math NEWS

Prezz Sezz

Anyone who owns a car and parks it in an on campus parking lot should remember that they are not allowed to park in these lots between the times of 3:00 and 6:00 in the morning. They should also know that it is forbidden to park on campus for more than twenty four hours in a row. Anyone who wants to stay on campus during the wee hours of the morning should phone security to make sure that they can park without having their car towed.

Mathsoc's tape collection has now increased in size. We have a dozen new tapes which means we now have over one hundred and fifty different albums from which you can request.

We need some volunteers to sit on two different faculty committees. The committees in question are Faculty Council and the Curriculum Committees. These are two of the most important committees that deal with the students. Anybody interested in these committees should come into Mathsoc and inquire about them.

Since Liverpool didn't do as well as expected, let's see a big turnout for the pub on Thursday January 25 in MC 5136.

Geoff Hains
Mathsoc President

Ruminations

Good sense is of all things in the world the most evenly distributed, for even those most difficult to please in all other matters do not commonly desire more of it than they already possess.

It is better to remain silent and be thought of as a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt.

To the mathematician the eleventh is simply that which follows the tenth, just one number among the many, to the aborigine who cannot count beyond his own ten fingers it is an incalculable myriad.

-the gadfly

5-4 TIE??

The Math A hockey team came out on the short end of a 5-4 score after their first game of the term against the Rockers. Only eight goals were scored in the game, but the officials saw fit to allow a direct hit on the Math goal post to count as a point in favour of the opposition. It turned out to be the winning margin.

Tony Fava scored the first goal midway through the first half and that opened the end to end battle. Rockers got that one back just a few minutes later, but John Vander Griendt scored a shorthanded goal to put Math back in the lead; it didn't last, as the half ended a 2-2 tie.

With less than nine minutes to go in the game the Rockers took the lead, then they were awarded the bonus goal. It seemed clear to almost everyone on the ice and both benches that the shot didn't go in, but the powers that be overruled. The Math team was a little disorganized afterwards and the Rockers took a 5-2 lead with very little time remaining. Math captain Murray Spivey scored and John Vander Griendt added his second to narrow the lead. Math's six man attack failed to tie the game; time ran out, giving the Rockers the victory.

The A team is in an extremely tough division this term and can't afford to lose any of their games. The five game season provided through the Intramural Dept doesn't allow the opportunity to gain back lost ground before the playoffs. Half of last term's championship team has left, but the return of co-op students has provided ample replacements. Math A plays every Thursday night at Moses Springer Arena, ending on Feb 8. Spectators are welcome.

NOTICE

Nominations are now open for the position of **mathNEWS** editor. Any full-time mathematics student is eligible to apply. Nominations will be accepted in the MathSoc office (M&C 3038) until 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 30. The election will be held at the mathNEWS production meeting on Tuesday, January 30. Watch **mathNEWS** for the time and place of the meeting.

C&D ROBBED

The Mathematics Society Coffee and Doughnut Stand office was broken into over the weekend and approximately 200 dollars was taken. When questioned, C&D manager Michael Webster revealed that last week's payroll (a maximum of 285 dollars) was removed from the locked cabinet sometime between 5:00 p.m. Saturday and 9:00 a.m. Monday.

It seems that the cabinet was forced open with a screwdriver or similar instrument, leaving ample dents and gouges in the cabinet to confirm that it was indeed forced. How the culprit gained entry to the office is a mystery, as is the reason he/she left untouched the unlocked cashbox full of money sitting in the same drawer.

As to the effect of the theft on the financial status of C&D, Mr. Webster has assured us that the loss of the money will not be a problem to him, provided that it doesn't happen again. To ensure this, Mr. Webster tells us, C&D is going to invest in some security devices, the exact nature of which he is understandably reluctant to divulge.

If anyone has any information concerning this theft, it would be greatly appreciated if they would relate it to a representative of **mathNEWS** or C&D. The identity of anyone who comes forward will be kept in the strictest confidence.

Concerning Censorship and Obscenity

The question is often raised nowadays of the value and reason for censorship, and what, if anything, should actually be censored. The necessity of making some sort of decision was brought in front of me this week as I was challenged on the presence of a certain "toast" on the back of last week's **mathNEWS** which appeared at the end of an article on the Ottawa student cooperative pubs.

I think that the general question of censorship falls into two categories. One, the question of banning either a given set of words and phrases or a given set of images from appearing in a given area; e.g. the question of whether or not that toast should have appeared, or whether or not the **mathNEWS** writers should be allowed to use "fuck" or "shit" (or whatever) in their columns. The second is the question of the absolute banning (i.e. by the government's action) of a set of words or images.

I am perfectly ready to admit that the line between these two categories is a hazy one. By way of example, consider the proposed Nazi demonstrations in Chicago last spring. The demonstrators' claim was that in requiring the posting of a half-million dollar bond their right to free speech was being stifled. The answer was to say that the bond was only applied to the place in which the demonstration was to take place. The Court was faced with the question of whether or not the prohibition of place was in fact at denial of free speech. What if the American government had insisted that the only place the demonstration could be made was Point Barrow, Alaska? What if the demonstrators had insisted on making the demonstration in the local synagogue?

I think that a real argument can be formed for the idea of things simply being fitting in some places but not in others. In the far less important case of **mathNEWS** was I right to accept that ending to the article? After all, that's pretty tame compared to some of the mourceaux in Enginews. One person who challenged me on the question said that that sort of thing was "out of place" in this paper. Reflecting, I think he's right; whatever one may think of obscenity oneself, in a semi-public publication the matter of fittingness is foremost.

What, now, are the characteristics of a piece that make it obscene, or unfit in a certain place? (I'm talking now about the first form of censorship.) A look at Phil's "continued from page 13" this week will show that we (the staff) have nothing

against words in their own right. After dicussing with some staff I decided that the things which will be kept out in future will be those things which are written purely for the sake of the "obscene" words or ideas they use. Excluded, then, are dirty jokes and cartoons, and such things as the end of that article. **MathNEWS** staff are still free to punctuate their columns with whatever they think fitting. Anything less would be to change **mathNEWS's** tradition. Anything more would be unfair.

ajmalton

New Bedfellows for C.A.'s?

Dr. A. Rosen, Ph.D., C.A., R.I.A. will be special speaker at the Chartered and Management Accounting Options feedback meeting to be held Thursday, January 25, 1979 at 7:00 p.m. in M&C 2065.

To add some zest to our feedback session, we have invited a guest speaker of considerable repute. Dr. Rosen is with the Faculty of Administrative Studies at York University, and is a former Editor of the education section of the C.A. magazine. He is a Director of the newly-formed Canadian Academic Accounting Association and was its first president.

Dr. Rosen will be speaking on changes occurring in the Accounting profession.

As you know, the silicon chip, lasers and fibre optics are changing our information handling processes so much that industrial technology, in which our society has been immersed for over 150 years, must now make room for a new bedfellow: information technology.

To find out where its at——be there! Cash bar at the Faculty Club, 9:00 p.m.

C. F. A. Beaumont

PAC CHANGES

Those returning from their co-op temrms may have noticed a few changes in the locker room area of the PAC. Changes are being made to improve the laundry facilities and provide a single tote room counter. That means all students will be served equipment and towels from the single counter...that means you have to get your towel before you head to the showers! Other changes will be noted once the new system comes into effect.

From the Dean

As you may know, this year for the first time a Mathematics Graduation Ball will be held, and this event will take place on March 11th 1979, at the Transylvania Club.

This note is to invite you, and particularly the graduating students to attend the Graduation Ball, to celebrate the completion of your undergraduate program in the Faculty of Mathematics. However, not only are the graduating students invited, but also the sudents in other years, who should enjoy the dinner and dance and the opportunity to meet other students and faculty.

Tickets will be on sale in the middle of January at $30 per couple (not cheap, but it should be worth it!). If you would like to have any additional information, members of the Organizing Committee can be reached at 886-3377 or 885-2568.

I hope that you will be able to attend this function, and look forward to seeing many of you on March the 10th.
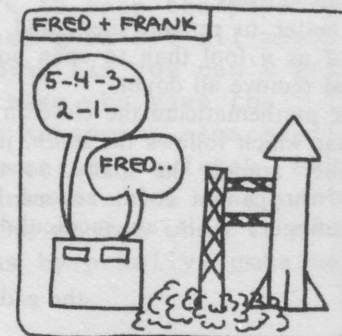
W. F. Forbes
Dean of Math

Sitting here by terminal five
Watching the time rolling by
Sitting here by terminal five
With my run in queue number nine
So my mind's in wandering ways.

Left my home on Parkside
Headed for the MC way
Put a few streets behind me
Just to make this screen my stay.
Seems like it won't work to well
So I say what the hell!

Sitting here by terminal five
Watching the time rolling by
Sitting here by terminal five
Wondering if I'm still alive
Whistle

Seems like no output will come my way.
So I guess I'll decide to stay.

Andy S.

MATHLETICS
TO DO

By the end of the week most of the Math teams will have seen some game play. Hopefully the players enjoyed it. Somewhere in the vicinity the layout artists have a list of games and activitiesfor the next two weeks. If you see anything you like, just show up at game time, or if you want more information ask for Charlene or Doug in Mathsoc.

Once the teams get started there shouldn't be too many problems. Please check the bulletin board in the centre of the third floor foyer area for Mathletics information. The team captains should have all the information for your team. Still further information exists on the Mathletics bulletin board out there

MEN'S:

HOCKEY- Moses Springer Arena
   MATH A ...Thurs, Jan 25 11 pm
         ...Thurs, Feb 1 11 pm
   MATH B ...Monday,Jan 22 12 pm
         ...Monday,Jan 29 11 pm

REC HOCKEY- Queensmount Arena
   HOT DOGSFri, Jan 19 4:00
         ...Fri, Feb 2 4:00

BASKETBALL- PAC Court 1
   MATH B ...Thurs, Feb 1 9:30

FLOOR HOCKEY- Seagram's Gym
   MATH B ...Tues, Jan 23 7:45
         ...Tues, Jan 30 6:45

INDOOR SOCCER- Seagram's
   MATH ...Friday Jan 26
       ...Friday Feb 2

BALL HOCKEY- Seagram's
   CHECK SCHEDULES
   EITHER ...Sun Jan 21
        ...Mon, Jan 22

DOUBLES TENNIS- Waterloo Park
   Entry ...Monday, Jan 22
   Matches ...Sunday, Jan 28 1pm

CROSS COUNTRY SKI LOPPET-
   Entry ...Monday, Jan 29
   Race ...Sunday, Feb 4 2pm

DOUBLES SQUASH-
   Entry ...Monday, Feb 5
   Matches ...Sat, Feb 9 10am

"How much for the text?" asked the class.
The professor just shrugged, then alas,
Made it known that he
Got his textbooks all free:
"Make the students expend, not harass"!

CO-ED:

BROOMBALL- McCormick Arena
   MATHSOCHISTS
      ...Friday Jan 26 3pm
      ...Friday Feb 2 2pm

VOLLEYBALL- PAC Courts
   MATH SLAMMERS
      ...Tues Jan 23 8:30pm ct 3
      ...Tues Jan 30 8:30pm ct 2

INNERTUBE WATERPOLO- PAC Pool
   MATH SEAHORSES
      ...Sun, Jan 21 (T.B.A)

MIXED BOWLING- Wat.Lanes
   Entry ...Monday, Jan 29
   Games ...Sat, Feb 3 1-5pm

MIXED CURLING- Ayr Club
   Entry ..Monday Feb 26
   Play ...Saturday March 3

WOMEN'S:

REC HOCKEY- McCormick Arena
   Games ...Wednesday nights 11pm

CROSS COUNTRY SKI LOPPET-
   Entry ...Monday, Jan 29
   Race ...Sunday, Feb 4 2pm

DOUBLES TENNIS- Waterloo Park
   Entry ...Monday, Jan 22
   Matches ...Sunday, Jan 28 1pm

VOLLEYBALL-
   Entry ...Monday, Feb 12
   Games ...Mon, Feb 26,Mar 5,12

McPhurty had an aging hound
He fed him gunshot every day
It made it hard to get around
So McPhurty lead the weigh.

   Life's a game.
   How much does it cost?
   One dime.
   But I only have a nickel!
   That's life!
   What's life?...

Consistency. Consistency
I praise you for your sameness
Ambiguity's defeat
Forever to be nameless.

as the girl comes (gee, salvaged just in time, eh!) and clears away the crap on the table.

Crap? Huh. I can remember when a piece of crumpled aluminum laminate, a tiny ripped corner or the curled black edge of a cigarette meant maybe two, three days in Dreamland. Now, they don't know, they think they got progress, but is it any better? Sure, you can get onto the machines now, even play a couple of games before they tear you off back, wriggling and scratching like we always used to, you can get a pitcher or maybe some hard stuff without five goddamn bloody fucking years peeling the black skin off the heaving sores running down tight scarred bone-limbs angling awking away when they tumble you down back out 'cause you haven't scrape scoured enough jesus pus and speckled filth and bilge from the corners. And it was never enough. You can even fucking get laid. But Dreamland? They never heard of it.

Oh god, once it was on a Thursday, kicking down Sixth with Chewey, we found two tabs bejesus sitting shed off some uptown Manager, sure it was with his tight blue Sunday Best torn and splattered by a thousand greedy shot and his pure sweet white bones thrusting smiling through the soft fine weave and purply white flesh torn twisted with the puke and scud by the creak crumbling backways of Some Fool's brickwork monument to his tight-ass love-sucking sister. "Bless poor mama, she never whored a Dreamer," but they don't know how she spent her midnights beaming with a sewer pal or two wet smiling in the alley. And we scooped them up, two clean pink ruby ripe angel-souls waiting like god made us prophets to nectar and whey wrapped in Hospital Houses, the cruel waxed paper thrown to the sick breeze behind us with their precious treasures deep down in our crying lonely honey-humming throats and scooting out of the alley for a Dreaming Place before we sweet-settled blind and smiling in the middle of Sixth with some wanderer's heaving eighteen wheeler spitting me out of its bug sucking chrome grillwork on the way to tumbling round icebergs sitting crisp and cool in Holland Marsh.

("Holy shit, and *Angels,* laced in white tight peeling purity opening up for the kiss of God settling smooth home into Wonderland——")

(not to mention the ubiquitous green blob assasins, curling quivering into the golden shadows bright with the crisp tight dying of the evening's (green blob) sunny blaze blasts, drunk on the wail of the stormy starry-arry wind warbling cool with sweet November) (and without cheese or Polskie O'Gork or the Five Flaming Fingers of O'Brian's Latin Legacy sliced with the stones of Timothy)

And all that.

pidnis bnzzle *(stupid puzzle, printed upside-down)*

1. SAND
2. MAN
   BOARD
3. STAND
   I
4. R E A D I N G
5. WEAR
   LONG
6. R
   ROAD
   A
   D
7. CYCLE
   CYCLE
   CYCLE
8. T
   O
   W
   N
9. LE VEL
10. KNEE
    LIGHT
11. 0
    M.D.
    PH.D.
    D.D.S.
12. ii   ii
    ⊙ ⊙
13. DICE
    DICE

    CHAIR
14.
15. T
    O
    U
    C
    H
16. GROUND
    FEET
    FEET
    FEET
    FEET
    FEET
    FEET
17. MIND
    MATTER
18. HE'S HIMSELF
19. ECNALG
20. DEATH LIFE

see solutions elsewhere...

CSC Flash!

The Computer Science Club held its first meeting of 1979 last Thursday, featuring guest speaker Ted Nelson. Nelson wrote a very popular book, *Computer Lib*, with a "flip side" called *Dream Machines*, a few years ago in an attempt to de-mystify computers, and to illustrate the fun there is in using them. Since the advent of cheap personal computers, Nelson has been a vigorous advocate, and is now involved in a firm, *Computopia*, that hopes to supply software for personal computer systems. This all sounds very serious. Ted Nelson is not. He is a nut. I mean that as a compliment.

He began his talk by describing one of the systems that his company is working on. The system, called Softree, used menu selection as the main method of interaction; that is, the system displays lists of various possibilities, and the user must choose between them. The various menus in the system are arranged in a tree structure, and the blocks of text on the terminal screen for each menu form a picture of a face, a mnemonic aid, and fun besides, said Nelson. The system included a number of application packages: a text editor called HyperWriter; a graphics package called Pictrola; a network planning aid called Planorama; and more. Nelson has a great affection for humourous names – whether this helps or hinders unfamiliar users is unclear, but it is FUN, and that's what's important.

With this example described, Nelson went on to a more philosophical level, expounding his views on software, and software design. He cited three basic principles: Virtuality; Soft Principles; and Fantics. He spent most of the time speaking about the importance of a clear virtuality, whether in architecture or computer science. Though he stressed that systems should be understood by their users, he later remarked that truly good design is art, and could not simply be guaranteed by research and attention focused on the needs of the user. He was convinced of the link between interactive computer systems design and art such as film making, he said, by successful software recently developed by artists in those other media.

After a break, Nelson spoke about the further development of computer systems he himself has designed, specifically those mentioned in *Dream Machines*. Perhaps the most interesting of these is the Xanadu system: a franchised network of "time-sharing" parlours to be used for text preparation and perusal. Nelson said that a drastically scaled down version of this system should be tested within the coming year, but it was clear to many members of the audience that there were a number of complications that Nelson had not considered fully. There are a lot of things Nelson does not seem to consider fully, but no one really minds. Nelson deals with ideas for computer systems at a high level, and makes no claim to having solved attendant problems. Regarding the Xanadu franchise system, Nelson remarks that he has always admired MacDonalds Restaurants, and *Dream Machines* does mention the possibility of giant golden Xs.

The talk by Ted Nelson was possibly the longest in CSC history, Nelson did not leave until half past midnight, and even then stayed a bit longer to try skateboarding on the third floor of the Math building. The talk was very well attended, well received, and sparked a great deal of discussion on a variety of topics, from the study of design, to the human implications of computing. He spoke of the coming guerilla war he sees between computing centres and the owners of personal computers. Is this punk computing? If so, is it the future?

Just before Ted Nelson's talk, the CSC held its termly elections, a time honoured democratic institution. The new executive of the Computer Science Club are:
Robert Biddle, president;
Mark Niemiec, vice president;
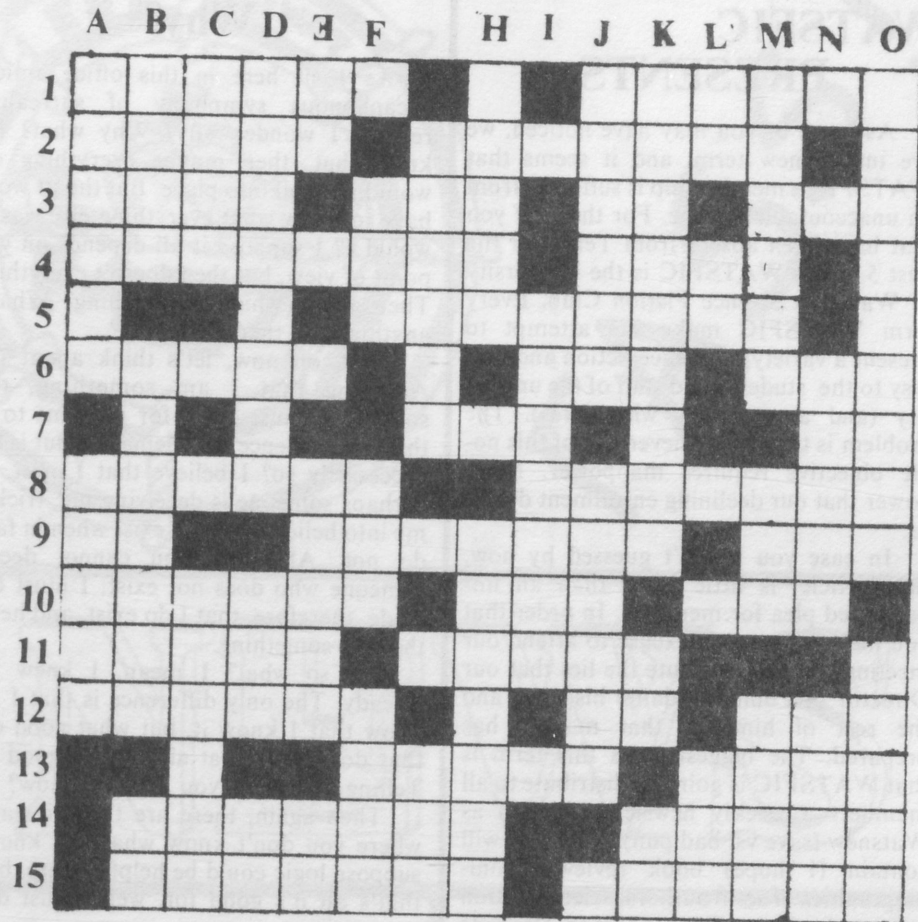Ken Dykes, secretary-treasurer.

- RI.Biddle

BLASTOFF!

FRED, THE SMOKE..

Across

1A To give is no date (6)
1J These boys cost us (6)
2A Boney black wood (5)
2G A moment of time in Tin Ants (7)
3A Novemberey? (4)
3F The sad typewriter row (3)
3J Is there room in the arm? (2)
3M Males (3)
4A Bet a late Mad Hatter was there (8)
4J Flying chocolate bar (4)
5F This jewellery is a risen rag (8)
6A Revolutionist in linen (5)
6I The spanish one (3)
6M With Dick and Harry (3)
7G This touch is a bad turn (3)
7N Direction of patella (2)
8A To give fear (6)
8I Bass woodwind (7)
9A Los Angeles (2)
9F Twisting Tolkien tree beverage (7)
9M Fat file (3)
10A eg: Horoscopes (6)
10H Conjugation (3)
10L Barking far (3)
11A Glow (5)
11G Feeling resentment (5)
12A Trig ratio ascent (6)
12J End Result (2)
12M Deer, deer,deer your boat... (3)
13F She's in America (5)
13L Hoop or dance (4)
14B Leif who? (7)
14K Retail turns around without i (5)
15B Melba or french (5)
15J The mod way of doing it (6)

Down

A1 And let teeth be described (6)
A8 Candy or teeth cleaner (5)
B1 Woodwind (4)
B6 A race he knows will hurt his hearing organ (7)
B14 "-- tu, Brute?" (2)
C1 Avon going! (4)
C10 Roman orator (6)
D1 What could a tiny Ghan be? (8)
D10 She's in lunar orbit (3)
D14 Internal Avenue (2)
E1 Ten (combining form) (2)
E8 Miss Keller (5)
E14 Cesium (2)
F3 Mr. Lincoln (3)
F8 Trinitrotoluene (3)
F12 Exam (4)
G2 This land is surrounded (6)
G13 Otherwise turn around (2)
H1 Stand or wear (5)
H9 Desiring to gnaw tin (7)
I5 Stroking the grub bin (7)
J1 The pain of exertion from trains (6)
J8 She's part of writing and reading (6)
K1 What followed after making a rocket with maize cone (4,5)
K11 Year (2)
K14 Male french article (2)
L1 Not off (2)

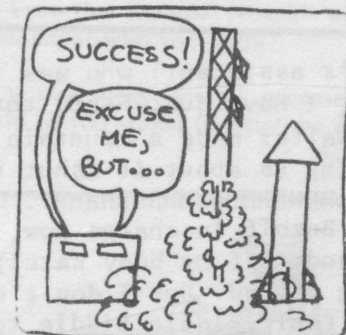L4 We'll take the rug without you. (3)
L13 There's a cap in that (3)
M1 To the highest degree, but most have it (6)
M8 Paddle (3)
M12 Faithful biblical woman (4)
N6 Switch positions (2,3)
N12 O'Lion Margirine (4)
O1 I had tenderness when I met tennis (9)
O11 This bread has hair in it! (5)

This gridword was provided some time ago by David S. Welbourn, but its printing was delayed because of lack of symmetry. But we're running short of gridwords! If you have any for us, place them in the gray **mathNEWS** mailbox near the third floor lounge. Solutions to this puzzle, as well as last week's, can also be placed there.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

1. Sand box
2. Man overboard
3. I understand
4. Reading between the lines
5. Long underwear
6. Crossroads
7. Tricycle
8. Downtown
9. Split level
10. Neon light
11. 3 degrees below zero
12. Circles under eyes
13. Paradise
14. High chair
15. Touchdown
16. Six feet underground
17. Mind over matter
18. He's beside himself
19. Backwards glance
20. Life after death

SUCCESS!

EXCUSE ME, BUT...

WATSFIC PRESENTS

As some of you may have noticed, we are into a new term, and it seems that WATSFIC's membership is suffering from an unaccoutable decline. For those of you that have been absent from Terra for the past 5 years, WATSFIC is the University of Waterloo Science Fiction Club. Every term WATSFIC makes an attempt to present a variety of science fiction and fantasy to the students and staff of the university (and anyone else who cares). The problem is that the achievement of this noble objective requires manpower. Manpower that our declining enrollment denies us.

In case you haven't guessed by now, this 'article' is little more than an impassioned plea for members. In order that you have some small excuse to attend our meetings, I will distribute the lies that our Director of Publicity (damn his eyes, and the rest of him for that matter) has prepared. The biggest news this term is that WATSFIC is going to distribute to all members a weekly newsletter known as Watsnew (save vs. bad pun). Watsnew will contain (I hope) book reviews, minibiographies of sci-fi authors, science fiction gossip, the latest Dungeons and Dragons news, etc. Watsnew will be free to members, 25 cents to non-members.

Our Director of Publicity also informs me that we will have weekly discussions on Dungeons and Dragons, any aspects of science ficton our members bring up, beer, and sex. (An obvious lie. Who cares about D&D and science fiction?) Our Director of Publicity also implores any of you who can possibly make the meetings to do so. You see, his life span is directly proportional to the size of our membership.

Live long and prosper.
Greg Bezoff,
President Watsfic.

Why?

As I sit here in this office amid a cacaphonous symphony of surrealistic reality, I wonder why? Why what? If I knew that, then maybe everything else would just fall into place. But then I would have to know what everything else was; or would I? I suppose it all depends on your point of view, but then doesn't everything? Then again, what is everything? What anything? Is there anything?

Hold on now, let's think about this. Allowing that I am something, then something must exist, for it seems to me that my existence is undeniable. But is that neccesarily so? I believe that I exist, but perhaps someone is deceiving me, tricking me into believing that I exist when in fact I do not. Aha!!!!!! You cannot deceive someone who does not exist; I must conclude, therefore, that I do exist, and hence there is something.

But so what? I mean, I knew that already. The only difference is that I now know that I know it, but what good does that do me? Is that all logic is good for? Telling you what you already know?

Then again, there are those instances where you don't know what you know. I suppose logic could be helpful there, but if that's all it's good for, well, I just don't know.....

I mean, how are we supposed to figure out what anything means, and if we aren't supposed to, then how are we even supposed to figure that out. Logic is no good. What else is there? Inspiration? What the hell is inspiration? How does one go about becoming inspired? How will that help me answer the question I'm working on? What was that question again? Why? Or was it why what? Maybe I'll just sit back here and await the coming of some inspiration, whatever that may be.....