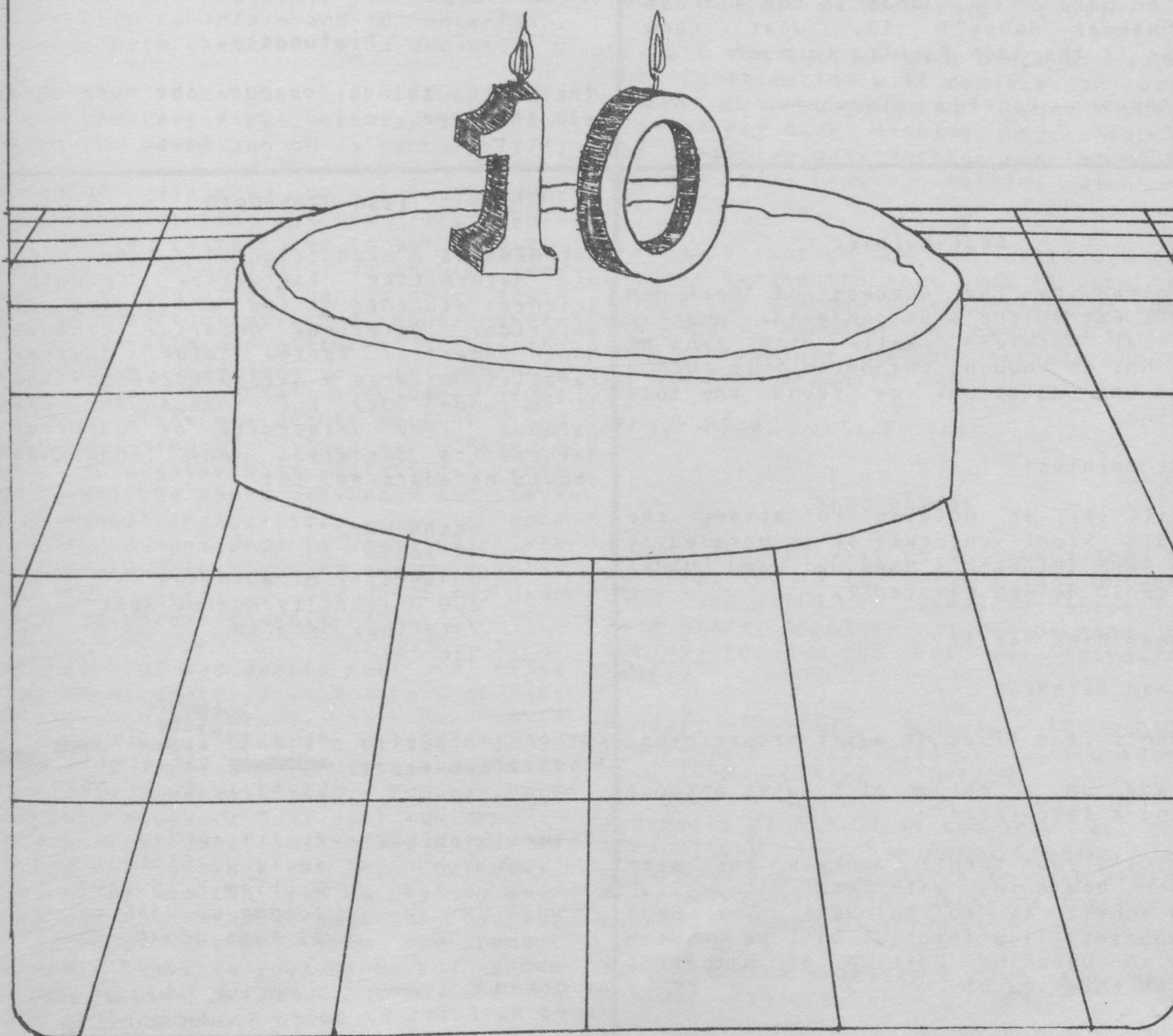


**Tenth Anniversary Issue**

Volume 31  
Number 1

**math NEWS**



**The Merely Mediocre Trivia Test**

(Answer all questions as of 22 September 1978, when the article appeared in our second issue of volume eighteen.)

Dedicated to the INFAMOUS GREAT JPSIRETT

1. What is the name of the lady on the Enginews Banner?
2. How many official members are there in the NOVA Hacks Association?
3. How many places can you buy "food" on campus (not counting C and D stands or Vending Machines)?
4. How many "seats" are there in MC4001?
5. Name the first two "perfect numbers".
6. What is the "MathSoc Hot Line"?
7. What company holds the University towing contract?
8. How many official guardians does the "Rigid Tool" have when on parade?
9. What is the address of "Hammar House"?
10. What room number is the Math Faculty Lounge?

Answers located elsewhere in this issue.

**Arts Centre**

The Toronto Dance Theatre, the longest running major modern dance company in Canada, will be performing their Baroque Suite and four other works on January 20 at 8 PM at the Humanities Theatre. Tickets cost \$9.00 and \$7.50 (stu/sen) and are available at the Humanities Theatre Box Office. Get yours soon--the group sells out whenever they come to Waterloo.

For those of you who couldn't get tickets for the Nylons earlier, there is good news! The Nylons are performing a second show at 11:00 PM at Hum on January 22. The first show (8:00) has been sold out. Once again, the tickets are available at the Humanities Theatre Box Office.

**Profundity**

The more things change, the more they say the same.

**Real Mathies**

Inspired by the success of 'Real Men Don't Eat Quiche', we pondered, "What is a Real Mathie??" Well, with tens of seconds of thought channeled into such a profound question, we found the following:

Real Mathies:

- will stop at nothing to attack the Ridgid Stool whenever it is paraded by the PHHB (Plummer's Hard Hat Band (NTBA) (Nice To Be Abbreviated)).
- wear Pink Ties!!
- read mathNEWS
- don't lead lives of Quiet Desperation
- add up a column of figures without using a calculator

Now it's your turn!! Complete the sentence beginning with "Real Mathies..." and submit it to mathNEWS. The best responses (if printable) will be printed in an upcoming edition of mathNEWS. Watch this space!

**ISSN 0705-0410**

mathNEWS is a production of a tiny band of Mathematics (actually, Computer Science) students at the University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, North America, Earth, Solar System, Parallel Universe # 3123857632486589748. It is funded by, but independent of, MathSoc (the University of Waterloo Mathematics Society). Any enquiries should be addressed to:

mathNEWS  
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University of Waterloo  
200 University Avenue West  
Waterloo, Ontario  
N2L 3G1

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## A Decade of mathNEWS

Ten years ago, this phenomenon known as mathNEWS was born. In this issue, (and throughout this term) we hope to reprint some of the articles which have appeared in mathNEWS during the past decade. We do not pretend to present a "Best Of" collection, since that's subjective and in the eye of the beholder. However, if you can recall any great mathNEWS articles of the past that we have missed, then drop us a line (we'll tell you how later). During the term, you will be treated to a good helping of history.

mathNEWS was started back in the dead of winter in 1973. The basic style and format of mathNEWS has changed very little since. We are not the Globe and Mail, so don't expect top-quality journalism, but we are here to inform and to entertain. This has been the case for a decade.

Let's now look back to ISSUE ONE!! Here's the very first masthead that appeared ten years ago on 25 January 1973:

"MATHNEWS -financed by but independent of Mathsoc cranking out the first edition while caffeinated to our eyeballs we're still wondering if we should mention the end of the war... never again such an opportunity... And hans, where art thou with our pictures?... Sweating our 8:30am deadline we triumphantly were: Lynn 'hunnie' solvason, bruce 'titles' batchelor, dennis mullin, john 'article-a-minute' peebles, randall 'edit' mcdougall, hans 'glossies' rempel, jeff the mouth braybrook and steve 'stay awake' treadwell..... special note to earl bowman: drop in again next week for another drink.... and yes virginia, this is a weekly... why don't YOU drop in and volunteer sometime?????"

Yes, mathNEWS was weekly back in those days. Unfortunately, with a lack of both articles and resources, mathNEWS could no longer be a weekly publication. In fact, it's difficult to publish mathNEWS on even a biweekly basis. You can help mathNEWS, however: "Why dont YOU drop in and volunteer sometime?????". We can be reached via Honeywell at the "mathnews" account, or you can send us written messages via the mathNEWS mail box on the third floor (across from the student lounges). Leave us your name and phone number if you wish to help out, and we'll contact you.

With your help, we can produce the best possible student newspaper. How about it?

David Leibold  
Associate Editor

## MathSoc Constitution Referendum

During January 17-19, a referendum will be held concerning the new MathSoc Constitution. After a few false starts, the new MathSoc Constitution was approved by the Math students on the last term (Fall '82). However, it must still be approved by students on this term who were off campus in the Fall before this new Constitution becomes official.

Why all the fuss about a piece of paper? This Constitution will replace an outdated, loophole-riddled document which effectively made MathSoc ungovernable. For example, many MathSoc exec could be on work term, leaving MathSoc with no one to run it.

The only action on our part is a few minutes during the next week to vote in favour of the new Constitution. We have the largest faculty on campus; it is only appropriate that our society should be the best-organized.

Enough hype. Let's do it!

## Grad Photos

Forde Studios will be on campus from 31 January 1983 to 18 February 1983 between 0900 and 1700 to take Grad Photos for Math Grads. Appointments can be made by coming to MC 3034 at the following times:

Monday: 1300-1400. Tuesday: 1000-1030.  
Wednesday: 1300-1530. Thursday: 1000-1030.  
Friday: 1130-1200.

A deposit of \$15.00 is required at the time of your sitting. Forde Studios will return to campus in March to take orders for packages. All packages include a composite class picture.

Forde Studios supplies a gown and hood for all sittings.

### Coming Events

This column is intended as an in-depth supplement to the Calendar. This does not include MathSoc events which are described in columns elsewhere in mathNEWS. If you have any coming events that may be of interest, please send them to mathNEWS via Honeywell (mathnews account) or via MathSoc Office or mathNEWS Mailbox.

### Fed Flicks

Each weekend, the Federation of Students provides a feature-length movie at minimal cost (i.e. \$1.00 for Feds). For specific movies, please refer to the calendar. Performances start at 8:00 p.m., with some second showings scheduled throughout the term. All showings in Arts Lecture Hall 116.

### Cinema Gratis

Every Wednesday night, the Turnkeys invite you to the CC for Cinema Gratis, a free feature film showing. Check the Calendar for particular movies in the coming weeks. Show starts at 9:30 (or 8:30 if it's a double feature or all-nighter).

"Parables for Today" is a Christ-event in Mime, Song and Dance with RUAH, presented at the Campus Centre on Wednesday 19 January from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., held in conjunction with the 1983 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Sponsored by the Chaplains' Association University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier.

Theatresports is sweeping the nation!! To enjoy this exercise in improvisational acting, come to HH 180 every Saturday night at 8 p.m.. Admission \$1, or 0.75 Feds.

OSAP Clinic is being held until 31 January 1983, beside CC 138. Open weekdays 1130-1330 (or to 1430 for January 24-28 and 31). Trained students available to help you fill out OSAP forms, or to answer questions about OSAP appeals. OSAP forms also available.

Chess Club meets 19 January from 7 p.m. to midnight in CC138A.

Drop in at the Earthen Mug Coffee House every Friday night at the Campus Centre from 8 p.m. to midnight. Coffee, hot apple cider, assorted munchies and a relaxing atmosphere are provided. Come out and meet new friends. Sponsored by WCF.

### The MathSoc Office - MC 3038

You are probably saying so what? Who cares about the MathSoc office? - there are only a bunch of antisocial hacks who glow in the dark and reap the benefits of your society fees. This is no longer true! The office is open for business daily, and is the nerve centre of all the events and services MathSoc has to offer. We have a photocopier which does reduction copying for your use at a mere 5 cents per copy. We have an inventory of shirts, pink ties, rulers, pencils, matches, and all at break-even prices. We sell tickets to many campus events. We also are occasionally a wealth of information on many subjects (not academic). We also have copies of calendars, anti-calendars (prof evaluations), master timetables, telephone books (on campus, Region of Waterloo, Hamilton and Toronto). We will also stamp your advertisements so that they will remain on our bulletin boards. This term, we will need help to run the office to collect monies for photocopies, trinkets, and tickets, and also to put paper in the photocopier and answer the phone. Without people to work office hours we cannot keep it open at all times of the day. We only ask you to show up at least one hour per week.

MathSoc itself needs help in running events this term, planning events this term and next term; big brothers and sisters during Orientation Week in September (You get to go to a lot of great events for free before classes start and get the chance to meet a lot of good-looking energetic young frosh and froshettes). We also need help for publicity - painting posters and putting up advertisements.

We look forward to seeing or hearing from you soon. Come on in to the office and we'll talk.

Sean Romenco



### Office Spews

#### MathSoc Changes To Serve Students Better!

You may wonder what I'm talking about. Or, like most mathies, you probably don't care. Well, my name is Sean Romenco and I'm going to try and change that. I don't know if you heard about last term, but I was here and it was great. Things started off with Orientation Week, with daily events that were well attended by the Frosh. There was a scavenger hunt, a pub crawl, a Magical Mystery Tour. (I am not allowed to give details, but it was the best event of the week) a Casino night, a trip to the Elora Quarry and more events too numerous to mention. The week would have not been possible without the advance planning and assistance of more than fifty people. By the way, these were all math events. MathSoc sponsored and ran many more events during the term. (It is believed that we ran more events than any other society on campus). Events like road trips - to Uncle Sam's, the Vanier Cup and to Guelph; or social nights like the wine and cheese of free video nights; or pubs with bands like Teenage Head and Messenjah. Yes, MathSoc has undergone a definite change and housekeeping.

This is where I would like to appeal to you. We need helpers, people to organize, publicize or run events. You need not be an elected council member to help out. Last term, most of the work was done by people who were interested, who enjoyed helping out.

If you have any ideas for events, or improvements on them or even titles of movies you would like to see on video nights, come see me or anyone in MathSoc.

NOW - to the regular part of his column. Here's what's happening in the near future. TONIGHT (14 January) MathSoc presents a free video night with first-run videos. Here's the schedule:

- 6:00 p.m. - Used Cars
- 8:00 p.m. - Superman II
- 10:00 p.m. - Rocky III
- 12:00 a.m. - The Shining
- 2:00 a.m. - Star Trek II
- 4:00 a.m. - The Stunt Man

As you can see, we have a great line-up of movies all night long. It's being held in the 3rd floor lounge of the Math Building. It will be in the larger left-hand lounge and you must enter through the C & D Lounge past the vending machines. On the 21st of this month, the Math Grad Ball (MGB) Committee will draw the winning tickets in the Record Raffle. Tickets are still available for the draw in the MathSoc Office (MC 3038) or from the display set up in the hall outside the lounges. On the 27th of January, MGB will present The Rocky Horror Picture Show in EL 101.

On Feb. 5, we are running a road trip to Uncle Sam's in Buffalo. We've approached EngSoc and SciSoc and they will be co-sponsoring the trip with us. Tickets should go on sale on Monday. Details and tickets will be available in the office. Don't forget the constitutional referendum. Also, nominations will open ????? for positions on MathSoc council. Reps will be required for most years, as well as a President, Vice-President and a Treasurer. If you are the outgoing type who wants to improve life for Waterloo math students as a whole and who can afford an hour each week, you should run for a position. For those wishing more recognition and possible fame, run for one of the three executive positions.

This column will appear every issue. If you want an event or a party announced, send the details via campus mail to Sean Romenco, MathSoc, MC; drop in the office MC 3038, or drop it in the mathNEWS box addressed to me. Or via Honeywell to mathnews.

Sean Romenco

### UltraClassifieds

The mathNEWS UltraClassifieds is available to all Waterloo Mathies. Cost is \$0.00 per le.g. Personal ads (e.g. Wanted, For Sales, Companions, etc.) accepted only. The editors reserve the right to edit or refuse any such ad. Please send all UltraClassifieds to mathNEWS via electronic ("wat-bun!mathnews") or real mail.

### Concerning Censorship and Obscenity

Note: This article appeared in mathNEWS 19:2 (19 January 1979). The article referred to in this article appeared in mathNEWS 19:1 and will not be repeated for reasons which should become evident in this article. This article does not necessarily indicate the specific policies of any other mathNEWS editor past or present. }

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 co-operative 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 [sic] denial of free speech. What if the American government had insisted that the only demonstration could be made at 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 morceaux in Enginews. One person who challenged me on the question said 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 discussing 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.

ajnalton

### The Limerick

The limerick's a terrible verse  
It's humour is droll, but what's worse  
Is trying to create  
These poems that I hate  
'Cuz the last line always has to be  
something cute that rhymes with the  
first two lines and still keeps the  
stupid meter steady.

The last line creates the dilemma  
Without it there'd be no problema.  
And thus I propose  
For this type of prose  
To eliminate the last line because it's  
always a pain in the neck and besides,  
it sounds silly to have a type of poem  
with five lines in each stanza anyway.

qrmcfarlane



oof that all mathematicians are geniuses:

**Lemma:** given any set of  $k$  mathematicians, prove that they all have the same intelligence level.

**Proof:** The proof will be by induction.

If  $k=1$  this true (one mathematician is as smart as himself)

Now assume true for  $k=n$  and prove for  $k=n+1$ .

Let  $S$  be any set of  $n+1$  mathematicians. Take any member  $A$  of this set and remove him. Then, all mathematicians in the set  $S - \{A\}$  are of the same intelligence by our assumption. Now, replace  $A$  and remove another member (call him, or her,  $B$ ). Again, by the inductive hypothesis, all mathematicians in the set  $S - \{B\}$  are equally intelligent. Combining the above results gives us that all mathematicians in the set  $S$  are of equal intelligence; therefore, by induction, all mathematicians have the same level of intelligence.

**Proof that all mathematicians are geniuses:**

Consider the set of all mathematicians. **Leibniz** is certainly a member of this set, and he is certainly a genius. Also, by the above lemma, all mathematicians are of equal intelligence. Hence, all mathematicians are geniuses. Q.E.D.

I know what you're thinking. You're thinking how tough it must be to be an ace reporter or top-notch columnist in this award-winning masterpiece you're holding in your hands. Well, if it's really **mathNEWS** you're holding there (I was just kidding about the awards (no he wasn't--wjj)), you're very wrong. We're actually short-handed enough to have ME, the great third-editor-in-command, writing a recruitment article for writers, graphic artists, puzzle-makers, or what have you to help fill up this top-selling news magazine (this is still **mathNEWS** you're holding--I'm just kidding again (that's what you get for free distribution--wjj)). Even letters

### Scientific Breakthrough!

Last week, the well-guarded vault of Labatt's was broken into, resulting in the loss of a "Top Secret document", according to Labatt's officials.

In its fervent search for news, a representative of this newspaper went directly to the conspirators. After consuming mega-amounts of coffee, we made a deal: 18 "valuable" WIDJET terminals (at least, they thought they were valuable), a CS prof and four pi t-shirts were traded for the following hot document.

**To prove:** one full bottle of beer equals one empty bottle of beer.

**Proof:**

one 1/2 empty bottle = one 1/2 full bottle (try it!)

two 1/2 empty bottles = two 1/2 full bottles (multiplying by 2).

Hence, by simplification,  
one empty bottle = one full bottle.  
QED.

It is obvious why Labatt's did not want this truly amazing proof to be leaked out to the public (especially university students). But it is too late. Students everywhere should rejoice now that their search for free beer has ended. If you're an artsie, it will work for wine, too. Let's hear it for fascinating fallacies!

P. Easta

are usually printed if you're good at those. In fact, I'll be honest with you--my job is at stake. If this recruitment article fails to draw in enough material, I'll be demoted into writing this kind of crud on a regular basis. Surely you wouldn't want that. So, for both our sakes, please submit something for me to edit--it's not fun being an editor without something to edit.

## History of the World - Part N

{The following is not required reading according to the Department of History but we feel that you will likely find it worth reading. Thanks to gvbezoff for putting it in Volume 27 number 2 of 2 October 1981}

This being the end of the third week of the term, my son, you, being a foolish young frosh, have likely noticed a bewildering weekly (or thereabouts) phenomenon. Strange bundles of low quality paper inscribed with all manner of communist propaganda keep appearing in the foyer of the third floor of the Math and Computer building. These, my son, are **Chevrons**, whose variegated history I am about to reveal to you.

In the beginning, some dolt created the **Federation of Students**, and he saw that this was not good, but by that time there wasn't a hell of a lot he could do about it. Thus the Federation grew, prospered (in a fashion) and multiplied. But mostly it multiplied. It begat **B. Ed.** and **B. Ent.** and countless other nonsensical creatures. And favoured of all the children of those fecund Feds was **Chevron**, for in those days **Chevron** was cherished by the students.

Yes, hard though it may be to give the thought credence, the youth of **Chevron** was a glorious time (so I exaggerate a little). **Chevron** was good and wise, and spake unto the students telling them that which they truly wished to know. And the students were well pleased and did bestow upon the Feds a great gift known as the **Fee**. And, quite naturally, the Feds were also well pleased and did bestow upon the students **Nothing**, which is the best deal the students have ever gotten (sic) from the Feds.

And so all was thought well with the world as we know it. But unbeknownst to the Feds and their faithful, the dark lord **Larry** was hatching a scheme of incalculable asininity. For **Larry** was a disciple of **CPC-ML**, the god of sloth, cowardice, betrayal, and communist regimes, and **Larry** was wroth that all did not revere **CPC-ML** as did he. So **Larry** thought for untold ages, and even-

tually it is said that some glimmering of an idea managed to partially squeeze into what passed for his mind. Thus came unto **Larry** his great plan, his plan to seize **Chevron** from the Feds and turn it to his own insignificant ends.

And so it came to pass that the evil **Larry** gathered unto himself his loyal syncophants **Salah**, **Neil**, **Jules** and others more worthy of mention. And they did go unto the Feds and did speak them fair and did generously offer to assist in the education of the Feds' favoured child **Chevron**. And the Feds were deceived by **Larry's** fair words and did place **Chevron** in the care of **Larry** and his minions, so that **Chevron** might be further educated.

And so **Larry** educated **Chevron** well in the arts of libel, misrepresentation, and making the rich pay. And **Chevron**, an apt pupil, did learn these things well and perform them even better. Thus did **Chevron** come to be the mouth of **Larry** and through him his demented god **CPC-ML**.

But then the students learned of this blasphemy and rose up in great and terrible anger against the Feds for allowing **Larry** to do this monstrous thing. And the Feds themselves grew angry and spawned many committees to 'look into the matter'. But the students saw that this would accomplish nought and in their monumental anger against the Feds caused to be refunded the Fee.

And now did the Feds grow most desparate in their anger against **Larry**, for their source of funds was dried up. Thus they found it necessary to actually take action on the matter. So, reluctantly, the Feds rose up and smote both **Larry** and **Chevron** with their wrath and banished them forever from the sacred grounds of **UW**. Then, they begat a new child, **Imprint**, to take the favoured place formerly held by **Chevron**. And **Imprint** was wise and good and spake unto the students telling them that which they truly wished to know. And the students gave back unto the Feds the Fee. And the Feds were happy once more and went back to giving the students **Nothing** to complain about. But the Feds did cause the Fee to be split, giving part to **Imprint** and keeping most of it themselves, so that the students could cause to be



## The Safe Way to Wreck a Widjet Terminal

Each year, thousands of WIDJET users find it necessary to kick in a terminal, and each year, violent, gaseous picture tube implosions send hundreds of them to the hospital. Experts, however, advise there is a proper and safe way to destroy a WIDJET terminal - just follow these simple steps.

1. Strike cabinet top on the rear seam. This will break apart the cabinet without prematurely blowing up the tube.
2. To avoid contact with sharp metal edges, use the picture tube wiring as a harness to sling the terminal across the room.
3. Run at the terminal with a heavy instrument, hurling it from no closer than ten feet or four terminal widths, whichever is greater.
4. The important safety secret, of course, is to begin your kicking in earnest after the tube has been smashed.

(This article courtesy Volume 18, number 7, 3 November 1978)

*Stay tuned for Masthead*

Ahem. It's me again (the great Third-Editor-In-Command). I just want to let you know I was serious a couple of pages back. We really do need some people to write articles, puzzles, letters, etc. After all, look at the quality of the stuff we are putting out in this edition (now I've had to write another recruitment article). It's not that hard--we'll print anything that's mathematical, entertaining or informative. Just give it a try--the mailbox is across the hall from the third floor lounge, so it can even be anonymous if you prefer. Now back to our regularly scheduled issue...

(Is that better, boss? Whaddya mean, "No."? Hey, wait a minute... <SNAP!> AAAAAAAAAAAAAAahhhh...  
NEW VOICE: Yeah, drag him over to the hearse...)

## MGB Record Raffle

Yes, folks, once again, the MGB Record Raffle!! All it costs is a buck a ticket. You can win neat prizes as follows:

First prize: 25 LP's

Second prize: 15 LP's

Third prize: 1 LP

You can choose your own albums if you win. The draw takes place 21 January 1983. Get your tickets now at the Fed Office, MathSoc Office (MC 3038) and Records on Wheels. Also, your ticket stub is good for 10% off a regularly priced record at Records on Wheels, Kitchen and Cambridge.

*You look so bad that even Food Services  
would throw you out as rotten.*

*cont'd from page 8*

refunded Imprint's fee without threatening the sacred Fee of the Feds. And to this day Imprint has remained mostly good if not terribly wise and the students have remained content if not terribly happy.

And what, you ask, of Larry and Chevron. Well, Larry has been forsaken by his god, and Chevron's parents have disowned him, but still they continue to scratch out a wretched existence on the borderlands of UW. And occasionally, when the Feds' backs are turned, Larry and Chevron will even sulk back onto Campus for a time and attempt to spread their outdated lies. But the students have grown wise and make sport of the pathetic pair, and some, pitying them, even give them a few scraps to supplement their miserable existence in exile.

And here is where I would like to say that the tale ends, but it continues its dreary course even now. And I suppose it will continue to continue until Larry and Chevron see the error of their ways and fade into obscurity. Which probably means never.

This song originally came from API in Massachusetts (as far as the person who originally submitted it to the Net knows) with a few modifications to remove the 'in' jokes.

### God Rest Ye CS Students

God rest ye CS students now let nothing you dismay,  
The VAX is down and won't be up until the first of May  
The program that was due this morn won't be postponed they say,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

The bearings on the disk are gone, and bits are dropping too,  
We've found a bug in C, and Pascal can't tell false from true,  
And now we find that we can't get at Berkeley's 4.2.  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

And all you fans of matrix math who would use APL,  
You'd find out if the VAX were up, it wouldn't work too well,  
And if you try, then it'll say that you can go to . . . well . . .  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

We've just received a call from DEC, they'll send without delay  
A system they call RSUX it takes nine hundred k,  
The staff committed suicide we'll bury them today.  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

And now more cheery news for you, the network's also dead,  
You'll have to run your programs on the IBM instead,  
The turnaround time's nineteen weeks and only cards are read.  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

And now we'd like to say to you before we go away,  
We hope the news we've brought to you won't ruin your whole day,  
You've got another program due tomorrow, by the way.  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!

Charles Labrec  
pur-ee!physics:crl

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### Answers to MMT

(See page 2 for the contest.)

1. Connie Lingus 2. Six 3. Ten 4. Three  
5. 6 and 28 6. 836 0510 7. Active Towing  
8. Two 9. 139 University West 10. MC5136

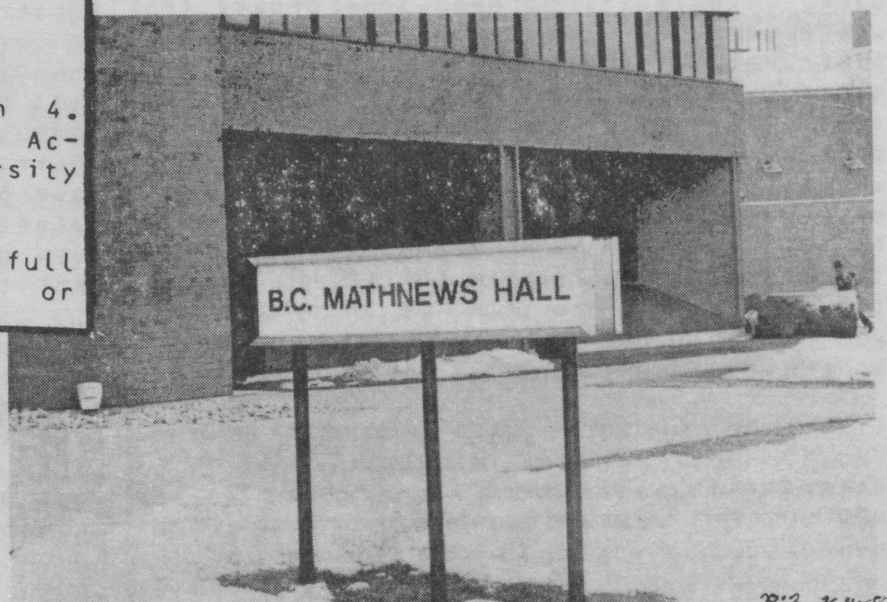
CREDITS: jrbakker and acpatel take full blame for any errors, misconceptions or libelous statements.

### Masthead?

userid:mathnews

Thanks FRED, djeleibold, Glenn Mc:it won't  
fit  
McFarlane, Kathy what was your last  
name?, WJX(JTJ), Sean Romance, Rob who  
couldn't make it Cooper, James in the  
same boat Puttiok, the Academy and...  
scooter disconnects @ 0208 12/04/83

### mathNEWS Opens West Coast Office!



28:3 26 Mar 83



**Hierarchy of Intelligence**

- Rene Descartes
- Gottfried Von Leibniz
- Isaac Newton
- Karl Friedrich Gauss
- Euler
- The Pink Tie
- The Natural Log
- Stud McGee
- mathNEWS staff
- Lewis Carroll (Charles Lutwidge Dodgson)
- The Jabberwock
- UNIX
- Sytek ports
- C&D Staff
- Graduate mathies
- CS majors
- Other mathies
- Imprint staff
- the Honeywell
- The Warriors Band
- fred
- SuperPETS
- Ti-59's
- anything by IBM
- Gandalf boxes
- Science students
- Kinesiology and Recreation students
- Integrated Studies students
- CKMS-FM
- Student CMS
- WIDJET
- Artsies who take CS electives
- anything by Hewlett-Packard
- University of Guelph
- TRASH-80's
- Other artsies
- Engineers
- WLU
- Plummer Hard Hat Band
- Graduate engineers
- The Flaccid Tool
- EngSoc executive
- Chevron staff

*from under a pile of junk on s-society desk*

*We've got it right!*

**Limericks**

Have you ever used VM before?  
 It's a virtual awe to explore --  
 For the readers can't jam,  
 And the printer's a sham;  
 What a system... It's fake to the core!

( Found in the vast recesses of mN 22:2. Author = bwlutek. )

'Twas quite late, by the watch on my wrist,  
 When our STATs prof charged in (some persist);  
 Although panting and tired,  
 He quite calmly inquired:  
 "Any questions on what you have missed?"

Do you find STATs to be quite simplistic?  
 Is the Chi-square too idealistic?  
 Would you savour a quest  
 For an Ab-Normal test...  
 Or perk up with the "Coffee Statistic"?!

( Again, bwlutek, but in mN 22:4 )

**The Car-Strangled Spanner**

Oh, say, can you see  
 By the dawn's early light  
 What so proudly was hailed  
 Would end all drivers' plights.  
 In design, it was great  
 But construction did err.  
 For when it was opened  
 The railings weren't there.

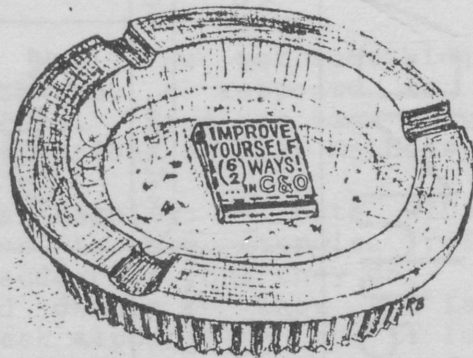
And the brake lights' red glare,  
 The cars plunging through air  
 Gave proof every night  
 MTC doesn't care.

Oh, say, will that car-strangled spanner e'er save  
 Time in getting from home to where you're enslaved?

The Bun proudly presents...  
**Superdump**

Give a llink,  
 Give a llink of your core to me  
 Oh, give a llink  
 I'll give a llink of my file to you  
 Now's the Time that we need to Share  
 So swap me in, and show you care...

( This appeared in mathNEWS 22:2 (8 February 1980). Apologies to any musical group would be rather fitting. Attributed to W. Ross Brown. )



30:4, 15 Nov 82

# mathNEWS calendar!

16	Fed Flicks continue on Sunday!!!						January 14 ALL NIGHT FREE VIDEOS! (mc) Earthen Mug - CC every Friday Fed Flicks	15 Theatresports! 8:00 P.M. HH180 & every Saturday night! Mommy Dearest
17		Math Soc	19 Chess Club 7pm. Perables for Today - 10 am. etc. Cinema Gratis! Dr. Zhivago Referendum	20 Toronto Dance Theatre @ Humanities Theatre	21 MGB Raffle Draw co-op resumés due Fed Flicks	22 Deadline for material for next mathNEWS! (3 p.m.) Nylons Concert Life of Brian		
23			26 Referendum	27 co-ops! Job application submit	28 Fed Flicks	29 Life of Brian		
30	No Fed Flicks and showing tonite	24 why don't you run? Math Soc Council Nominations Open	26 Cinema Gratis! ALL NIGHTER!	Rocky Horror EL-101	Double showing!! Fed Flicks	2nd showing @ 10:30 Star Trek II		
6		31	2 GROUNDHOG DAY	3	4 Happy Birthday, Cynthia!	5		
13		14 Valentine's Day Ralph Schwartz was here -- along with C.T. Dalek!!	9 C.G.: Gizmo	10	11 Fed Flicks	12 RagTime		
		15	8 February 1 DROP DEADLINE *	17 C.G.: The Front	18 Fed Flicks	19 Apocalypse Now		
		17	16 C.G.: Moscow does not Believe In Tears		18 Fed Flicks	19 Apocalypse Now		