recycled listings will also be available for use in terminals. As the paper costs \$18.23 a box, reducing the rip offs should create a fairly significant saving in operating costs. If you see someone walking off with a wad of terminal paper, then it is in your interest to stop the person, notify security, tell MFCF people, or just scream. If you don't help stop the rip offs, then you can't really complain when you walk into the terminal room to get some work done, and find no paper to type on.

BURLOAF

I'd like to clear up a mistake made in last week's mathNEWS. There I mentioned that for a course, you got \$500 worth of resources on your Honeywell user id, and then went on to say how you probably won't burn up the \$200 in one term. Well, it turns out neither figure is accurate. It seems the Math Faculty is going to be somewhat more chintzy than first suspected. In previous years, you were given \$500 or resources if you took any courses requiring a TSS id, and then 12 links (blocks) of space for each course you took. This term, they've decided to make allocations a function of the course, which means some courses may get more resources than others. A common figure seems to be \$100. This small figure wasn't meant to make the Math Faculty look as stingy as it may seem. A change in accounting was supposed to accompany the smaller allocations.

Until recently, there were many things you could do on the Honeywell for which you were not billed, things such as SLISTS. Recently, the accounting software was altered, and now you get billed for just about everything. It turned out the Math Faculty was now charging too much for usage of their computing facility, so plans went underway to alter the rate scale. When this adjustment is made, you'll be able to get the same amount of work done for less money. A slight holdup, however, has prevented the implementation of the new rates, so you're still getting charged at the old, more expensive rates. The situation is being remedied, however, and by the time you read this, resource quotas will probably have been upped.

During the past few days, the Honeywell has been having its fair share of crashes. It seems that a few users have been inadvertently discovering things that aren't too good for the system. The typical crasher seems to be unaware that he did it until a post mortem of the crash is done. Sometimes, in an effort to get something working, something which this user is unaware of its detrimental effects on the system, he will run it two or three times. He finally realizes that he is taking the machine down, and that the events aren't purely coincidental. Naturally the operators have to do a fair bit of work to restore a down system, and so they tend to get displeased at the inconsiderate nature of these users who don't have enough courtesy as to wait until some other operator is on duty before they experiment.

Each year, I see it happen again. As I look over the facts, and recall past experiences, I realize how absolutely awful something is. I am always amazed that people in first year come along, look this thing over, and actually declare it's good! They must be forgiven, however, as some of them have seen nothing else before, and

therefore have nothing to gauge it by. I am referring to COBOL, that insult to the true computer programmer. Now, admittedly, there are reasons to teach COBOL. Much of the business world's programming is done in COBOL, and so we as might as well give the world what it wants -- COBOL programmers. However, I have felt a university is an environment where new ideas can be developed in a way not possible in the commercial world. The university should strive to produce ideas that lead to a better world. Now this happens at the University of Waterloo. "GOTTLess" programming is one example. It has been shown that a program written with a decent control structure is much easier to debug, is usually shorter, and often runs faster. Thus this method of programming has been encouraged here. As well as encourage new ideas, however, a university should try to stamp out bad ideas. A prime example is the programming language COBOL. Admittedly, it would cost a lot to change over to a sensible programming language, but here, at U of W, we could make the start. By getting rid of COBOL, we could replace it with something that doesn't insult the programmer's intelligence. True, COBOL has good features for business programming, but the implementation is disgusting. The basic mistake was assuming the English language was a good language to program in. Well, it just isn't, and as a result, COBOL, which is based on looking like English, is tedious to use. However, I don't think a change for the better is going to come about soon.

Recently, many 240B students have been given the assignment of writing an ALGOL program to play Life. Yours truly is quite interested in Life, and the name of this column is from a pattern in Life. So for your edification and enlightenment, I now present the Burloaf:

```

  X
  X X
  X X
  X X

```

This pattern is a seven bit still life. This means that if you run this pattern through your program, it should never change from what it is now. Although it doesn't look imposing, the Burloaf has, as far as Life is concerned, many salient features which I won't go into here.

Perhaps next week, once you've discovered what the Burloaf does (or doesn't do), I'll disclose what the Burloafimeter looks like. The Burloafimeter is another interesting pattern with noble properties, but for now, you can find out what the following does:

```

..X...
.X.X...
.....
XX...X.
X.....
..X.X.
..XX...

```

math ETICS

MATH CO-ED SLOW PITCH WINS 4 GAMES

RESULTS • MATH 23-VILLAGE 1 NORTH 3
 • MATH 24-LAKESHORE LAKERS 8
 MATH 25 ST. JEROMES A 15
 MATH 16 TOUGH BANANAS(ENG.) 9

REPORT:
 by team captain
 Joe Keller



"The math team played excellent in all four games in which they played, walking all over their opponents. Three victories on Sunday were indirectly accounted for by the extra wet and go beverages donated by Gary Dryden. Gary actually got on base this term only because some of his beverage was waiting for him at first base.

The standout player over the two days was Hilda Shewan who played tremendously despite a injured leg. If all goes well in the remaining games we should have little trouble in winning the Oct. 6 tournament."

AMAZING OFFER

By the way, does anybody know Mata Hari's real name or who was the editor of the first SF magazine, "Amazing Stories", or who supervised the laying of the Transatlantic Cable, or what the first wireless message sent by its inventor Samuel B. Morse (or how to spell his middle name), or, for baseball freaks, who hit into the first unassisted triple play in a World Series, by Bill Wambganss of the Washington Senators, or the name of the Hardy Boys friend (the fat one) in F. W. Dixon's series of books, or George Orwell's real name? Any person with a correct answer(s) to the above will be awarded a free CLASSIFIED AD in the next mathNEWS or can write an article for mathNEWS free of charge.

3

MATH CO-ED SLOW PITCH GAMES	

Saturday 28 September--10:00A.M.	
COLUMBIA FIELD	

Sunday 29 September---1:15P.M.	
VILLAGE GREEN	

FLAG FOOTBALL	

Practices-Thursday	4:30P.M.
-Friday	4:30P.M.
-Monday	4:30P.M.

GAME	
Tuesday	5:45P.M.

FED REPORTS

Since mathNEWS forgot to put my name at the end of last week's article, in case you don't know, my name is J.J. Long and my correct phone number is 884-6547.

As you read this article the Federation's tent city is now dismantled. They sold the tents last Friday afternoon. If you were wanting to by one I hope you were successful. Federation by-elections are coming up soon. I hope you get out to vote for your candidate. Also it seems that Cindy Harris has vacated the Federation Vice-Presidency. If you know anyone on Federation council from any faculty who is a voting member and you think that they are worthy of the job please contact Andrew Telepdi at 885-0370 or any Federation Executive and give them your opinion.

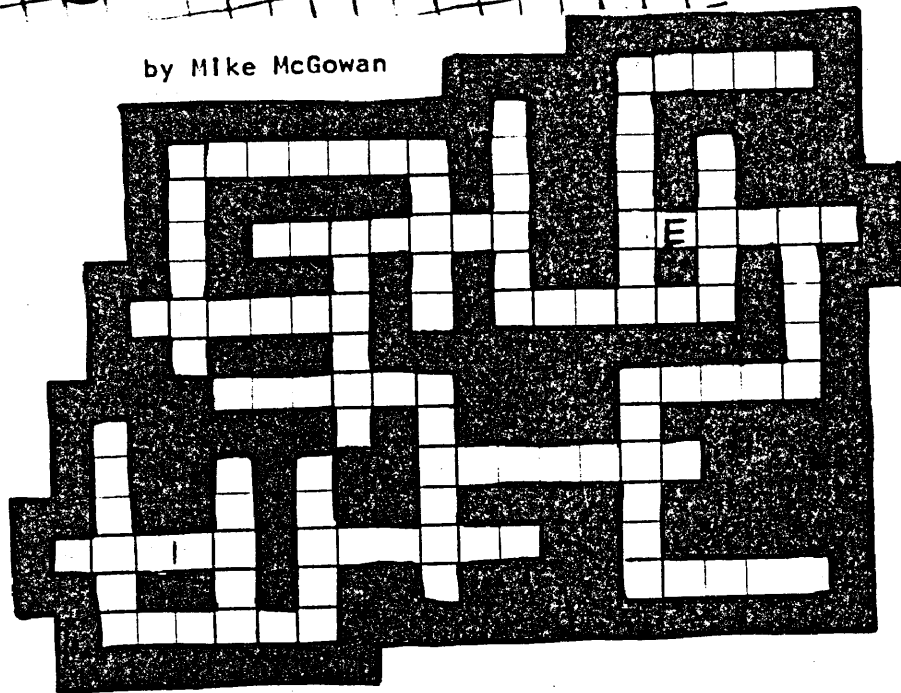
I hope to see you soon and may organize a forum of the Federation candidates in the Math by-election. If you have any problems with the Federation tell me, I'm your rep and I will try to correct those problems.

JJ Long

This Week's

Gridword

by Mike McGowan



NAME _____

PHONE _____

Fill in the gridword with words from the list. Use words only once.

*** Word List ***

FACES
UNFELT
APTIFY
ROUNDED
GREEDY
APPLE

COURTS
GRASPED
ELIPE
KNEELS
PEPERS
GRAPE
REFUND
FOUNDED
READER

ENSUE
PEFREE
PEPPER
FAILS
REEFER
FADED
FLAPPER
ATTACK
DUPED
YONGE

Last Week's Solution

"The usual gridword will not appear in this issue due to lack of gridword editor. Volunteers welcome.

"We wish to give special recognition to Roger Masse who found a distinct solution to the last gridword."

There were 42 correct solutions. This week's winner is MARTIN TAYLOR who may pick up his T-shirt at the mathSoc office.

Many people commented on our poor spelling in the ungridword; while this was unintentional, we decided to count it in the solution. Incidentally, the resolution of our typeball caused the "DQR" to come out as "DOR"; in other words, it wasn't a typo, it was a printo.

C. Dobbin asks: Can't you dummlies spell yet?

(yet - y-e-t)

RADIO WATERLOO RADIO WATERLOO

at 94.1 FM Cable

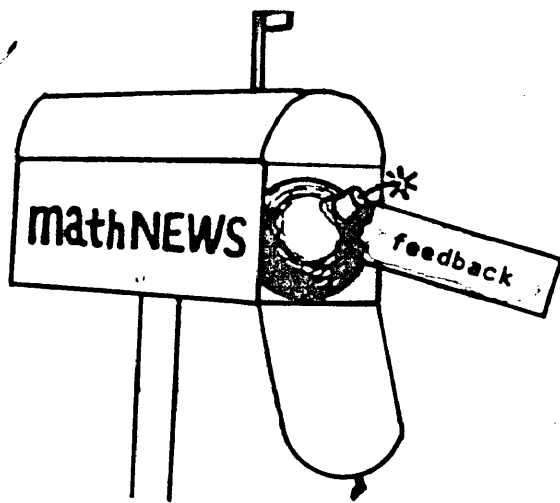
PRESENTS:

THURSDAYS!!

7:00 - 7:30pm Sports
7:30 - 10:00pm Ian Collan ROCK
10:00 - 12:00pm Dave
12:00 - 3:00am Ivan

Requests/Inquiries: 884-4300 (or ext. 2330)

Ian Collan ROCK is: Jethro Tull, Yes, Genesis, Led Zeppelin, alp (Emerson Lake and Palmer), King Crimson, Pink Floyd, Black Sabbath, Rick Wakeman, Monty Python?, Tangerine Dream, Eels, Ruth, Focus.....



MATH SOCIETY BY-ELECTIONS

for the following seats:
 2-3rd year reps-reg
 3-1st year reps-reg
 3-1st year reps-co-op
 ELECTION COMMITTEE
 nominations CLOSE 30 sept. 1974-4:30p.m.
 nomination forms available in MC3038

Note: Letters appearing in this column represent the opinions of our readers. mathNEWS welcomes your criticisms, comments, suggestions, etc. All letters should be signed, but, if requested, a pen name will be used.

DEADLINES

September 27, 1974-Deadline for adding Year/Fall courses.
 October 7, 1974-----Deadline for submitting resumes.(CO-OP MATH)
 November 4, 1974---Deadline for dropping Fall courses,

MATH SOC MEETS

MathSoc council met last tuesday at 4:30 in MC 2035. Our reporter was unavailable but we are able to give you the following summary. Minutes were approved for last week's meeting as well as those of the last meeting of last winter's term, which were previously unavailable.

Reports were received from MathSoc's EngSoc representative concerning the Black Bubble Coffee house which will be jointly sponsored and held in the E4 lounge. Also on EngWeek, Nov. 3-9 (Math Weekend will be Oct. 31 to Nov. 2); on Nov. 8, the Interprovincial Boat Races will be held; on Nov. 9, there will be a semi-formal and a Car Rally. (For more info, contact EngSoc.)

OPIRG reported that they would be holding elections soon (for further info, contact OPIRG (at this point, the notes on the meeting become very obscure (apparently, the person who took them attended the wine-and-cheese party)))

Board of Entertainment representative Howard LeBlanc reported that there would be no more regular meetings this term.

Under the "New Business" section, the possibility of a new tape deck was discussed and the possibility of holding a semi-formal was touched upon but no conclusions have been reached yet.

Kathy Peycha was appointed MathSoc's administrator (secretary). It was also decided to hold meetings bi-weekly in future.

Here the meeting was presumably concluded (here our source-of-information's communicative abilities rapidly approached zero.)

Dear Magoo:

Your article last week about the Social Hierarchy was very informative but you neglected to mention why we allow engineers at Waterloo. Why did we mathies create the Faculty of Engineering? Are engineers like all the other underlings?

Yours respectfully,
 Mortimor McSnovd, IA.

We created the Faculty of Engineering for different reasons than for the faculties of Arts, Science etc. Unlike most underlings, Engineers are not only annoying but also constitute a real danger to us and mankind as a whole. Beneath their dim-witted, slovenly exterior their lurks forces which are nothing short of malevolent. They must be kept under continual surveillance lest they go entirely berserk, raping and pillaging all in sight. I do not wish to alarm our good frosh unduly, but there is a grim tale of a lone engineer who went berserk a few years ago (at the time of the full moon) and indecently assaulted a herd of dairy cattle. The poor beasts suffered such a trauma from the ordeal that their milk became rancid and they had to be destroyed.

It is to avert occurrences similar to this one that we have collected together as many engineers as possible. The bulk of them are kept shut up in the bowels of the earth in a place known simply as "Engineering Lecture".

I am pleased, Mortimor, that you have written and encourage other frosh with questions to do likewise.

magoo

FOUND IN mathNEWS MAILBOX:

ARRGH!!
 $(a+b)(c+d)$
 $=ac+ad+bc+bd$
 $=a(c+d)+b(c+d)$
 $=(a+b)(c+d)$
 curses FOILED again!

