

Lord Of The DISKS

(Loosely based on Tolkien's Lord of the Rings, obviously)

Three Disks for the Stats-kings, with Data to Fidget,

Seven for the Pure-mathies (Modulus P), Nine for the C.S. students doomed to Widjet

One for the Dark Lord in his dark faculty in the Land of Engies where the shadows lie,

One Disk to rule them all, One Disk to compile them, One Disk to run them all and in the CPU bind them

In the land of Engies where the shadows lie.

Prologue - Concerning Mathobbits and Middle-loo

This series concerns mainly with Mathobbits who enjoy quiet and peaceful lives (and a good computing system) in a far away section of Middle-loo known to most other faculties as M+C Shire. Mathobbits are little people (similar to Frosh) and thus are smaller than DWarves and less stout. They are distantly related to the fair and gentle race, the Melves.

Mathobbits are timid creatures (like most Frosh) and are little known in more distinct parts of Middle-loo; this is especially true in a notable settlement, the village TWO, where except for the bit about food, all is true.

This story particularly concerns two Mathobbits, Frosho and his algebra tutor-roommate Bilboth. Bilboth had inherited the duties of trying to help young Frosho in First year algebra, and at the eventual beginning of this story, is about to graduate and leave M+C Shire.

Concerning the Finding of the Disk.

Bilboth in earlier times was in the company of the great Pure-mathie (wizard) Mathalf the Gray and thirteen DWarves. The companies' quest was treasure, a hoard greater than twenty work-terms at Defasco! The Quest was successful. On the return to the great Village TWO, the company was assailed by Maurading Enginorcs. The party scattered and Bilboth was lost deep beneath the E.L.Hall in the black Enginorc mines. In the blackness, by pure luck Bilboth came upon a small floppy-disk lying on the floor of a tunnel. He picked it up and put it in his pocket.

On his way out of the E.L.Hall, he came upon a dark pool and therein lived a creature named Gollumeer. After an extended battle of wits, comprising of a series of mathematical riddles posed by each other for the other in which Bilboth came out victorious (the superiority of Mathies comes through),

God Save Our
mathNEWS
Volume 31
Number 4
25 Feb '83

1983 Mathematics Graduates and Faculty

On behalf of the 1983 Math Grad Ball Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to invite you and your guest to the 1983 Math Grad Ball. This year's grad ball is being held on Saturday March 26th at the Bingeman Park Lodge in Kitchener. The cost of this event is \$36.00 per couple which includes a hot buffet dinner with wine, champagne at midnight, a discount price of \$40.00 on tuxedos and a night of dancing to the sound of TORONTO HARBOUR. A cash bar will be available, with cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets will be going on sale daily, starting Monday February 21st outside the third floor math lounge, between the hours of 10:30 and 1:30. Initially, tickets will be restricted to fourth year math students and faculty. Only cash payments will be accepted.

the Gollumeer attacked the Mathobbit. By some magical means, the Disk slipped into the portable disk drive (Sting) that Bilboth carried and Bilboth seemed to become the null string to the eyes of the Gollumeer. Thus it was that Bilboth escaped from E.L.Hall and returned home to the Village named TWO.

The story of the Gollumeer and the Disk was kept secret from all except the prying mind of the great Pure-mathie Mathalf and Bilboth's roommate-pupil Frosho.

Thus it was that the Disk came into the Company of the Mathobbit Frosho. Our story begins in a small room in a southern quad of the Village named TWO, where Bilboth plans his graduation celebrations

J.R.R.Mathie

Please comment and or request to continue and or cease writing "The Saga of the Disks"

{Article courtesy Volume 25, number 1 of 16 January 1981. Would the author please come forward?}

Semi-Editorial

Mathsoc is reviewing its expenditures in light of its present revenues during most terms. A key worry to the new executive is the cost of mathNEWS this term. Last term, because none of the staff knew exactly what the cost of production and printing was, we requested funding of \$600 for the term. For the five issues that we did publish, expenses came to about \$1300. This term, we are projecting seven issues and an ECLECTIA, and with some better knowledge of prices are projecting costs of \$1400. Our revenue is exactly what our expenses are because until now Mathsoc has always absorbed our expenditures.

But now things are changing. New ideas are being brought into Mathsoc and it is now felt that mathNEWS should work to cover some of its own expenses. This would involve charging for advertising carried inside our covers. Mathsoc would still provide some financial support, but it would not be open ended, as it is now. There would be a very tight watch on how efficiently we operated, which might be useful, if you saw us sitting around some Tuesday night waiting for a late printout from MFCF. The key point of contention on the mathNEWS side is the principle of charging for advertising.

mathNEWS has long been an unofficial club of people who have varying degrees of journalistic ability putting together a newspaper of reasonable to high quality for the Math students of the University of Waterloo. Each issue sees us sending copies to both the National Library in Ottawa and the University archives, as well as several groups on campus and off. Our general distribution is 1100 on a biweekly basis, making us one, if not THE most heavily read and frequent faculty newspapers on campus. A few years ago during the Chevron fiasco, mathNEWS was one of the newspapers fighting for sanity on our campus. We have never lost sight of our primary directive, to inform and enlighten the students of the Math faculty of this, the University of Waterloo.

We at mathNEWS have been quite pleased by comments stating that our articles this term have been quite well prepared in comparison to those of some recent issues. One person to have commented as such is our new President of Mathsoc, Laura Redican. She is also involved in asking mathNEWS to start charging for its advertising. About our only advertiser is Mathsoc, which would get free advertising under present proposals because it would still be providing some financial support, albeit quite limited. Thus, mathNEWS would be required to search around the twin cities for advertising, a job we simply do not have the time or staff for. We realize that Mathsoc is now suffering fiscal problems, but last term the publication of five small issues of mathNEWS cost Mathsoc only ten percent of its total expenditures. This term, mathNEWS has been quite active to

congratulate itself for its lasting ten years. However, there are some who think that we have become somewhat of an exclusive club and would prefer to see us disbanded as a Mathsoc club. We at mathNEWS ask in reply the question: "Who continued to get people to feel strongly about being in Math during the time that Mathsoc was non-existent?"

I must admit, mathNEWS has some power. It has been more active and more regularly seen in the last ten years than Mathsoc. If those who oppose the existence of a student newspaper in the Faculty of Mathematics succeed in refusing us the monies we require to continue a reasonable existence, it may signal the eventual end of Mathsoc as well. Mathsoc relies on mathNEWS to advertise its events. Rather than reduce our number of issues, as we feel that you have a right to be informed regularly, or decreasing the number of pages per issue, as that would reduce much of our quality, our likely move would be to reduce our distribution. Distribution is the most costly of our expenses, with production of the articles and the original of the paper being merely time consuming. We enjoy writing and to some extent production, distribution is just a side activity. Besides, many issues of mathNEWS are collector's items anyhow. Limiting distribution would increase their value.

In another vein about increases, Mathsoc has proposed changing the fee it presently charges students to be voting members of it and to enjoy its reduced prices to various events from the present \$2.50 to \$5.00. For any engineers or Artsies reading this, that's double what we presently are billed. That would take us from being the lowest priced Society to being the second most expensive. A bit of a jump!

From discussion with other faculties, students therein have estimated their fees averaging about \$4.50 a term. mathNEWS proposes that that should be adopted as a target, rather than \$5.00, and that this should be arrived at over two years, rather than immediately, by one dollar increases each year. In order to maintain independence for mathNEWS we suggest committing a certain amount of the money, say \$.75 per Mathsoc member, to be mathNEWS money. We at mathNEWS would use the money for our publication, and any shortfall would mean that we didn't publish. Surpluses would be carried on and, in the long run, we would break even. Show your support for mathNEWS and your opposition to arbitrary fee increases by filling out and turning in our questionnaire located in this issue. mathNEWS needs your support now for its very continuance. We have worked many times in the past for you, please help us now.

Scooter! Co-Editor mathNEWS 31

UW Arts Centre - March

The following events are listed courtesy the UW Arts Centre. HT means Humanities Theatre, TA means Theatre of the Arts. Assume General Admission unless "Res." appears, in which case Reserved Seating is in effect. "s/s" means the student/senior admission price.

Tuesday 1 March
Some Like It Cole
2000 HT Res.

"A tribute to Cole Porter" featuring the famous songwriters songs. Admission: \$9.50 (s/s \$8.00).

Thursday 3 March
The World of Gilbert & Sullivan
2000 HT Res.

Selections from the Mikado, HMS Pinafore, and other G & S greats. Admission = \$9.50 (s/s \$8.00).

Friday 4 March
Tahiti & the Cook Islands
2000 HT

Twin City Kiwanis Club Travel & Adventure Series continues. Admission: \$4.00 (0 <= age <= 12 and senior is \$2.00) at the door.

Saturday 5 March
Directions '83
1400 TA

"An afternoon of original dance" by UW dance students. Admission \$4.00, s/s \$3.00.

Friday 11 March
First Ever Creative Arts Board
Variety Night
2000 TA

UW faculty, staff and students present an evening of entertainment. Admission \$2.00, Feds \$1.00.

Tuesday 15 March - Saturday 19 March
A Midsummer's Night Dream
2000 HT

Yes, it's Shakespeare, by the UW Drama Group. Admission \$5.00, s/s \$3.00.

Wednesday 16 March
Free Noontime Concert
1230 TA

Featuring Baritone Russell Drago. Sponsored by Conrad Grebel College.

Friday 18 March
Free Noontime Concert
1230 TA

The Classical Duo of Montreal presented. Admission = \$0.00

Thursday 17 March
Editing Hamlet
1600 TA

4th University Lecture, one of a series which features the most distinguished scholars from UW. Prof. G.R. Hibbard speaks. Free admission.

Tuesday 22 March - Wednesday 23 March
The Pascal Lectures
2000 TA

Dr. John White, author of books such as "The Mask of Melancholy" is featured in this term's Pascal lectures. Tuesday: "Reflections on Being Human"; Wednesday: "A Shattered Image".

MGB Record Raffle Results

Here are the winners of the MGB Record Raffle:

First Prize: Kevin Thompson (ticket #737) He wins 25 albums.

Second Prize: Neil Collie (ticket #1344) Neil wins 10 albums.

And ten third prize winners (one album each):

- Tammy Hughes (ticket #484)
- Mike Whaley (#1395)
- Leslie Wilkison (#1648)
- Sean Romano (#505)
- Gavin Fisher (#1909)
- Simon Goulet (#1887)
- Sean Romano (#506) (didn't we see him somewhere before?)
- Nancy Linley (#1780)
- Mike Sullivan (#1453)
- Eric Kirgner (#1357)

Errata, Elucidation, Addenda and Apologia

Welcome to EEAA...we at mathNEWS hope that this does not become a regular weekly feature, but we do see it as a necessary evil since we may never complete our quest of accomplishing the perfect mathNEWS.

First, a slight omission from last issue. We forgot to mention that last week's Grid Word was reprinted from mathNEWS 12:3. Nevertheless, we hope that it proved to be a good test of your mental powers.

Now, here are a few errors from the last issue of mathNEWS.

First, the bad error:

* The Psych pub was on the 18th of February, and not March as we had erroneously printed.

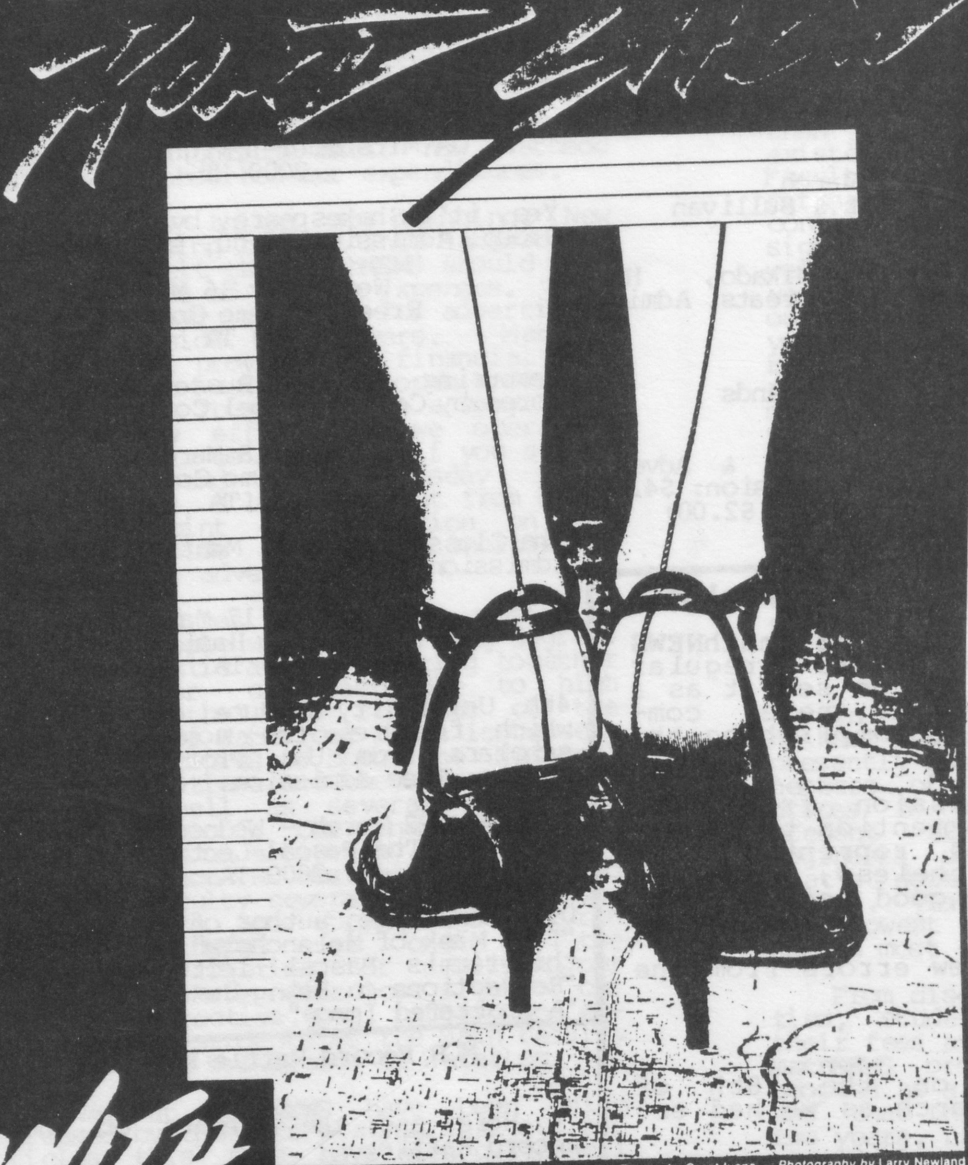
Now, for the good error:

* Tickets for the CFNY Road Show at the door are \$4.50, not \$5.00, but we're still right about the \$3.00 cost at MathSoc.

mathNEWS regrets these errors, and we'll try to do better in the future. Meanwhile, why don't you join mathNEWS' Error Correction Tactical Squad, so that mathNEWS can be more error-free? We need all the help we can get, so do help, even if it's only a little article, or proofreading articles on the Bun, or an hour at our PRODUCTION MEETINGS. Many hands make light work! Until next time (inevitably, there will be a next time), this is EEAA signing off.

Through the production manager's own incapacity and his editor's bluntness, he has made room for his very own Masthead! (The real one is on the next page, but this issue is already so different (like it shrunk!) that it seems to fit right in. Unfortunately, he doesn't have anything to say, so you are probably wasting your time reading this, on the other hand, by the end of this sentence you will already doubt so, so what the hell, eh?

cfny fm 102.1 PERSONALITY



Design by Grant Ivens — Photography by Larry Newland

WITH

JAMES SCOTT

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 83

TICKETS = \$3. IN ADVANCE, \$4.50 AT THE DOOR
IN THE SOUTH CAMPUS HALL - LICENCED!

TICKETS ARE ONLY AVAILABLE IN Math Soc!

1983 02 22 2216 hours --- and no typewriter, so I guess this will have to be handwritten... when yours truly arrived after a 2:00 mid-term, it was too late... most of the damage had been done! Anyway, Scooter! & Glenn McFarlane did the vast majority of the production... thank to Grounded Lightning, who submitted an article, but it will have to wait until next issue as we got it too late... UM Arts Centre for their events calendar,, J&K Mattie for a report from yesterday... PG 8 for raffle & M&G stuff... somehow we lost the nicely reduced M&G ad... sooooo... please complete the questionnaire... it is for your math NEWS that we publish it... Scooter! for editorial... all you Real Mathies out there for your support... WSJ for a 'words' column we didn't get in... next mathNEWS is (hopefully) 2 weeks from today --- and now, we come near the conclusion of my 3rd MATHSAD! sorry to the skinny issue, but budget cuts prevail... until next time,
MATHSAD!
73 & EXT 4E VESLERS

mathNEWS Pocket Calendar

27	28	29/1	2 Mar	3	4	5
6	7	8 Confirmation of Employment	9 Frd election	10 VIII Guest Artists Music Class	11 M&G 3:15	12 19 1 & Class wire (open class)
13	14	15				
20	21	22 MASCAL LECTURES	23	24	25	26 M&G B1
						25 Feb 26 MATHSoc Orientation Meeting

mathNEWS Questionnaire

Now that four great issues of mathNEWS have been printed, it's time to solicit your feedback. Please tell us what you thought of this term's mathNEWS.

Your ratings should be one of the following five:

"--" : Ultra-rotten, YUUUCK!, grody to the max. The double minus is the response for "Very Poor".

"-" : Infra-good, somewhat poor, just below fair. The minus rating stands for "Poor".

"0" : Innh, mediocre, fair, in-the-middle.

"+" : Good, OK, valuable.

"++" : E.T. (the Extra-Terrific), WOOOOOWW!!, Excellent.

Math or non-Math?:

Year:

Please give your overall ratings of the issues that we have printed so far this term. You may place comments in the space provided.

Number 1 (10th Ann.)	--	-	0	+	++
Number 2	--	-	0	+	++
Number 3	--	-	0	+	++
Number 4 (this one)	--	-	0	+	++
Overall this term	--	-	0	+	++

Please rate the regular (and irregular) features of mathNEWS using the "--" to "++" scale.

Calendar	--	-	0	+	++
Real Mathies	--	-	0	+	++
Office Spews	--	-	0	+	++
UltraClassifieds	--	-	0	+	++
WATSFIC Report	--	-	0	+	++
MathSoc Ads	--	-	0	+	++
Bird Bath	--	-	0	+	++
Grid Word	--	-	0	+	++
Masthead	--	-	0	+	++
Young Frank Einstein...	--	-	0	+	++
Mathie Zombies	--	-	0	+	++

Please put any comments which might explain why you rated as you did...

How often should mathNEWS be published (we are currently biweekly and regular)?

WEEKLY BIWEEKLY OTHER (explain)

How often do you read mathNEWS?

ALWAYS SOMETIMES RARELY

Which new features would you like to see?

Which features should be dropped?

How do you like our reprints from previous years?

-- - 0 + ++

Would you like to see more articles from previous editions of mathNEWS reprinted?

YES NO DUNNO

If so, do you have any particular favourites that you would like to see?

How does the appearance of this term's mathNEWS compare to that of previous terms?

WORSE SAME BETTER CAN'T SAY

Would you like to see paid advertising in mathNEWS?

YES NO DUNNO

Would you like mathNEWS to be printed as is, or would you like to see mathNEWS go to newsprint as a tabloid? (we currently print? on bond paper)

AS IS NEWSPRINT DUNNO OTHER (explain)

Would you like to see an edition of ECLECTIA printed (see mathNEWS 31:3 last issue)?

YES NO DUNNO OTHER (explain)

Would you oppose an increase in the MathSoc fees (to \$5.00, say) even if it meant that mathNEWS could be significantly improved?

YES NO

Voyage to the Centre of the GridComments

Due to the minimal response of last week's Grid Word, we will wait another two weeks before printing the solution. If you have last week's Grid Word on hand, we suggest that you complete it and submit it to mathNEWS by Saturday 5 March 1983. You can win a t-shirt of your choice from MathSoc if you enter. You can pick up a copy of issue #3 at MathSoc.

2216 mathNEWS -- and no type writer, so I guess I'll use a typewriter
 41 mathNEWS Packet Calendar
 25 Feb 1983
 26 MathSoc
 On the table

more questionnaire on the other side! →

Questionnaire *cat'd*

Now, what types of features would you like to see in mathNEWS in the future? (Use the ++ to - scale, where ++ means a lot more wanted, + means more wanted, 0: enough, - : less wanted, - a lot less wanted).

news items	--	-	0	+	++
sports	--	-	0	+	++
real mathematics (not Real Mathies)	--	-	0	+	++
technical	--	-	0	+	++
campus events	--	-	0	+	++
creative writing/fiction	--	-	0	+	++
opinions	--	-	0	+	++
politics (university)...	--	-	0	+	++
politics (non-university)...	--	-	0	+	++

Any further comments?

mathNEWS thanks you for taking part in this questionnaire. Only through your feedback can we improve the quality of this newsletter.

Fed Elections

On 9 March 1983, the annual Federation of Students elections will be held. You may have noticed a few posters up already. mathNEWS won't make any recommendations on who you should vote, but we strongly advise you to get the facts, know the relevant issues, and VOTE!!! You will undoubtedly hear more about the elections as time goes by, so watch the bulletin boards, the various campaign literature and papers such as *Imprint*.

ISSN 0705-0410

mathNEWS ...the final frontier. What all Real Mathies have read before... These are the voyages of the newspaper mathNEWS. It's Winter '83 term mission: to publish a biweekly (approximately) publication financed by Mathsoc; to be editorially independent of the Mathematics Society; to seek out lost rations of blatant filler; to boldly write what no Real Mathie has written before.

Please address any enquiries (via mail or subspace communications) to:

mathNEWS
MC 3035
University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 3G1

Real Mathies

Well, we're back, and hopefully better. Let's get down to answering that pressing question: "What is a Real Mathie?"

Here are some more responses, including the ones we didn't have time to put in last issue:

Real Mathies...

- don't program in Cobol
- have a VDT ... (a Video Display Tan)
- detest calculus and wish L'Hopital was French for "hospital"
- don't acknowledge other faculties
- think; therefore, they are!
- don't get complexes over complex numbers
- avoid Stats 333
- take Phil 140
- can get by with 8 hours of sleep...a week
- only worry about graduating the year that they do such
- are in Math because that's the way it all adds up

Finally, this next one doesn't fit the Real Mathies question, but...

- Real CS students want their own faculty

We are quite proud of those Mathies in set R who support this feature. It has come to be one of the best supported parts of our paper. mathNEWS thanks you one and all. Keep those cards and letters coming!

MathSoc Executive

Well, most of MathSoc's executive are in by acclamation. Here they are:

President . . .	Laura Redican
Vice President . . .	Kelly Masterson
Treasurer . . .	Mike Peacock
Social	Ken Maines
Office	Sean Romenco
Publicity	Tom Haapanen
Orientation	?????
Campus Rec.	Stan Mikoluk & Monica Oke
Speaker	Ron Balcarras
Internal	Terry Italiano
External	Andrea Petermann

The MathSoc election was held Friday 18 February, but the only contested position was that of vice-president. All other positions were filled by acclamation or appointment.