

This is the
worst cover we've
had all term.

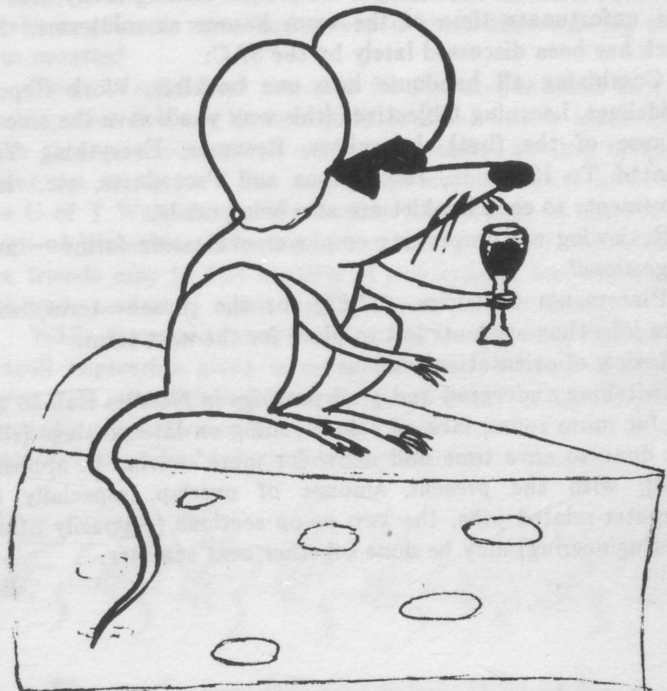
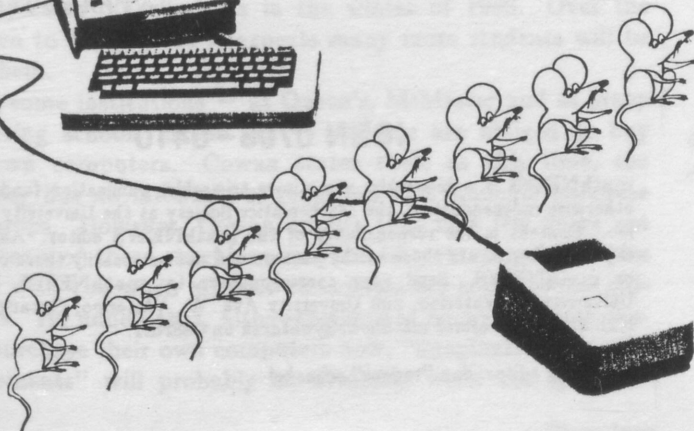
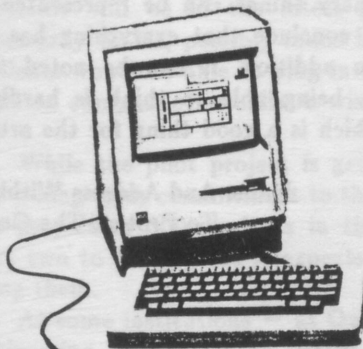
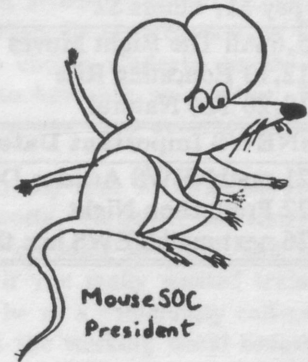
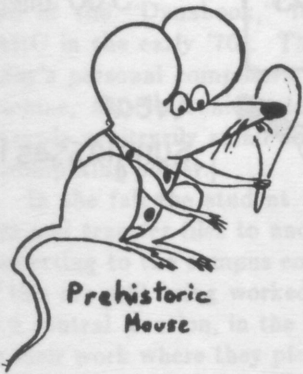
MATH NEWS

Special Wine & Cheese
& Mouse Issue

Volume 38 Number 5

Mouseday, July 5 1985

Marvin and his cousins



MARVIN THE MATHSOC MOUSE

LookAhead

A glance at upcoming events

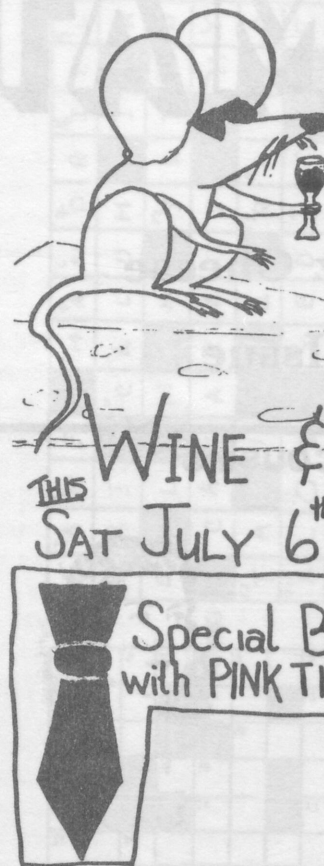
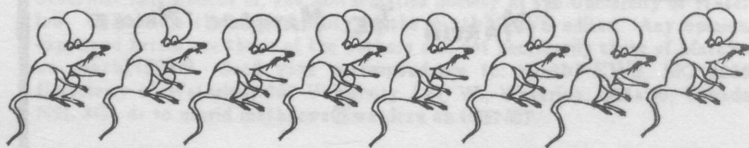
Math Events
July 6 MathSoc Wine & Cheese
July 13 Faculty-Student Picnic
July 18 Math-Eng Pub
July 25 End-of-Term Pub (already!)
Cinema Gratis
Starts 9:30 in the CC and it's free
July 10 Sweater, Dresser
July 17 Drag, Easy Rider
July 24 St. Louis Blues, Last Waltz
Fed Flx
Shown in PHY 145 at 8 pm.
Feds pay \$1, others \$2
July 5,6 All The Right Moves
July 12,13 Educating Rita
July 19,20 The Natural
mathNEWS Important Dates
July 21 mathNEWS Articles Deadline
July 22 Production Night
July 26 next mathNEWS hits the streets

More Fun in the SAC

Reports from this quarter have been lacking lately, due to that unfortunate time of the term known as midterms. So, much has been discussed lately by the SAC:

- 1) Combining all handouts into one booklet: Work Report Guidelines, Learning Objectives (this way you'll save the second because of the first), Interviews, Resumes, Everything You Wanted To Know ..., Regulations and Procedures, etc. Improvements to each booklet are also being made.
- 2) Reviewing and improving employer evaluation forms - any suggestions?
- 3) Placements Statistics: 97.2% for the present term, way more jobs than students left to place for the next term.
- 4) Review of orientation sessions
- 5) Switching undergrad and grad postings in Needles Hall to allow for more room; lack of colour-coding on late postings (this was done to save time and allow for more overlap in applications); with the present amount of overlap, especially in computer-related jobs, the two co-op sections (primarily Math and Engineering) may be done together next summer.

-BP



MARVIN THE MATHSOC
MOUSE SAYS:

"DON'T BE A
NORM! COME TO THE
'TOO COOL FOR
WORDS'

MATHSOC

THIS WINE & CHEESE
SAT JULY 6th, 1985

at South
Campus Hall

PRICE: \$4.00 math
\$5.00 other

Special Bonus
with PINK TIE

Wear
sunglasses!

Theorem Of The Week

$$i^2 = \sqrt{-1}\sqrt{-1} = \sqrt{-1}\sqrt{\frac{1}{-1}} = \frac{\sqrt{-1}}{\sqrt{-1}} = 1$$

Therefore $i = 1$ or -1 . Since real things can be represented by real numbers and all imaginary things can be represented by imaginary numbers, we can conclude that everything has the same level of existence. In addition, it can be noted that despite Descartes's assertion, being able to think is hardly a prerequisite for existence (which is a good thing for the artsies and engineers.)

Name And Address Withheld
To Protect The Guilty

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Managing editor: dan "rodent" schnabel

On "Laptops"

This fall another "experiment in computing" is starting at UW. Some thirty students, scattered across various faculties and courses of study, will be using small, lightweight, portable computers now being referred to as "laptops." The computers will be prototypes for a machine that, ideally, will be unencumbering yet powerful enough for students to do useful work — doing an assignment, writing an essay, taking notes — just about anywhere.

According to Dr. Don Cowan of the Computer Systems Group, UW is following a trend in the way computers are used and can be used. Although this university is a leader in bringing students and computers together, "we still don't make as much use of them in courses as we could." Part of the problem is the inconvenience of having to go to a central location and sit in a terminal room to use a computer. The aim of the laptop project is, instead, to bring the mountain to Mahomed — to make computing as convenient as possible.

[Historical Note: The laptop idea is similar in spirit to the idea of the "Dynabook," formulated by Alan Kay at Xerox PARC in the early '70s. The Dynabook concept foreshadowed today's personal computers. It was to be a portable, personal machine, an electronic notebook/workshop/library that could be made arbitrarily small and have an arbitrarily large amount of computing power.]

In the fall the student "guinea pigs" will be able to print files and transfer files to and from their machines by physically connecting to the campus computer network. While the details of this are still being worked out, students will likely "plug in" at a central location, in the Math building, and then go off and do their work where they please.

The identity of the machine's manufacturer is not disclosed at present, and neither are many physical details of the machines themselves (although a major announcement will be made in "a few weeks" from now). According to Cowan, the ideal laptop computer will have half a megabyte of memory, have a built-in display and keyboard, weigh between four and ten pounds, and be about the size of a calculus textbook. The processor will be of the latest generation, possibly but not necessarily 32-bit, possibly made by Motorola or Intel. Ideally, students would be able to plug in to the network at several stations on campus; eventually, a wireless radio link may be possible.

While the pilot project is getting underway this fall, UW has a long-term commitment to the laptops. It plans to expand the project to 300 students in the winter of 1986. Over the next two to three years it expects many more students will be using them.

At some institutions — at Queen's, McMaster and at many engineering schools in the US — students are obliged to buy their own computers. Cowan states that, at this time, the university has no intention of requiring that students purchase the laptops. However, Cowan admits that in a few years not having one of these machines may be like carrying log tables around with you when all your classmates are using pocket calculators. He added that, although there is no way to help students purchase their own computers now, "imaginative financial arrangements" will probably be available when the machines are.

Tom Ivey

Waterloo — "Image: Yuppie"

Those of you who read the Toronto Star this past Saturday know what I'm talking about. My first thought after reading "Whiz Kids at computers without any time for fun" (the title gives you an idea of the rest of the article) was that reporter Jack Cahill was *nasty*. Of course, I wasn't impressed with the first thing that caught my eye: "Students dance in Confederation Hall ... a rare happening at Waterloo University ..." And after having read a glowing report on Trent University (the first in the series on universities), I did not expect to read that Waterloo is "classless." (But who wants to be elitist or 'country club?')

For the record, I have long considered Waterloo to be a "Yuppie" university. And it has been pointed out before that this university is overcrowded, business-like and tough. On the last point, I recently read an article by scientist David Suzuki (also in the Toronto Star) where he claimed that no Canadian university a) can afford to choose students on the basis of marks, and b) can compare to American universities. Waterloo is an exception to both statements. Top universities have to be tough to produce results.

The Star article seems to say that Waterloo students have a very narrow view of the world. However, university is what you make it (excuse me for sounding so deep), and it doesn't have to be all computers. If you really wanted training only with computers, you would be at a community college instead (where you would be out in the working world sooner and at less expense). On the other hand, if you wanted a liberal education, you wouldn't enrol in Math at Waterloo (and why ask George Elliot Clarke about this, since he resigned because no-one agrees with him anyway?). If you want to learn about the world in general, what better way is there than moving every four months?

There is spirit here and time for fun; maybe there isn't full participation because there is so little time. Sports teams don't have the same seasons as other universities, so they're sometimes not up to par. But maybe the author should have seen the U of T Watpub one Wednesday last winter, to observe the spirit of Waterloo students and the lack of U of T students? A few friends may be lost because of this system, but many more are made, and most move together from term to term.

While there are many valid points in the Star article, the overall impression given is not a nice one. Several classmates agree with me, although one student I talked to agrees wholeheartedly with the article. The Toronto Star seems to be saying, "You must be Mad, or you wouldn't have come here."

-BP



Random Number Testing

```
10 INPUT "TYPE A RANDOM NUMBER {R ∈ [0,1]}";R
20 IF R=RND(1) THEN PRINT "YES! THAT IS A RANDOM
NUMBER":END
30 PRINT "SORRY, TRY AGAIN"
40 GOTO 10
```

The Caliph of Caliphornia

When we last left our illustrious heroes, Tom and Alfred were stuck in a BOG, the Shirriff was nearby, but absolutely nothing had happened to him, dan and Georg were in an art exhibition in Los Angeles, Paul was in either Victory or Los Angeles, Centre of Gravity was recuperating in San Francisco, Dr. Ernie and John were rushing from Berkeley to Mount St. Helen's, Bonita and Cary were taking an all-expenses-paid trip for two to Mount St. Helen's, and derfy had been hijacked to Beirut (and all this in one sentence!).

dan, recovering from the dread disease Mono Lida, leapt after a gorgeous girl he spotted in a painting by Chagall. Georg, fearing what might happen this time, rushed after him. While they passed behind the scenes, they were spotted by one of the Caliph's henchmen, strategically positioned in Rembrandt's Night Watch. This minion alerted his captain, who ordered the entire company after the two mathNEWS fugitives.

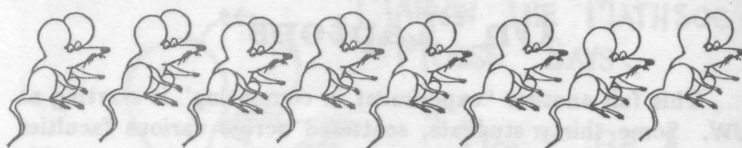
In many of the paintings they passed through in this region, people commented in shock about the strange figure of Georg and his monochrome hair. These denizens of the painted world were yet more surprised at the sudden appearance of the Caliph's henchmen and their captain.

But the captain was none other than the gregarious Gregg, a mathNEWS worker on his work term in an undercover co-op job [an undercover co-op job — sure! Working at Church and Jarvis, I suppose. That's co-opulative education for you! — typ.] as a Henchman Leader for Caliph Computers Inc. of Caliph Alto, Caliphornia [won't that look good on his resumé! — typ.]. That's right, boys and girls! Gregg is really a good guy!

Meanwhile, Tom got sucked into the BOG, and Alfred, trying to save him, was pulled in after him. Passing through it with much stench and choking and suffocation, at length they emerged in a battered car travelling in the middle of a lengthy parade in Paris. Paris, Ontario, California, that is.

After collecting his silver medal at the Ex-acto™ Knife Throwing Competition in Los Angeles and Victory, California, Paul collected his luggage with a snuffle and a sneeze (for he had been caught in a draft without a draught) and headed off to San Francisco to find Centre of Gravity. Camille, in the interim, had split, but luckily his Centre of Gravity had maintained its original trajectory, when out of the blue a mad flasher by the name of Chuckles revealed much to Centre that would later prove useful. Paul happened upon Centre in this moment of shock, and threatened Chuckles with an Ex-acto™ knife should he not remain covered. Paul and Centre of Gravity decided to continue to Mount St. Helen's, and Chuckles, chuckling perversely, followed close behind them.

In frigid Beirut, derfy was forced off the 747 in -40° weather, and into the ramshackle palace where Blue Berry ruled. At that very moment, the commander's daughter, a true derfyette, entered the dungeons. Spotting derfy, she fell head over heels in love at first sight. After he had picked her up



with an odd feeling of déjà vue, she proposed marriage.

"If you accept, you'll become a prince, and can do whatever you like. If you don't, I'll make Daddy behead you!"

"But I'm already married!" protested derfy, but nonetheless the wedding took place twenty minutes later. After the marriage was consommé, derfy remembered that he must needs rush to the aid of his friends.

"But we've only been married 39 minutes!"

"And eight seconds. I know", said derfy, checking his timer, "but I must leave now. I shall return!"

And leaping into a commandeered Air India flight, he flew off to rejoin his companions. But what should happen to him now but a friend of his named Jack, who he had met at the Village Semi-Formal, stepped aboard the plane.

"Hi, Jack!"

"That's a feeble pun! This plane is going to Bermuda!"

But, as the jet passed through the Bermuda Triangle, a UFO pulled up alongside of it, and a host of little green men (not UW janitors!) forced the plane to make an emergency landing on Mars!

Finding that they were being pursued, Georg seized dan and charged back into the exhibition through a Monet. A wealthy connoisseuse of art, the famed Alison, studying the exhibition, promptly bought dan, and took him home with her. Although dan was perfectly happy about this, Georg accompanied the two of them on their stroll, until the Caliph's henchmen were spotted in hot pursuit. The only solution seemed to be at Mount St. Helen's, so Alison, dan, and Georg set off for that place, with the henchmen henching close behind them.

However, Bonita and Cary, on their cruise, landed on the rim of the crater of Mount St. Helen's and got into their chauffeur-driven limo just in time to see Tom and Alfred drive over the wrong bridge in Paris, and wind up in the car beside theirs.

At this point, Dr. Ernie and the Mad Irishman reached the BOG where Tom and Alfred had but recently disappeared. There they found the Shirriff.

"Good day, good Shirriff."

"Holy Void, Ernie! Why doesn't he answer?"

"Something terrible has happened to him!"

"But what is he suffering from, doctor?"

"From Absolutely Nothing!"

"Oh no!"

But it was true. The trusty Shirriff was at the mercy of Absolutely Nothing, and it seemed as if Absolutely Nothing could save him! Was it possible? Was it dangerous? Was Absolutely Nothing in the pay of the Caliph! I'll try to figure out the answers to all these questions and more, by the next installment. Tune in on our final issue of the term for ... the car chase scene!

A

More Notes On My Life

Work Term Living Arrangements

Last work term I lived with a person who is an example of how low a lower lifeform can get. This is not only my opinion, but my friend's opinion and her boyfriends' wives' opinions.

I only realized this after living with her for 3½ months — a strictly platonic arrangement (how come nobody will believe me when I say that?), I can assure you. (No, that was no factor in the forming of this opinion of her, and if you knew her you would understand why I say that with a look of relief on my face).

Some of the factors were:

i) arriving and getting hassled because the hotel security thought we (me and my brother (who drove me to sunny Ottawa)) were hoodlums.

ii) finding out that the reason I was picked over all the others who responded to her rent-out ad was that I was the least weird. (I should have clued in right then that something was amiss with this girl — I, even if I say so myself, am pretty weird, and if all she could attract was people who made me look good by comparison, has she got a problem!)

iii) meeting her friends. Why would that be a factor? Picture this. We are at a bar and I have just met Judy's friend. She is waiting for her boyfriend. She has had nothing to drink and so is not drunk. While she waits she goes into a very graphic, sexual description of what she did to him the first (and only!) time he stood her up. Now, as I had just met her, I formed a very good first impression. (Not only was she sick and depraved, but she was down right *mean*.) And this was Judy's best friend!

iv) seeing the places she frequented during her leisure activities — upper class bars. By "upper class" I mean that over half the men that go to these bars are very well off, and married. Naturally their wives are nowhere in sight. (This was something that Judy told me. How she found out ...) Also, 10%-25% of the women were prostitutes, depending on how "upper" the male patrons of the bar were. (This is another thing that Judy told me, not something that I discovered by myself!) From her description, I gathered the hookers considered her and other women competition, but ... naaw, couldn't be.

v) finding out what she thought about honesty, truthfulness, and lying. An illustration — one Christmas she went down to Toronto to visit her brother for a week and while she was there she naturally went around all her favorite bars there and picked up guys. She also picked up a bladder infection (what were you doing with those guys, hmmm?). When she got back to Ottawa she had to mention the infection to her boyfriend (I don't know if she mentioned her extracurricular activities). He a) dropped her like a rock and b) ran, not walked, to the nearest VD clinic.

vi) her high intelligence. It took her three months one time to figure out that her current boyfriend was married, with three children. It never occurred to her to wonder why he wouldn't tell her his right name (it kept on changing), his phone number (5 fake ones — some people got some really weird phone calls late at night) and where he lived. Finally she and a friend followed him home one night. That's when she discovered he was married. She was really upset. She went and had a good long cry. With his wife. (The funny thing is that he and Judy are still on very good terms — he came by and visited her while I was sharing her apartment).

vii) her opinion of men in general. Her current boyfriend (an extremely accomplished/well off guy — who just happens to be married with a 1½ year old and a 6 year old daughter — all of which Judy knew) was there to fill two holes — one was financial. Judy was trying to save up money for her vacation and whenever he and she went out he paid for everything.

viii) her tactfulness. An illustration — after two months with Judy he left his wife, but Judy didn't believe him (after all he lied to his wife all the time, so why not to Judy?). So she and her best friend followed him home one night ... and nearly got arrested for loitering. (Another example of her amazing intelligence). When she got back she decided there must be a simpler way of discovering the truth. Then it occurred to her! Phone up the wife and ask for the husband! (At this point she was dancing with glee, saying "I'm so smart! I'm so smart!". No, she wasn't on drugs, nor was she drunk.) The ensuing conversation occurred.

"Hello, is [blank] there?"

"No, who is this?" (lie, Judy, you're very good at it.)

"His girlfriend, who is this?" (the epitome of tactfulness)

"His wife!" (his ex-wife, you mean)

How do I know all this? Because right after Judy gave her boyfriend's wife the surprise of her life (and possibly a nervous breakdown), Judy phoned up her best friend and told her all the gory details.

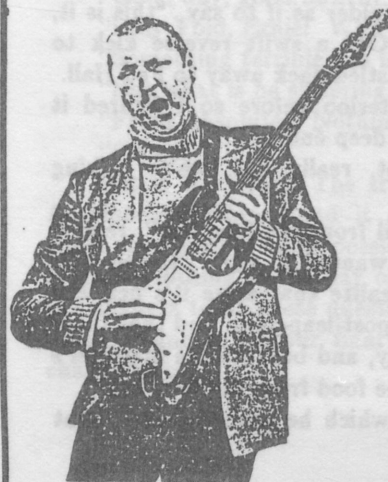
ix) her habit of letting me know what was going on. An illustration — one night not too long after I moved in I was up late tip-tap-typing away on my computer when I heard Judy return from a night on the town. She was very noisy for just one person, but I thought nothing of it. Later on I heard strange noises coming from Judy's bedroom. "She's having a heart attack or something! What do I do?!" So I run to her bedroom and am about to burst in when I notice this strange pair of shoes. Very big shoes. Probably belonging to a very, very big guy. Needless to say, I finally clue in to what's going on, but ... sometimes I wonder what would have happened if I hadn't noticed his shoes ...

x) and then there was the way she tried to attack me whenever I talked to her friends ...

and ... I could go on for an entire issue. How do I find this type of person? I don't know, but I hope I get over it soon.

derfy

"When the going gets weird, the weird turn pro."



MATHSOC presents

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FEDERATION HALL

8pm

feds \$6.50

others \$7.50

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Fundamental Theorem Of Arithmetic.

It may look like an ordinary baseball bat, but it is actually the Fundamental Theorem Of Arithmetic, the perfect tool for solving number theory problems. Got a problem you can't solve? Then just beat it to death with the Fundamental Theorem Of Arithmetic. And it's so versatile too. Find any closet intuitionists in the faculty? Then beat them to death with the Fundamental Theorem Of Arithmetic. The TA's are bothering you? Then beat them to death with the Fundamental Theorem Of Arithmetic. [The police would be hard pressed to find an imaginary murder weapon — Typ.] It can be retrofitted with various blades so that you can also slice, dice, chop, peel, and cut anything or anyone into unique prime factors.

So how much would you be willing to pay for this device? But wait, there's more. You also get the

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Just point the Integrator-Ray Gun at any function at a range of 30 metres or less, and watch it integrate the function before your very eyes! You can choose to find either a definite or in-

definite integral with the flip of a switch. The Integrator-Ray Gun can be set to either single-shot or automatic. The automatic setting is particularly convenient. It allows you to either find the integral of many functions in one fell swoop, or do multiple integrals of one function. No serious mathematician would be without one. (Batteries not included.) Not to be confused with a Disintegrator-Ray Gun.

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which gives you tips on such topics as

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 - Changing courses and Switching Majors.
- and much, much more.

So how much are you willing to pay for all this? Would you believe \$19.95? Of course not, our profit margin would be too low. But for just \$39.95 you can get the complete kit which includes:

- the Fundamental Theorem Of Arithmetic
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- the Integrator-Ray Gun
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Don't delay. Get yours today. This offer can't possibly last forever.

Life As A Computer Terminal

My name is V.Craig Fourfour and I would like to briefly describe to you the job that I got through Co-ordination and Placement. In their never ending quest to find unique jobs, they have come up with the job of being a computer terminal. The first thing that you will notice if you decide to embark upon this occupation is that the pay is lousy and you are often forced to work 24 hours per day with no overtime. Also, you only have a few statutory holidays, plus a few weeks between semesters. In addition, there is no chance for upgrading. There are many occupational hazards such as being kicked, mutilated by a hammer, or even having someone let their fingers vent their frustration on your keyboard! Finally, the job is very lonely since other computer terminals are very boring to talk to as they only converse in binary (e.g. "110100..."). Also, not many people talk to you and even when they do, they shout at you terms and phrases that I can't repeat here. (However, there once was a young man who had a pleasant conversation with me every day until for some strange reason a couple of guys in white coats came to take him away.)

However, the job is not all bad as we may observe interesting varieties of people. There is the "Do It At The Last Minute" type who comes in just an hour or two before an assignment is due and madly tries to type it in. I have a lot of

fun with this type when I pull little pranks such as randomly switching the values of the keys and flipping a few bits here and there in their compiled programs. If I am in a very playful mood I sometimes even crash the whole system.

Also, there is the "40 Hour At A Time" type. This is the person who sits mesmerized in front of me for many hours, hoping that by staring at me long enough his errors will go away. Always happy to oblige, I point out their minor errors for them — while making their bad ones worse.

Finally, there is the "Do It As Soon As You Can" type. These keeners rush over to a terminal to do a computer assignment as soon as they get it. However, I usually see these people later when they find out that they did something wrong or when their assignment is changed a few days before the due date.

There are also a few advantages to the job relating to the co-operative system. I have no problems getting a work-report printed. In addition, I can state on my resume that I have extensive experience with computer hardware and with different programming styles.

On the whole, the job is a unix experience which could leave you terminally ill.

The Mad Irishman

A Gridword For All Seasons

Sifting through the reams of mail we get here at mathNEWS, we found three correct solutions to last issues puzzle, all completed by teams; while the team of P.S.A.C.Moc(?), Les & Webster and the team of Tony Gahlinger, Mark Mutrie, Ricardo Dahab and Claudia Medeiros both handed in solutions, this week's prize goes to Nagamatsu & Rozee. To clarify what this prize is, a two-for-one deal on a mathNEWS subscription means that, come late July, you can come into MathSoc and ask for a subscription for the fall — lo and behold, you get two subscriptions for the price of one.

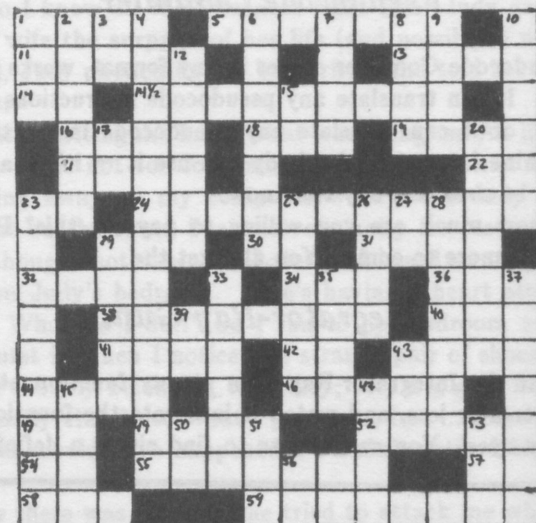
But enough of these silly considerations! On with the game!

Across

1. deroped improper
5. lesser rubies
11. number of wonders
13. universal asynchronous chip
14. freud's spark
- 14½ port to Manitoulin
16. arab from baha
18. busy hexapede
19. short esmerelda
21. let my cabaret people
22. fish admonish to Billy
23. Italian 'C'
24. sensory bulb
29. shack-built computer
30. home of "the Pit"
31. campus wreckers (abbrev.)
32. part of an ambush
34. wrecked society (abb.)
36. backwards dupe
38. milady's warrior
40. gradual society (abb.)
41. long times
42. quiet sound
43. wordish ology
44. formicidea
46. zap to the gem
48. thanks, shorty
49. sire the angers
52. what iP is not (2 wds.)
54. land of the brave
55. french hi
57. note to follow fa
58. chairman of the cats
59. land of the small

Down

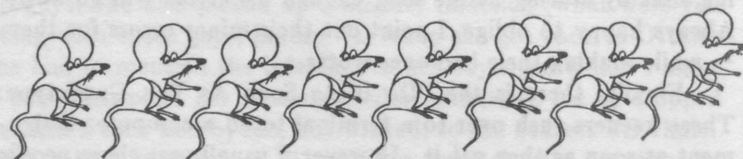
1. trident letter
2. to edit
3. romans went fourth
4. change in form
6. of the plebes
7. amen to our calling
8. attractive rule
9. syn. to 10.
10. pronounces
12. nob'ly prized awards
15. about
17. hunting pal to tally
20. one of the kettles
23. ultimate threat
25. INRI
26. our brand of ADA
27. railroad (abb.)
28. runs through Nanking and Wuhan
29. silent
33. let sam have a beer
35. London's beat district
37. from court to camel Launcelot came
39. rare article
43. hearing the organ
45. space racers (see 54)
47. epistle-writer
50. solar in old Egypt
53. artful society
56. gridword author



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Expected guests this fall: Tom Ivey and his all-Philosopher Band; dan schnabel commuting from workterm (we will answer the crucial question: "Will dan get another haircut this Fall?"). You'll see names and acronyms like dwarf, djcl, grmcfarlane, Sauron, MLE, Dr. Ernie, and who knows who else? So keep in touch. Subscribe today!



Mouse-ted

Thanks to Tom Ivey, Cary Timar, John Omielan, Gregg Simmons, Paul Obeda, Camille Gaudeseune, Fred Walter, Ken Shirriff, Alison Burnham, Fozz Sutherland, Michael Clase, Jane Dunlop and her pal Marvin.

I think we just squeaked by on this issue.

dan schnabel