EXECUTIVE RAMBLES thru the GREAT MATHweek

Here I am sitting at the mathsoc Pub trying to think of what to write. As usual getting started is the hardest part. Speaking of the pub, this is one of the more qualified flops, there only being 11 people here at this time (8:50pm). Where are you now? Why aren't you here? We don't organize these activities for the good of our health, after all while sitting here we usually end up drinking too much and regretting it later! We wouldn't get so drunk if we had more people to talk to.

Seeing that we don't seem to be getting any sort of attendance for one reason or another, we will have no more bi–weekly pubs. Of course if you put enough pressure on us, we can reinstigate (investigate!) pubs.

Now, just to contradict myself, there will be a wine & cheese pub next Tuesday, November the 8th. This is a unique pub as the wine, cheese and admission is free. (50 cents for non–mathies). The music will be supplied by a disc jockey from Colona, B.C. Incidentally he does not like disco music, just straight rock and roll. Doors open at 8pm in the math faculty lounge on the fifth floor. School and age ID are required by law. This is just one of the events of the **GREAT MATH**week.

The week kicks off on Friday, November 4th. It all starts with the *great* all day Broomball Tournament. The games are from 8am to 6pm at St. Clement's.

For all you Elton John or Who fans its time to play the *Silver Ball*! That's right, we're having a tournament for all you pinball wizards. It starts at noon on Saturday (the 5th) and continues until the number one pinball wizard is found. The lights will be flashing in the Campus Centre games room. Also on Saturday beginning at around 8pm in the Campus Centre we will have a science fiction all–niter. *WATSFIC* picked the following movies to entertain you 'till dawn:

No Blade of Grass
Westworld
When Worlds Collide
The Golem
Things to Come

Monday features the great annual slide rule contest which will be held in the third floor lounge. Each team will have 3–4 members. The winners will feast on a free meal. The event will commence at noon when the 6 foot sliderules emerge from hiding to decide the champ.

Skipping on to Wednesday we find teams facing–off at noon in the table hockey tournament. Later in the day bridge fanatics will do battle in the 3rd floor lounge starting at 6pm.

If you have ever wondered what the inside of a brewery is like, Thursday is the day of a tour of the Molsons brewery in Toronto. Bus leaves around noon and returns at about 6:30pm. The tour includes a stint in their hospitality room!

To end off this fantastic week is a semi–formal complete with a meal of Sirloin–tip roast of beef. The music supplied by Chelsea Morning starts at 9:00pm. The group is a Mathsoc traditional and plays top 40 music. A good time should be had all. Tickets are available at MC3038 at the bargain price of $15 per couple.

See ya again next time I(we) decide to write. Good night!

Friday, November 4, 1977.
Volume XV, Number 6.

math NEWS

The Federation Volunteer Program

First allow me to thank you as Mathies for your vote of confidence and support during the past election. I very much appreciate it and will do my best to fulfill my obligations to you.

Now I call upon you again to ask for your assistance. The Federation needs a lot of things right now (money, organization, communication), but most of all it needs you.

If you are interested in working for **your** federation for one scheduled hour each week, we need you to:
1)–form an advisory monetary committee.
2)–do keypunching and terminal work.
3)–conduct polls.
4)–do Business, Economics and Stats studies.
5)–do clerical and office work.

We need your talents. It will only take one hour of your time a week. Come around and see us in CC235. It's your federation, use it.

Rick Smit, Federation President

FEED BACK

mathNEWS welcomes your criticisms, comments, suggestions, etc. All letters should be signed, but if requested, a pen name will be used. Put your **Feedback** articles in our *mailbox* on the third floor outside the lounge, or mail it to us on TSS to userid **mathNEWS**, or take it to MC 3038 and have it put in our mail slot, or put it in the mail addressed to **mathNEWS**, MC 3038.

Dear **mathNEWS**,

I must protest Steve Risto's allegation (**mathNEWS** XV.5) that my reporting in the chevron of federation council meetings is biased.

I have re—examined my council stories, as Risto requested, and find that (a) to say that I report the "preachings" of Carter and Kimmons "in great detail" is silly. Please show me the evidence, because I can't find it. (b) It is true that Carter and Kimmons are often part of a minority opposition, and that means their points should be reported in order that the article be fair to both sides. However, it is not true that I ignore the comments of other councillors (on either side of the debate). Statements of the form "Many councillors supported X ..." are common in my articles, and quite adequate for reporting a consensus. It is neither practical nor readable to list the names of all councillors who take any given position.

As for my coverage of Smylie's ramblings, a survey of my council tapes shows that 99.9 per cent of the time Smylie is either (a) speaking with the permission of the speaker, or (b) speaking without the permission of the speaker, or (c) rising on a point of order, information or personal privilege, or (d) hurling threats of law suits and recalls at various councillors.

I'd say that Smylie is already getting the coverage that he deserves. And if you think it does him any good, take a look at how many votes he got in Renison (his constituency) when he ran for president.

nick redding

FRIDAYS!

Dear **mathNEWS**:

What are you people doing there anyway? You have just succeeded in ruining my second friday in a row. Now I can't sit in class on a friday afternoon and read my **mathNEWS**. Please deliver on time (eg. friday)!!!!!!!

A.C.Patel

GENTLE GIANTS

Dear **mathNEWS**:

How about an expose on how in his first week of office our new *least of several evils* federation president Rick Smit demonstrated his competence by half cancelling the gentle giant concert (that is telling everyone except gentle giant and the guys selling tickets down at Sam's). Has anyone a reliable estimate on how much we lost on this well thought out move ?

B.M.Perkin

Read TAKITH elsewhere in the issue.

AMA

Dear **mathNEWS**:

Up with the anti—mathematics—alliance!! Down with the running—dog accountancy option!! Free all opressed math students from the tyranny of the algebra—alliance.

uco

We need more brilliant minds.
Doesn't everybody? In 1970 there were 329 college graduates per 100,000 people. Six times this proportion would have been eligible for MENSA, an organization whose only requirement is scoring in the top 2% on a regular I.Q. test. Are **you** one of these? For further official documentation write: Julie Richards, Administrator, MENSA CANADA SOCIETY, Donino Court, Toronto, Ontario M4N 2H6; or call David Galvin (Guelph ph. 823—1748) and ask about the next meeting.

The TAKITH Prize of the Week

The Takith Prize of the Week this week goes to all those people who did not buy Gentle Giant tickets. Yes, that means you!!! Thanks to you, we have been deprived of yet another chance to see a good concert at a decent price without having to travel seventy miles. The Feds screwed up the Springsteen concert last year, among other things; but they can't be accused of underadvertising on this one. For two weeks beforehand there were ads in the K—W Record and in campus papers. U of G managed to sell their concert out. If people won't support the Federation when it manages to bring in someone good, then they shouldn't complain when they are stuck with vapid stuff like Burton Cummings and Styx. I guess I'll have to wait until Cockburn comes again.

—pogo

PAPAL BULL

As the high priest of ACBA (and the only avatar of Sekinus) it shocks and saddens me to see the heretical perversions to which my flock has turned.

I refer, of course, to the want ad that appeared in **mathNEWS** last issue, telling the faithful to meet "by the chrome bicycle rack outside mc 3038. Bring your paint cans..." As if one could actually *paint* a chrome bicycle!!!

The poor deluded fools, they are already under the evil influence of the dreaded chrome bicycle, if they think that one can actually even *touch* a chrome bicycle, let alone paint one! **CHROME BICYCLES DO NOT EXIST!!!** they are delusions brought about by sin, depravity, and peeling off beer labels.

I hope that this has clearly demonstrated the official position of the ACBA hierarchy.

NOTEPAD

*I had a real good (real well?) opening fo this week's NOTEPAD (something to do with whipped cream, mayonnaise, and rolled—up newspapers) but our editor— in—cheat (excuse me "cheif") djmullin strafed it into senslessness.

Even as I write this he sits hunched over a glowing CRT terminal cackling cruelly to himself as line after line of electrostatic video input (sic our articles) disappear under his mechanistic manipulations, the cold glinty in his eyes flaring sadistically with each pale—fingered caress of the cold plastic keys.

The yellow fluorescents seem to surge forth with growing impatience as though sucking energy from the black haired demon below, yet still unable to satify their insatiable thirst on his meagre charity.

Incidentally, the dj I believe stands for Desk Jockey. He doesn't know the problems encountered by a young writer struggling to produce literary artwork! Besides which it aint fair.

*Believe It Or Not (I'm beginning to sound like Ripley's now) I actually got some mail from one of my readers! Someone out there actually reads this trash!! (And now folks we'll try for three exclamation points!!!)

And so, in commemoration of the blessed event....
MEKACZMARCZY, THIS IS YOUR LIFE!!!!
(and that makes four!!!!!)

Sorry, I don't mean to sound too sarcastic but desk jockey mullin has chained me to this terminal until my feedback picks up...(Wires trailing snake—like accross the damp marble floor. The crackling of electricity and the pungent odour of ozone in the air heighten the evil tension which pervades the entire room.

A large humanoid form lies immobile on a huge concrete slab, not as yet alive though the wires which halo its head dance with electric anticipation.

Slapping his hands against one another to chase away the stinging cold of the lab, the evil doctor Bosworthe turned withe a smile toward his faitheful half—blind, hunchbacked assistant.

"Just think Avrodopolis," he said. "In but a few moments the feedback current will course through my monster's brain and set it free from the iron grip of death!!"

"Yes master,...heh...heh...heh.." Avrodopolis replied.) Getting back to reality, mekaczmarczy (if you write me again, show me how to split that userid up) is so far responsible for 50% of my feedback. (That's one half for the engine—ears out there.)

In his message to me this week, ME (it's easier that way) had two valid points he wanted to make. First of all WIDGET is really spelled WIDJET. I am fully aware of this and have been aware since time immemorial (that's just off highway 8). BUT!!! how many good acronyms for J can you think of (other than Junk)? In fact, if you can think of any, send 'em on in. Using a G however makes thinks much easier. You can get garbage, glitch, gadget, godawful, etc.

I also figured I might be able to slip it past my avid readers.
SIGH

*My invisible friend's other comment was really more of a question. He (she? I never really thought about it before. If you're a guy ME then all right, but if you're a gal, then my phone number is 886... ahhh....better just call me on TSS).

Anyway, ME wanted to know why the Gentle Giant concert was cancelled. The official report isn't in yet but rumour has it that there just weren't enough tickets sold. If that's the case there isn't much we can do about apathy (although my Apathy International Association is recruiting no—one daily, a good sign for apathy) but if tickets wasn't the problem then I would strongly suggest that everyone who got screwed should complain like hell until someone coughs up an answer. Also have a look at the letters in our FEEDBACK column....someone agrees with you.)

*This week's apathy index is zero....no—one wanted to be bothered collecting data.

*Idi Amin, Grandest Ruler of Uganda, Queen of England, and Leader of the Commenwealth said in a report today that he believes in chrome bicycles. In fact some of his best friends are chrome bicycles.
I'm switching my support to ACBA!

*I see that Bob Seger is trying hard to be God (see Pogo's RRIM article) for my money Bruce Springsteen is good enough, but if the recent elections are to be any indication of the future, we'll probably end up with the engine—ears voting for refundable godhood.

*Last weekend I went home (mullin is sighing in happy remembrance) and while there saw a new movie called DAMNATION ALLEY, based loosely on the excellent Roger Zelazny book by the same title. (how loosely based you ask? Frictional coefficient = 0)
It's really not a bad movie, but wait until you get to the killer cockroaches! Nifty, keen, neato.....

*Disease of the Week: Hemorrhoids of the nasal passages. (How do you smell releif? DON'T INHALE YOU FOOL!!!!) Preparation N comes in ointment, suppositories or water pipe.

*Well I also caught a cold back in the old steel city and right now my throat is so sore I can hardly talk. (Another sigh from the DJ). So, goodbye, see you next week, and for the love of Bruce Springsteen give me some feedback.

—dthedmonds

A Short ristoNEWS This Week

This week, due to my heavy mid—term schedule I'm not going to say much. Also, most of what I want to say has already been said. Besides, I realize that I've been far to verbose in the last few issues.

You see, this newspaper has got a problem. Simply by scanning the issues put out this term you can see that the quantity of actual news coverage in **mathNEWS** has drastically been cut back. It seems that everyone on the staff is into writing some sort of column which usually turns out to be something less than news, and more like mild entertainment (I also realize that there's far too much politics in it also). In the old days **mathNEWS** used to have only two columns, burloaf and the phantom. The rest of the staff used to concentrate on putting some sort of rag together which would be informative, yet still carry a lively and humorous spirit. Now everyone writes their column each week and we end up with a unco—ordinated, and quite often empty, newspaper.

I think that it's time to do something about this situation. Thus in the future I'll try to curtail the length of this column and instead concentrate on putting some **NEWS** back into **mathNEWS** (besides now that the election/referendum is over, and I've explained how the chevron managed to get reinstated, I have no great need to expound on for pages, which actually is a little bit ridiculous).

Hopefully I won't be the only one who will be doing this, (I can't even guarantee how much I be able to do as I'm pretty bogged down by work), as perhaps some of the others will help. Anyway something has to be done.

I just read Nick Redding's feedback letter about part of last week's column. I don't have time to get into it now, but hopefully I will next week. See you then. (You know this business of starting this week's **mathNEWS** on the same day that last week's paper comes out is slightly insane.)
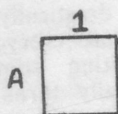
Steve L. Risto

Due to the overwhelming response to the last *gridword* (we got a grand total of 1 (count 'em) response to it) the grand choice of winners will be put off a whole 'nother week. So all you tardy people can have another week's extension (but remember to have it in at the beginning of the tutorial).

WE NEED *GRIDWORDS* SO PLEASE GIVE ME SOME. Remember, you get a free t—shirt for a *gridword* (what a deal for a few hours when you should be studying for a cs350 midterm!).

This week's effort is by our very own (take him—please!) Trob, who claims it's the world's smallest *gridword* but it isn't in the Guiness Book of Records...

down

a1 tss userid

across

1a N.____

NAME?

Ramblings, Ravings, and Incoherent Mumbles

Welcome to RRIM, the only column which has run out of good things to say about itself in its first sentence. The other froshi on staff have joined the club and started putting out columns, though not nearly as brilliantly as yours truly. In the aftermath of the election—referendum, things are slowly beginning to slip back into focus. I saw a headline in the K—W Record the other day that said "Student Union shapes up" and that threatened to send me into catatonia, but it was talking about Wilfred Laurier. Ah well, the Feds have a few months left.

———

Like that? It was a Christmas gift from the Trob.

———

Due to the hypnotic qualities of a Teleray, last week's problem was reduced to a trivial one, which tjthompson insisted on being credited with the solution to. (Did I drop a participle there?) It's being reprinted in correct form this week.

Problem #2: Person A is rowing on a circular lake when she notices B at the edge; she's at the centre. A can run faster than B but B can run *k* times as fast as A can row. Give a strategy for A to get away and give the maximum value of *k* for which it holds. B can't swim.

Problem #3: What powers of 10 with exponent less than 100 are factorable into two numbers which contain no zeroes?

Problem #4: Given three points chosen at random on an infinite plane, what is the probability of them forming an obtuse triangle?

Send solutions and new problems to the userid at the bottom of the article, or drop them in the **mathNEWS** mailbox.

———

All seriousness aside, folks, we've received complaints that **mathNEWS** is run by a biased political clique. Insofar as issue # 4 seemed like a VOTE FOR RICK SMIT propaganda sheet, and Mathsoc is mainly controlled by Fed hacks (I use the term loosely), this is really not the case. Certainly the three froshi are not part of any clique. The main reasons that issues like that get printed is that **mathNEWS** does not receive enough filler to really start looking at what it's printing and weeding out columns like this one which no reasonable paper would print. Those that submit articles get them printed; that's so obvious even Artsies would think of it. An Artsie friend of mine (dare I admit it?) has told me he will knock two of my teeth out if I say any more, so I'll shut up.

———

We are having trouble getting the Hacklings organized because the intersection of the set of people reading **mathNEWS** and the set of frosh having TSS accounts seems to be practically empty. The CSC, in its infinite wisdom, has refused to give me a list of people satisfying the latter criterion, or even let me take a quick peek at it. Another stumbling block seems to be the inability of many people to find my userid at the bottom of the column. It's there this week. The Hacklings (or AppSoc as we will probably end up calling ourselves) will not be a structured organization with meetings as such, but merely a loose association of people helping other people. Mutual ignorance, you might say.

Do not worry, it has been proven in a doctoral thesis that the limit of the length of Sir R's articles as t approaches infinity is finite. Photon can't set type smaller than 8 points. Random thought: if Anita Bryant did not exist it would be necessary to invent her.

———

A random sampling of my mailbox last week produced the following: dwgillett commenting on Sacco and Vanzetti, and claiming a WIDJET record of 30 files archived from one terminal in 3 minutes (those were the good old days); tjthompson still trying to claim his t—shirt; rjsargent carrying on a discussion about artsie chicks; jrgross stuffing my filespace with qed headline output; and seven hundred CSC messages. Thanx for all the mail; do drop me a line, my userid is *plragde* on TSS and Unix.

Remember, Bob Seger is working on being God!!!

(Anyone notice Jim Todd's resembl(Ance to him?)

—pogo

COMPETITIVE BALL HOCKEY

Last chance for the team to make the playoffs is on next Monday, November 7 at 4:45 at Seagram Gymnasium when they play the St. Jeromes Alki's. A 6—5 loss last week to WEST E leaves a win over St. Jeromes as the only way to make the playoffs.

Mathsoc and West E were evenly matched, both fighting for a playoff position, and both had good player turn—out for the game. Math trailed early but totally dominated the first half with good all round play and 2 goals each by Greg Ross and Henry Matyszczuk gave math a 4—1 lead at the half. West E, realizing a loss would end their season, pushed hard in the last 20 minutes. Mathsoc's inability to control play in their own end resulted in many close plays around the net. The village team took advantage of the opportunities to score 5 straight goals and take a 6—4 lead before Greg Ross netted his third of the game with five minutes to go. West E then took a defensive stand to protect the one goal lead which gave them a playoff spot and forced the Mathsoc—St. Jeromes showdown.

In the first game of the schedule Mathsoc and the SJC Alki's played to a 5—5 tie. That was back in September and at that time it was our guys who rallied for the tie. This time they have to win.

FEDSINACTION

I see that the chevron and Jim Todd credit me for Rick Smit's election (fortunately Larry Smylie didn't say anything what a relief). That is amazing considering that I didn't do much campaigning except on the last day or two. I did more work in the past with less successful campaigns for Rorrison and Thompson, so I cannot claim total credit for Rick Smit's victory. The majority of the credit must go to the candidate himself.

I also see that the chevron is also starting to invent words (perhaps to go along with the stories they seem to invent). A case in point is Steve Coates' use of the word "Agglomerate" in reference to Smit's plan to merge some Federation boards. I recently checked a dictionary and no where was the word agglomerate to be found. It appears as if "conglomerate" or "amalgamate" would have been more suitable.

I know that there have been many problems with the management of the Board of Entertainment this year. I also know, as far as quantity goes, that there has been more actual "entertainment" this term than in a long time. However, both at the Federation and society level, attendance has been dropping. Is there "too much" entertainment on campus. I believe its time the students stopped complaining about a "lack" of entertainment on campus and started supporting student-run events.

Well that about concludes things for now. Next week we learn who the new first year mathsoc rep is and whether Wayne Berthin gets elected as the first pro-Chevron Engsoc President.

—J.J.Long

Basketball

Math "B" Basketball team is playoff bound due to their fifth straight victory last Monday. They have one game left in the regular season but it has no relevance on the outcome of the season. Playoffs commence in two weeks. Spectators are most welcome.

Flag Football

Well, the math flag football team actually played a game and didn't lose. Yes, in their last game of the season they went in with a 0-5-0 record and came out with a 0-5-1 record.

WATERPOLO

Math Seahoars win one!! Math also loses as the other team decided not to show up. Math has decided that the best way to win is to have Ken play net for math and HS play net for the other team. Because of the "limited" number who showed up the score was close (only 15 to 5). Dunking was also rampant as the score was roughly 50 to 50 or more! (Next week HS gets drowned!) Any attractive female persons interested in playing should apply in person at the Mathsoc Office or show up for the next game (check Mathletics Board for game schedule)

—yank

Kid Paranoid

Here I am again back for another week. I am engaged in a life or death struggle with the trob for the mastery of Europe in Sixth Fleet. I am writing this at the same time so please bear with me.

Conspiracy of the Week—the Business 111 hand-in case from the high school across the street. It is due on Friday, but if it comes in on Wednesday with a ticket stub from the Laurier—Western game attached it will be accepted.

This week's joke:
widjet

Interviews are over ——finally? Now we must wait a tortuous two weeks before we find out the awful news.

The Imperialist Alliance has gone temporarily underground until plans are complete for the takeover of all the universities in Canada. After the completion of this takeover an assault will be launched on the Tel Aviv Institute of Tractoring.

Today's fads—(swiped from Mad magazine)
1. Do the limbo under barbed wire.
2. Open a pickled tripe stand.
3. Go skindiving in quicksand.
4. Have your jockey shorts bronzed and wear them that way.
5. Call a girl up and ask for a date at the turn of the century.

What do you get when you cross Yugoslavia?
answer: Tito secret police to make you uncross it.

there's nothing that can match the desolation in your soul than when you reach for toilet paper and there's nothing on the roll.

I believe in having high ambitions for myself. My newest ambition is to be denounced by the AIA.
stay paranoid!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

midterm

Midterms: Those things which students are forced to do at this time of year. Did you ever stop to thnk what types of midterms there are? You could do true—false, multiple guess, essay, or problem solving. Think of the stupid questions that appear on these horrendous things.

On a psych midterm, the following question was asked: "What color was Pavlov's dogs?"

1. Black
2. Brown
3. Red
4. White with black spots

You may think that Pavlov's dogs were "3. Red" because Pavlov was a russian. What did Pavlov's K-9s have to do with psychology anyway? Actually, Pavlov was a KNIRP spy. His mission was to destroy mankind and replace it with a KNIRP controlled dogkind. Needless to say, he failed. He was tried for screwing—up a mission and treason and other crimes. He was aquitted on most charges but was executed for jay—walking. Hence the human race is still here.

Another question that appeared on a recent physics exam: "State Newton's three laws and explain the relationship they have with Einstein's theory of relativity" Since you EARTHS have little knowledge of these two, I shall inform you of their ways. Einstein was a KNIRPian genetics expert, who, by cross—breeding all the humans in the world with KNIRPS was going to gain control of earth for the KNIRPS. His theory of relativity explains the relationship between people so that in two generations the earth would be in the KNIRP Empire. Newton, on the other hand, was a military KNIRP (he led the invasion of GREAME). His three laws were "rape, pillage, burn". Thus the only relation ship they have is (in an abstract way) strictly sexual.

One question that appeared on an (n−1)junear's bullshit 100 exam was "true or false: All engineers drink beer". This is false!! Since (n−1)junears are KNIRPS, they drink KNIRP−nip. or KNIRP−ade or KNIRP juice.

The fact of the matter is that midterm (yuck) is a KNIRP smoke−screen to test you on how little you don't (or do) know. Any inquiries may be sent to mathSNOOZ c/o mathNEWS. If I say that I'm a wise man then it surely means that I don't know.

Anti−Midterm Alliance

IMPURE MATH

Once upon a time (1/T) pretty little Polly Nomial was strolling across a field of vectors when she came to the edge of a singularly large matrix.

Now Polly was convergent and her mother had made it an absolute condition that she must never enter such an array without her brackets on. Polly, however, who had changed her variables that morning and was feeling particularly badly behaved, ignored this condition on the grounds that it was insufficient and made her way amongst the complex elements.

Rows and columns enveloped her on all sides. Tangents approached her surface. She became tensor and tensor. Quite suddenly, three branches of a hyperbola touched her at a single point. She oscillated violently, lost all sense of directrix and went completely divergent. As she reached a turning point she tripped over a square root which was protruding from the erf and plunged headlong down a steep gradient. When she was differentiated once more she found herself, apparently alone, in a noneuclidean space.

She was being watched however. That smooth operator, Curly Pi, was lurking inner product. As his eyes devoured her curvilinear coordinates, a singular expression crossed his face. Was she still convergent, he wondered. He decided to integrate improperly at once.

Hearing a vulgar fraction behind her, Polly turned round and saw Curly Pi approaching with his power series extrapolated. She could see at once, by his degenerate conic and his dissipative terms that he was bent on no good.

"Eureka!" she gasped.

"Ho, ho", he said. "What a symmetric little polynomial you are. I can see you're bubbling over with secs."

"O Sir," she protested, "Keep away from me. I haven't got my brackets on."

"Calm yourself, my dear", said our suave operator. "Your fears are purely imaginary."

"I, I", she thought, "Perhaps he's homogeneous then."

"What order are you?" the brute demanded.

"Seventeen," replied Polly.

Curly leered. "I suppose you've never been operated on yet?"

"Of course not," Polly cried indignantly. "I'm absolutely convergent."

"Come, come," said Curly. "Let's off to a decimal place I know and I'll take you to the limit."

"Never!" gasped Polly.

"Exchlf!" he swore, using the vilest oath he knew. His patience was gone. Coshing her over the coefficient with a log until she was powerless, Curly removed her discontinuities. He stared at her significant places and began smoothing her points of inflection. Poor Polly. All was up. She felt his hand tending to her asymptotic limit. Her convergence would soon be gone forever.

There was no mercy, for Curly was a Heaviside operator. He integrated by parts. He integrated by partial fractions. The complex beast even went all the way around and did a contour integration. What an indignity—to be multiply connected on her first integration! Curly went on operating until he was absolutely and completely orthogonal.

When Polly got home that evening, her mother noticed that she had been truncated in several places. But it was too late to differentiate now. As the months went by, Polly increased monotonically. Finally she generated a small but pathological function which left surds all over the place until she was driven to distraction.

The moral of our sad story is this: If you want to keep your expressions convergent, never allow them a single degree of freedom.
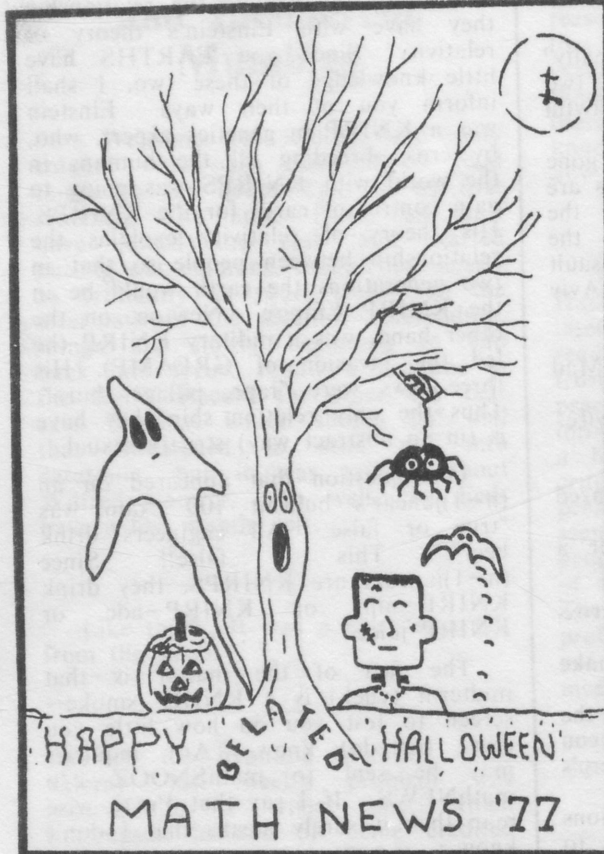

Source language programming

The shortest < b | c | fortran | pl1 | jovial | algol | asm | etc. > program, that when executed, will generate as output the source language version of itself.

rules — It is not legal to have the program read any files.

If enough interest is shown, the best entries will be published in next weeks **mathNEWS**. (An example of the above is the qed program b.$pq that when executed as a qed program will generate b.$pq)

Knew this pretty secretary at IBM. Her virtual mammaries had no visible means of support.

HAPPY BELATED HALLOWEEN

MATH NEWS '77

It is now 6:30 as I start yet another (yawn) masthead. There almost wasn't an issue this week (discounting the one delayed from last week). But... the fates decreed and it was so. Found: One ad which didn't get typed in so here it is... *Found article belonging to David Glass. Contact JoAnne at 579-2016 to retrieve it.* We started this issue in MC3038 with hot water and tea and eventually ended up in MC3011 with yawns.

This week our underpaid staff consisted of..... ALEX tried to jam the Calculus Kid into the phhoton and met with great difficulties WHITE; JOHN LEE suffered the torture of typing in what J.J.LONG wrote; PHILIP continued in next issue KELLY; sports flowed in from numerous sources... comment from member of math's broomball team after Tuesday nights game: "We got stomped five nothing"; KEVIN WILLIS and GEOFF HAINS murdered paper with ink; DAVE "first I must type my garbage in" THORPE; POGO was catching up for last week; WIL MACAULAY presented next to nothing in world records; chief demon DEAN EDMONDS; half the KNIRPsoc executive did it again (will they ever get it right the first time?); the "shy" (??) froshi was back again typing and terrorising; DAVE have fleet, will travel GILLETT; STEVE much ado about nothing RISTO; JOHANN typed rather than rip GEORGE; KEITH on the graveyard shift DORKEN; PETER FRASER (??) was also around; that hopefully covers everyone expect the creature DENNIS MULLIN still awake at 7am. **SIGH** It is now 10:50am having been delayed by the photon running out of film at 7:40am (So I took a short nap). See you next(?) week?