

math NEWS

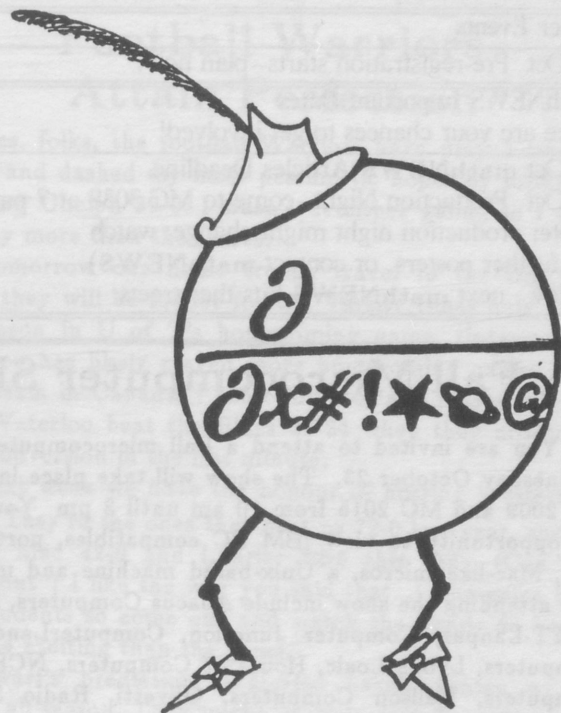
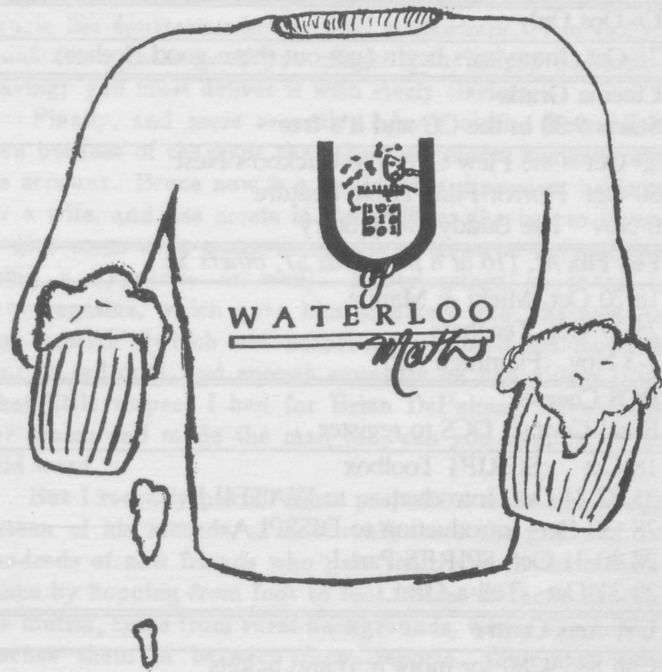
Volume 39 Number 3

Friday 18 October 1985



Oktoberfest Bash
Midterms Clash
Rick's Trash
Slash's Slash
CSC's Flash
Slashes Back Slash
Pee Wee's Big Splash

and songs, songs, songs ...



LookAhead

A quick look at what's happening

Math Events
20 Oct World Series Pub
23 Oct CS Meet the Profs Night
30 Oct-1 Nov •• Spring Pre-Registration ••
Co-Ops Only
21 Oct Interviews begin (get out those good clothes)
Cinema Gratis
Starts 9:30 in the CC and it's free
23 Oct One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest
30 Oct Horror Film Triple Feature
6 Nov The Buddy Holly Story
Fed Flix AL 116 at 8 pm—Feds \$1, others \$2
18-20 Oct Micki & Maude
25-27 Oct Teachers
1-3 Nov Flamingo Kid
DCS Courses
Free! Contact DCS to register
18 Oct SCRIPT Toolbox
21,22,24 Oct Introduction to WATFILE
28, 30 Oct Introduction to DISSPLA
28,30,31 Oct SPIRES Part I
29,31 Oct Tell-a-Graf
UW Arts Centre
Call 885 4280 for more info and tickets
21 Oct The Cambridge Buskers
23 Oct CLIO Awards—award winning commercials
24-25 Oct The Nylons
Other Events
30 Oct Pre-registration starts—plan now!
mathNEWS Important Dates
Here are your chances to get involved!
28 Oct mathNEWS Articles Deadline
29 Oct Production Night—come to MC 3038 at 7 pm (Note: production night might change; watch for further posters, or contact mathNEWS).
1 Nov next mathNEWS hits the streets

A Fall Microcomputer Show

You are invited to attend a Fall microcomputer show on Wednesday October 23. The show will take place in MC 2008, MC 2009 and MC 2015 from 10 am until 3 pm. You will have the opportunity to view IBM PC compatibles, portables, laptops, Mac-like micros, a Unix-based machine and more. Vendors attending the show include Abacus Computers, Burroughs, AT&T-Lanpar, Computer Junction, ComputerLand, Desktop Computers, Lyons Logic, House of Computers, NCR, Neutron Computers, Neilson Computers, Olivetti, Radio Shack and Xerox. A complete list of the micros being demonstrated is available from any DCS consulting office. The show is being sponsored by the Department of Computing Services. Please contact Bob Hicks (X2194, MC 2027) or Neil Movold (X6480, MC 2028) if you have any questions about the show.

Prezz Sezz

I'll spare you the details of the council meeting we had last week as well as those from the 1985 General Meeting—mathNEWS representatives were present in large quantities, so if there is no coverage bitch to them through the *BLACK BOX*. Instead, I'll just say a few words about an event that had a great impact on me (why? read on to find out).

British Pub Night — a Wild Success???

Yes, people, even if 98% of you don't know (that means about 60 do) we had a British Pub and Comedy Night in the Federation Hell (aka Club 750). John Pattison and Carl Strong put on a good show, provoking most of the audience (which was about 60 at the time) into fits of laughter. After these dudes (a black term meaning a specific individual, says Carl Strong) Irene and Carla from the Brunswick House went on the stage. They put on their usual entertaining show, but it was sort of flat, being that Fed Hole was 90% empty. Most of those at the pub had a lot of fun, though.

It was really amazing, though; tickets were sold at Feds, MathSoc and SciSoc; there were large banners in several locations around campus; small posters were plastered on the walls in the hundreds; and on the night of the pub, we distributed some 150 free tickets. And yet, only *sixty* people showed up! Blame it on the Wednesday night, the midterms, heavy assignments, whatever, it was the biggest flop ever put on by MathSoc with estimated losses of between \$1000 and \$1200. **Why are people so f—ing apathetic???** Really, going to classes, doing assignments and cramming for midterms is *not* all there is to university. Get the %@#*&@\$ involved and do something!

Tom Haapanen
MathSoc President

Dept. of Computer Science,

MathSoc and the CS Club present:

**Computer Science
Information Night**
and

Meet The Profs!

For 3B CS students

A panel of CS professors will discuss the pros and cons of the various 4th year CS courses; later everyone will adjourn to the Grad Lounge for free refreshments (and the Blue Jays game), where you may ask the profs questions on a one-on-one basis. This is your chance to find out what courses you should or should not be taking next year!

Wednesday, Oct. 23. 7 p.m. MC2065, later in MC5136

Watch for posters for more information!

Slash's Shoebox

"Dr Springsteen"

or

How I Learned To Stop Worrying

And Love The Boss

for Sandra

A very short time ago I realised that all these years I have spent despising this boy from Ashbury Park have been wasted; I have missed out on all the fun. One too-too-gorgeous muffin with whom I sat at Vital Sines was unable to articulate her musical preferences until, when my friend Joe noted that the people there who were wearing **Born In The USA** t-shirts might be disappointed when the band came on, said "Oooh, I love 'The Boss'; I have all sixteen of his records." Hell, she *looked* cool.

I guess I built up a dislike for Bruce Springsteen first because he was so American. He represented everything I disliked about the United States: the degrading attitude toward women, the love of the fast car/beach party/drive-in mentality, the ritual worship of WASP rock and roll.

Then I began to dislike Bruce Springsteen because his music was so abysmally awful. I have, however, learned that to be an authority on music, you don't have to own it all, or even like it all; you just have to know it all (take note, messrs Done and Wodskou). So I followed the career of this man who could not write, sing, or play much better than any of the guys with whom I used to jam (they used to beg me to come out and sing for them so they could play the notes I was singing—pretty pathetic when you consider it was stuff like 'Lookin Out My Back Door', which even a dead hamster could play from memory).

CSC Flash!

The Computer Science Club had an excursion to the Friday, Oct. 4 Blue Jays game against the Yankees, and everyone had a great time, at least until Dr Henkenstein gave away the game.

Don't forget the upcoming CSC Computer Othello Tournament. Last year about ten programs were entered, and we're hoping for more this year. Drop by the CSC office for details.

The big news this week is the arrival of the Math Faculty Computing Facility's VAX-8600. A VAX-8600 is about four times as fast as a VAX-11/780 (such as watrose) and rumour has it this is the first '8600 installed in Canada. This machine, and another VAX-11/780 (the former watcgl) will complement the present teaching VAX (watrose), starting this winter. This should mean about six times as much computing power for those students taking CS courses on UNIX. The big problem is: where to put all the terminals?

Calum

After that I came to dislike Bruce Springsteen because he gave me the impression that he considered himself the new Bobby Dylan. Although Dylan could neither sing nor play, at least he could *write*. Springsteen as the archetypal protest-song writer just does not hold water. Singing the praises of your country in anthems which become part of the popular culture is not the way to make people aware of the serious problems which exists in contemporary America. Lower middle-class tension has been dealt with by Paul Weller, to cite a contemporary example, in so far more effective a way that big bad Bruce lies sputtering in the dust somewhere. You can't communicate a message if you cloak it in insipid patriotic flag-waving; you must deliver it with steely clarity.

Finally, and more recently, I have dislike Bruce Springsteen because of the hype that the news media has generated on his account. Bruce now is a world wide superstar, has a model for a wife, and has assets in the millions (he has to be careful to give some of it away to charity so that he isn't accused of being a hypocrite as well). Photo essays in every major newsmagazine, which gave him monikers like 'the new American messiah' (which not surprisingly caused his most recent tour to sell out), and enough exposure on bad videos (I've lost what little respect I had for Brian DePalma), have saturated our senses and made the man (oh, can you bear it?) a household word.

But I recently put all those prejudices aside and bought all sixteen of his records. I now really love the guy and I have hundreds of new friends who part their hair in the middle and dance by hopping from foot to foot. Most of them, like Sandra the muffin, come from rural backgrounds, where the music only reaches them in between farm reports. The next time he comes around, I'll be standing in line for two days to shell out \$25 to see him, and I'll be glad I did, because I love The Boss. Seriously.

Football Warriors Attain Perfection

Yes, folks, the football Warriors have played two perfect games and dashed my most pessimistic hopes by losing to Mac 60-0 and Guelph 39-0. I wasn't at either game, so I can't tell you any more than the scores.

Tomorrow our noble troops travel to the Big Cabbage where they will be fodder for the Varsity Blues only victory of the season in U of T's homecoming game. (Interesting note: Waterloo has likely played more homecoming games than any other team in Canada. I can't think of any reason why...) Last year, Waterloo beat the Blues 25-24 when they missed a two-point conversion in the last minute.

Next week we have the honour of hosting Western's Mustangs. They're the ones that beat us 72-0 last year, and they've beaten Mac 42-0 and Laurier 22-5 this year. (Can you say "blow-out"? I like the way you said that...) The game is free to UW students so come out and watch the bands do battle. It'll be more exciting than the game.

Dwarf's prediction: Waterloo hasn't beaten a 21-point spread all season. They might do it against Toronto, so I'll call Toronto by 21. The city might have to add a third digit to the scoreboard at Seagram Stadium for the Western game, but giving the Warriors the benefit of the doubt (I don't know why), I'll say Western by a nice even 40 (*Typist: 40 of what?*)

dwarf

The Sound of Hacking

(with apologies to Simon and Garfunkel)

Hello coffee my old friend
It's good to talk to you again
Because a vision softly creeping
Left its seed while I was sleeping
And the vision that was planted in my brain
Still remains
Amidst the sound of hacking

Down binary trees I walk along
Disjoint paths pointing on and on
Beneath the halo of a linked list
I turned my collar to the blur of bits
When my eyes were stabbed by the flash of an interrupt
That caused a dump
And touched the sound of hacking

And in the ISR I saw
Ten thousand opcodes, maybe more
Opcodes pushing without popping
Opcodes branching without checking
Opcodes sending bits to places never heard
For no one dared
Disturb this piece of hacking

"Fools!" said I, "You do not know
Small bugs like a cancer grow.
Take this time that I might touch you
Take my words that I might teach you!"
But my words like silent disk heads fell
Like the Honeywell
And echoed in the realm of hacking

And the hackers bowed and prayed
To the new OS they made
And the console spelled its warning
In the words that it was forming
And the console said
"The bugs in this system will drive every user nuts
And are deep enough
They can't be fixed by hacking."

Wierd Jim Jordankovic

MATH TOURS INTERNATIONAL *presents*



Carnaval de Québec

AND DAY TRIP TO MT. STE-ANNE FEBRUARY 14, 15, 16, 1986.

FROM \$ **92**⁰⁰ PER PERSON

→ ACCOMODATION AND RETURN BUS ←
DETAILS IN MATHSOC OFFICE MC 3038
*FIRST COME - FIRST SERVE - BEGINNING 10:30AM MON.

Yesterday

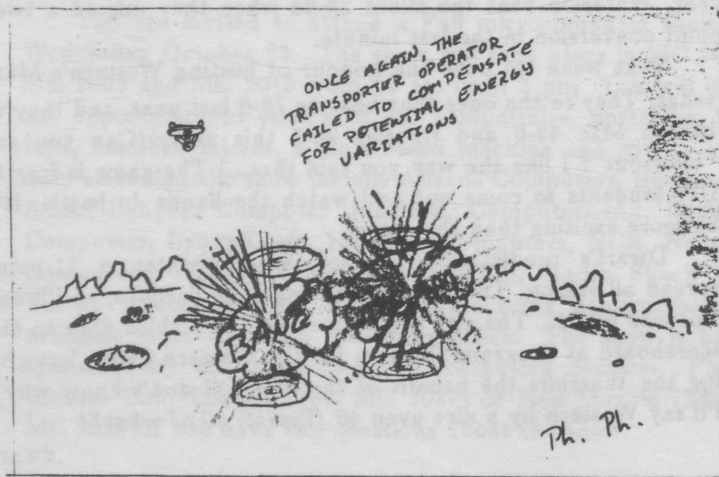
(words: C. Sneer; music: Lennon & McCartney)
("Well, John's dead and Paul doesn't know about this...")

Yesterday
All my troubles seemed so far away.
Now they look as though they're here to stay.
Oh I believe in yesterday.

Suddenly,
I've got half the brains that used to be.
There's my T.A. looking over me;
The midterm came too suddenly.

"Why I took this course?" is to me a mystery.
Must be that cute girl with the curls who sits beside me.

Yesterday
Math was just an easy game to play.
Now I'll rest to fight another day.
Oh, life's a bitch, what can I say?



Curious Göorg

What, Me Worry?

Last month a petition was presented to the Waterloo City Council complaining about student housing in downtown Waterloo. The over 200 residents signing the petition claimed that students "let properties deteriorate, park cars on the lawn, make excessive noise and break bylaws by overcrowding dwellings." (Waterloo Chronicle, Sept 25) This petition is the focus for a number of well-intentioned moves to change residential patterns; the City of Waterloo has written policy encouraging the occupation of homes by families, and it has a seldom-enforced bylaw limiting the number of unrelated persons dwelling in a "single family home" to five, or one family plus three boarders. Suggestions have arisen that a task force, including officials from UW, WLU and Conestoga College, be put together to review the situation; and that the bylaw be strictly enforced—soon.

It's easy to point out that the petition arose because a minority of students have been less-than-responsible tenants, and the bad name that student housing has as a result persists year after year. However, I doubt that would sway the opinions of Waterloo's non-student residents, whose interests the city councillor's seem so bent on serving before ours. Although I'm not a flag-waver when it comes to this university—there's enough of that in the *Gazette*—it comes to mind that without UW's existence, the City of Waterloo would not have the prestige, the industrial development, the regional clout, or the large budget it has today.

It's also tempting for us who live on campus or in apartments to ignore these problems. But we'll all eventually have to look for off-campus housing, and some of the moves being contemplated now would make the already-tight rental market in this city even tighter. Now, here's where I make the plug for democracy—some crazy notion that a bunch of Greeks dreamed up and then everybody jumped on the bandwagon. The next municipal election is Nov. 12, and soon candidates will be wearing the thin carpets thinner in a few on-campus residences. When you see these fellows, ask them what they're going to do about the possibility of students being evicted in the middle of this term. Ask them if they really believe student tenants are that irresponsible. Or, if you just can't wait to put in your two cents worth, talk to some of the current Alderman—such as Engineering professor John Shortreed, or Brian Turnbull, who proposed the task force.

Göorg Mandrive

One of THOSE Lectures...

Tic toc	This might
Sick clock	Start to make some sense
Class will never end	And so
Ho hum	I know
So dumb	Much as I do grieve
Bored to death again	Sit still
Oh well	Until
Oh hell	It is time to leave
Trying to convince	grmcfarlane
Sit tight	

Applied Math Club

Until now, sophisticated and unsophisticated Applied Math students and other students didn't have the kind of club they have been looking for. They wanted to join a club but they could find one that was just right. That is until now....

A new club has landed! This term heralds the start of the Applied Math Club and like the inventor of television, we know it's going to be big (and it won't offend your intelligence).

Events are gushing out of the brains of the club executives. Just to begin with a blast, the Applied Math Club ran the Applied Math Coffee and Tea Party.

The party began with Professor J. Wainwright discussing NSERC summer research jobs and the wonderful world of graduate work. The multitude of questions which followed indicated an sincere interest in this topic on the part of your fellow mathies. In the future, you can expect more important and informative seminars and meetings on other topics of interest to applied math students.

Following the discussion, home-baked munchies and different varieties of coffee and tea were brought forth, tasting all the better in the luxurious surroundings of the Faculty and Graduate Student Lounge. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet other people in Applied Math, and to talk about everything from applied math to co-op jobs and various and sundry other unrelated topics.

What will be next? Join the Applied Math Club and find out. It's guaranteed to be a great time and the best 50 cents you'll spend in this building (better than green muffins).

So how can you join? Just come out to any Applied Math Club event, or sign up whenever you find someone in the Applied Math Club office, MC 5168. That's M-C-5-1-6-8. Don't delay, join today.

Alison Burnham
and dan

platter spatter

Jane Siberry—THE SPECKLESS SKY

Jane's third album is not as accessible as her second (NO BORDERS HERE); the music here requires more participation from the listener. You'll never hear Muzak from Jane! The well-crafted tunes include "One More Colour" and "Map of the World Pt. II"—the latter is certainly more accessible than Part I. Her current tour brings her to Humanities Theatre on October 27.

Kate Bush—HOUNDS OF LOVE

Finally it's here after three years. Looks like no Peter Gabriel influence this time, so it's not as percussive—some say strange—as THE DREAMING (her last album). Also not as interesting but it reminiscent of her earlier albums. Great album for those with the acquired taste, with the first single being "Running Up That Hill". Sorry, folks, Kate's not touring.

Slash's Shoebox

An Open Letter To Douglas T. Wright

(We at mathNEWS would like to emphasise that the contents of this column are the opinions of its author, not necessarily those of our staff or of MathSoc. However, we feel that this column should be printed nonetheless, and we regret that it did not appear in last issue. — D Richard Kuzell, Editor)

Sir:

You have been in your present position for a while now. Things have been going pretty much your way. Well, chum, the party's over. I don't know how the majority of my contemporaries feel, but I don't much care for the way you are running this place, and I think it's about time someone spoke up.

The students are being robbed blind. Anyone who thinks that the money we are spending to attend this hallowed institution is going toward the general good has been duped. From all the years you spent in business, you no doubt learned that you can only exploit the workers so much before they rise against you. As students, we cannot rebel. You hold our future in your hands, and you can do with it what you will; you have us by the degree, and you know it.

This has led to a regime which has been one act of monumental bad faith after another. For a university which reputedly has the assets to run itself year after year, the tuition which it charges its students is ridiculous. Co-op students, as well, pay the salaries of a Department of Co-ordination and Placement which at the very least is virtually useless.

This new computer fee was a nice surprise, not only because it was a sneaky underhanded way of increasing fees by not increasing fees, and thus loopholing around governmental restrictions, or because almost all of the computer equipment is donated in exchange for "considerations", and thus costs the university nothing, or even because most of the new equipment is reserved for the use of faculty, graduate students and researchers, but more due to the fact that instead of getting more computing access for our money, we're getting less. Restricted access, smaller accounts, and more restrictions on some hardware are all new facts of life this term. So where did the money go? No one really knows, but my guess is that it disappeared into high-tech research or building funds, or was used to cover the loss incurred by the shrunken enrollment.

But you've done well. Waterloo is now very highly respected. People ask you to come and speak, and your writing gets published in *Canadian Business*. But who here cares? The problem is that you have caused the school to be respected for its research and its relationship with industry, not for its students or its programs, unless you are talking about math or engineering, both of whose reputations have become artificially enhanced. The co-op program is a lie. For every student that gets a decent work-term job, there is at least another whose job is completely unsatisfactory or mindless (as in the case of some recently-created IBM jobs on the assembly line). There are, of course, no statistics kept on the quality of co-op jobs. The administration and industry have nicely covered this up, with the help of Co-ordination.

When it comes to building a huge monument and naming it after the fattest big-business cat ever to hold public office in

this country, or surrounding the campus with industrial development (in exchange for favours), your real-estate acumen knows no real bounds, no matter how you may be disrupting the face of the campus. However when it comes to the needs of the students, all of a sudden you have no room and no money. Students have different priorities than you do, and you should be sensitive to their collective needs and wants. Instead you have forced the students to accept poor facilities (eg. Columbia Icefield and the pseudo running track therein, the lack of parking space at Fed Hall, the PAC (trying to put classrooms in there, the new locker fees ...)), and forced them to pay for these buildings themselves.

The worst injustice you have forced on the students is an image we do not deserve. A "Gazette" image. That proverbial wet dishrag *The Toronto Star* called us "yuppies"; that we are not. The entire campus took exception to that label; despite the mould in which you have tried to cast us, we are by nature and by environment a different breed—smarter, cooler, more aware. We are not at all like anyone else; we are not at all like you. When are you going to wake up? I hope that it will be before you do some more damage.

With the utmost disrespect,



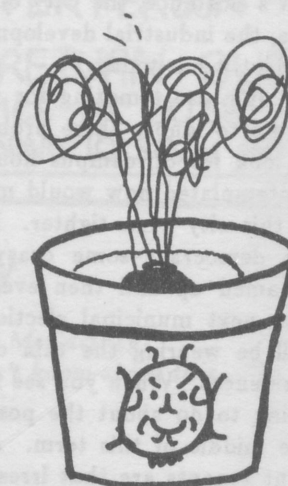
Slash (the Gnash) Sinatra

Ode to a Friend

Dearest Coffee Cup
Holding the juices of life
For a morning too soon

I ache
Yet your rich aroma
And warm flavour
Caress me
Faithfully every morning
Expecting nothing in return

I'm sorry I'm not myself
When I greet you
But by the time we part
You will have made me feel very happy
And for that
I will be eternally grateful
I love you
grmcfarlane



OH THAT
COFFEE!

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Editor: D Richard Kuzell

MathSocists Triumph in 1st Game

Well, that was intended to be the title of the article, anyway. Alas, Mathocists went and blew it. Oh well, here goes anyway.

The first game was scheduled for 9:45 pm on Sept. 24 at Seagram Gym. After a dramatic scramble to Canadian Tire to purchase half-dozen high-quality (\$9.99) hockey sticks and other associated paraphernalia, the team (almost all - read on for details) gathered in the locker room for some stick-cutting. Around 9:35 pm somebody brought up a rather awkward question: "Who's playing goal?" About 9:44 pm, after appeals too numerous to be counted, Sean Romenco ended his resistance and donned the equipment (he had, during a mental lapse, admitted that as a 10-year-old he had played goal...). When the team gathered onto the "ice", we found another player: Sandy; for some reason she had not changed in the dressing room.

Well, once we got started, we quickly found out we had three problems: goal tending, defence and offence. St Paul's (our opponent) quickly built up a 3-0 lead, with Sean's save percentage down to .500. The line changes were at best erratic, and at one point, when we had a 2-man advantage, St Paul's was putting a good power-play together, threatening to make it 4-0.

Things did get better, though. We made up defence and forward pairs, and Sean started to get warmed up in goal. Alas, the offence was lacking that finishing touch, and the St Paul's was having the game of his life. In the end, the score was a clean 8-0 victory for St Paul's. The score does not, however, reflect the difference in play; with equal goaltending it could easily have been 5-2 or 5-3.

Mathocists' scoring list is nonexistent; Sandy and Mike Friedrich both drew a high-sticking minor and, in addition, we had a bench minor for too many men on the "ice". With some practice, though, we are hoping to do some more scoring the next game, on October 7. By then, our glorious captain, Steve Furr, should be off the disabled list (broken fingernail cures quickly).

McSniq

One of Those Days

Some things are puzzling. Let's take learning, for example. I slump down in an 8:30 Advanced Calculus class fairly regularly (What does this say about life?). Psychologists say all that I perceive is recorded: thoughts, the number of chairs in the room, the shape of all the squiggly lines in the ceiling, even the lecture. I actually try to pay attention (sometimes). Occasionally I think I understand what is going on. I can even review my notes and believe I understand the material.

However, this grand illusion is shattered when I attempt the first question on an assignment. Where did the knowledge go? What do my notes mean "Obviously..."? Where did the class keener go? I don't know. It's just another set of traumas I have to deal with on my way to a university education.

aneristic

Surviving the Mid-term Crisis

There comes a time of life when you begin to wonder "What's it all about?"; when you feel that you don't know "What's going on?"; when you wonder "Where did the time go?". Fear not. The mid-term crisis is a frightening experience, but one which is both common and survivable.

The key to surviving the mid-term crisis is dealing with bad mid-terms. For all but a lucky few, there will be at least one midterm which does not go well, to say the least. DON'T PANIC. Even in the unlikely event that the midterm counts for more than twenty percent, your mark is dependent almost solely on the exam you will write in December. The value of a midterm is to help you identify areas of weakness, before that almighty exam.

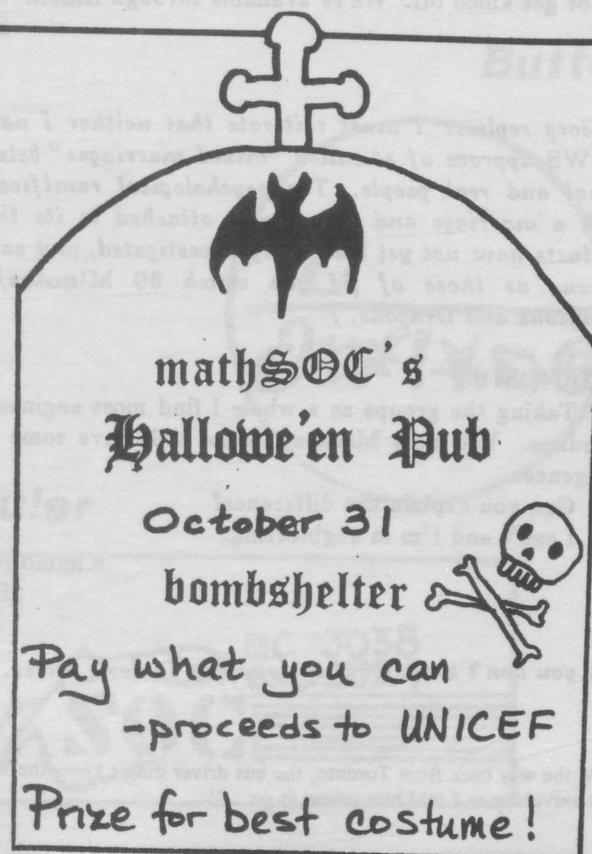
Bad midterms are only serious disasters if you don't follow them up. Use them as diagnostics, and they will be of as much or more longterm help as a good result would have been. Learn how to do even one of the questions you blew, and your exam improvement will counteract the poor midterm result. Learn to do all the midterm correctly, and you've given yourself a solid base from which even an ActSci professor would have trouble shaking you.

In short, don't let it get you down. The workload is heavy now, and it won't get much better, but taking it too seriously will cause more problems than it will solve. Do the best you can and learn from your mistakes. This is the key to surviving the mid-term crisis.

In closing, a short litany :

*Almighty bell curve
On whom careers depend,
Hide our flaws, protect us
Until the term doth end.*

Dr Terrence Till



FeedBack

(mathNEWS welcomes your submissions to FeedBack. Just write one up, and throw it in the BLACK BOX on the third floor of MC, or send it to us via some kind of campus mail c/o MC 3036.)

Dear mathNEWS

Görg Mandrive said it in spades when he spoke of the problems in being fictional. As your writer must well know, few places outside UW Math permit us much room to manoeuvre as the imaginary part of our nature makes our life rather complex. We find it hard to integrate into the Real world, and we rarely derive any great functional developments from the happenings.

This problem has caused many of us various misunderstandings. Görg and I have gone out for a few brews, and even taken some interest in various ladies of the Real world. I am surprised that Mr Mandrive didn't learn in either health or calculus that from the union of those such as us that are imaginary but exist in the Real world in some part and those that exist only in the Real world would definitely result in any product being still part imaginary, ie. still having a part that could fall into the area of fiction. If he is lucky, however, his kids could grow up to be played by some big name stars in a Hollywood dramatisation. My great-uncle was Pip in Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*, and has been played by the best, and directed by the best. Görg had a role in the novel *The Music of Farewell*, while I have only been a go-for as part of the Muppet Show before I went to mathNEWS. By the way, anyone with a story needing characters, I know that both Görg and I will do most stories, so long as we don't break the law or get killed off. We're available through mathNEWS.

Sincerely,
Scooter!

(Görg replies: I must reiterate that neither I nor mathNEWS approve of so-called "mixed marriages" between fictional and real people. The psychological ramifications of such a marriage and the stigma attached to its theoretical products have not yet been fully investigated, and could be as serious as those of (if you watch 60 Minutes) playing Dungeons and Dragons.)

mathNEWS:

Taking the groups as a whole I find most engineers dull & bloodless. Yet most Mathematicians still have some social intelligence.

Can you explain the difference?
I can't and I'm in engineering.

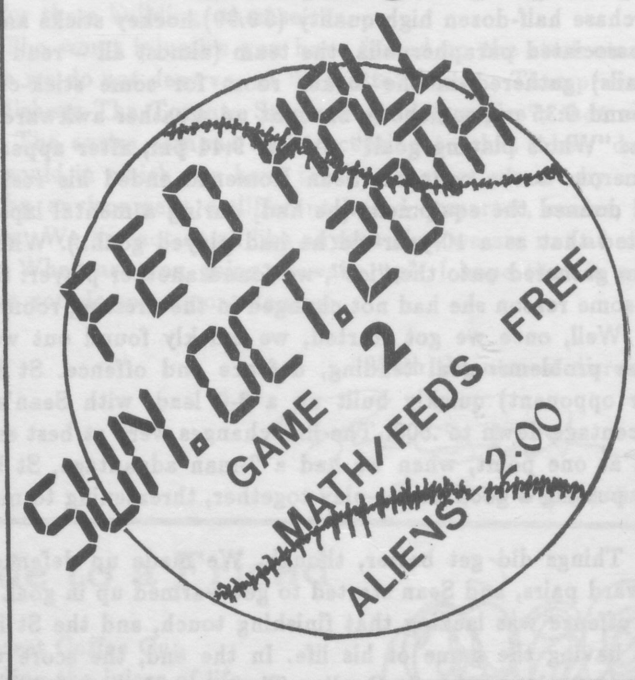
Kimmo Rautapuro
2B Ch. Eng

"If you don't know what to do, apply Taylor's series."

J Ll Morris

"On the way back from Toronto, the bus driver didn't know the way to the university so I told him where to go ..."

mathSOC's WORLD SERIES PUB



UltraClassified

(The mathNEWS UltraClassifieds column is a cheap (read "free") method for publishing your personal classified ads. Send them to mathNEWS via that BLACK BOX on the MC's third floor, or mail to MC 3036.)

Happy Birthday Chan Chan! Now you're old along with the rest of us. Too bad about the timing of it. CS is sure a drag. Have a great year. Love Ralph.

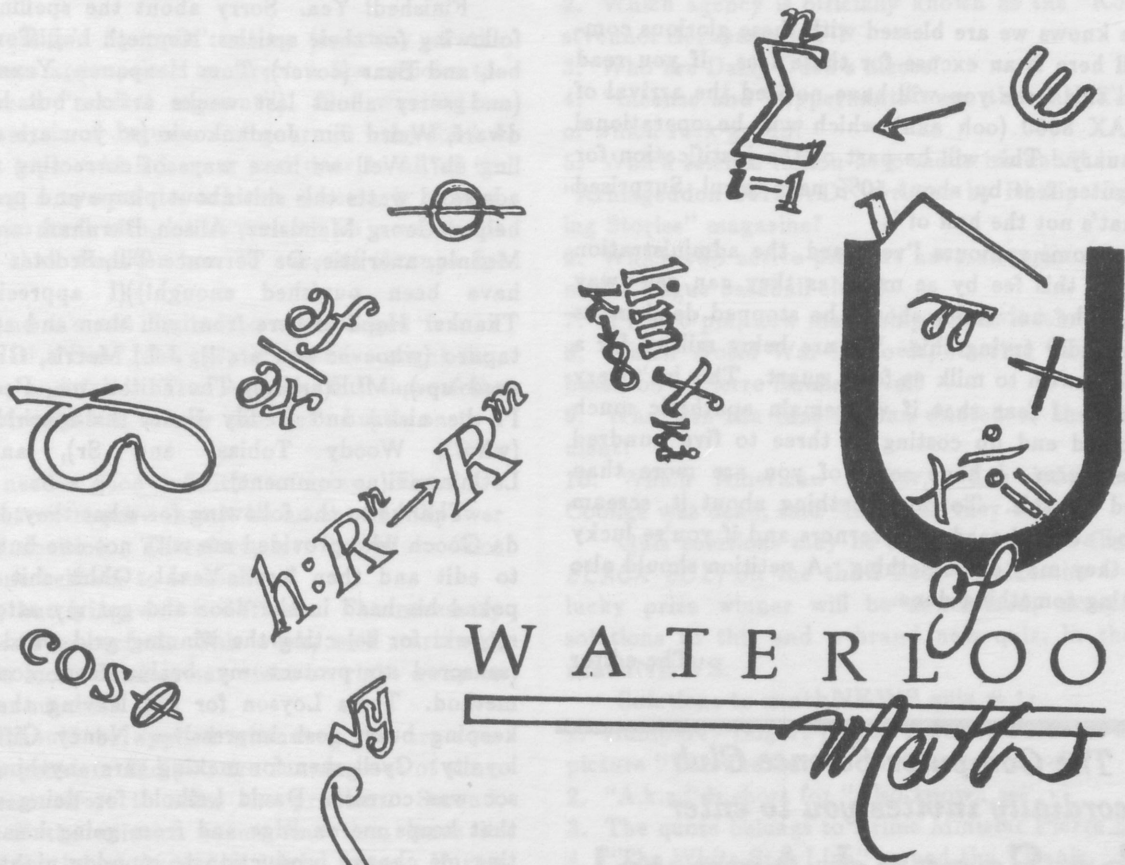
Bored of the same old roadtrips? MTI can help. Go to the Special end of term Canadiens vs Sabres hockey battle. Tickets will be available soon.

UW Apathy Club (UWAC) needs you! First meeting: Oct. 20 sometime in MC 1026. New members always welcome. Please try to show up, or call 1-800-986-3823.

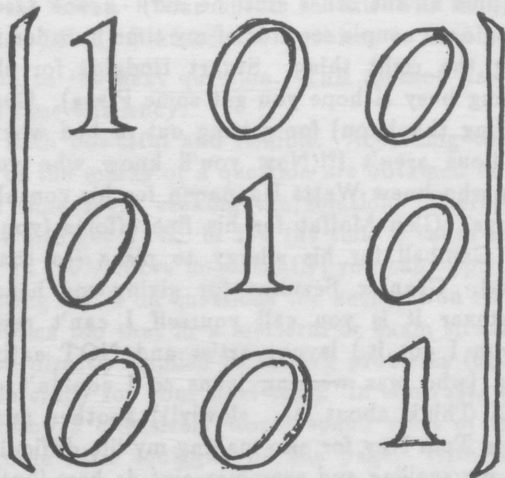
Engineer, 20, geek, loves beer & sheep, looking for a female mathie for companionship, conversation and romance. If you're looking for a guy with lots of money but no personality reply via mathNEWS.

Tired of mid-terms, fed up with school, or just want to have fun? Well then, get all your friends together and join us Saturday, Oct. 19 at Fed Hall for dancing, drinking and good times.-Parthenogenesis

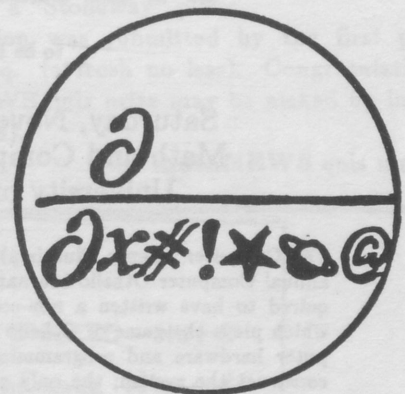
Here It Is, The Winning Entry...



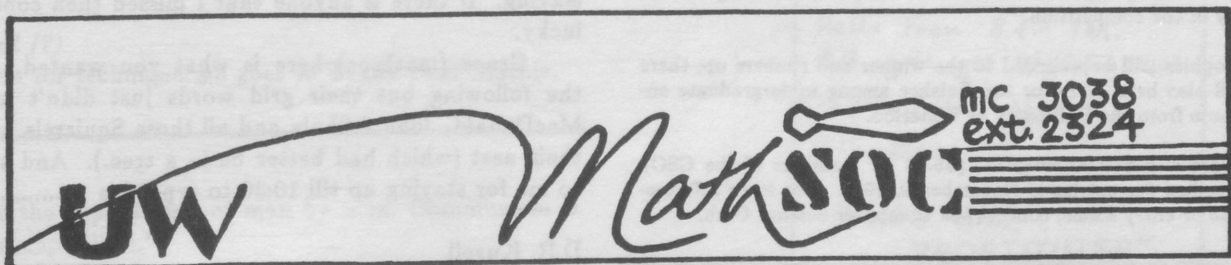
Law of System Programming:
Never test for an error condition you don't know how to handle.



Button



Ruler



Something Rotten On Campus

As everyone knows we are blessed with these glorious computer fees. Well here is an excuse for these fees. If you read the CSC FLASH this issue you will have noticed the arrival of MFCF's new VAX 8600 (ooh aah) which will be operational sometime in January. This will be part of the justification for raising the computer fees by about 50% next term! Surprised are we? Well that's not the half of it.

According to some rumours I've heard, the administration intends to increase this fee by as much as they can get away with each term. The university should be stopped dead in its tracks if they consider trying this. We are being milked for a pint, and now they wish to milk us for a quart. This isn't very far from extortion. I fear that if we remain apathetic much longer, this it could end up costing us three to five hundred dollars extra per term. I hope some of you are more than slightly bothered by this. To do something about it, scream through MathSoc at the board of governors and if you're lucky or loud enough they may do something. A petition should also be useful in getting something done.

The editor

*The Computer Science Club
cordially invites you to enter*

The Second Annual CSC Open Computer Othello™ Tournament

to be held

**Saturday, November 9, 1985
Math and Computer Building
University of Waterloo**

The Computer Science Club is pleased to announce its second annual Computer Othello tournament. Each competitor is required to have written a non-commercial computer program which plays the game of Othello (Reversi). Any type of computer hardware and programming language may be used to construct the system; the only constraint is that the system must be available (physically present or available by communications link) from the Math and Computer Building on the day of the competition.

Trophies will be awarded to the winner and runners up; there will also be a prize for top finisher among undergraduate entrants from the University of Waterloo.

There is a \$10.00 entry fee (\$5.00 for members of the CSC). Deadline for entries is November 2, 1985. For more information or entry forms, contact the Computer Science Club.

Just Another Masthead

Finished! Yea. Sorry about the spelling. Thanks to the following for their articles: Kenneth Lai, Tom Ivey, dan schnabel, and Bear (cover); Tom Haapanen, Yean (forgive me), slash (and sorry about last weeks article but here it is) calcum, dwarf, Weird Jim Jordankovic (so you are using a weird spelling eh? Well we have ways of correcting that!), Cyril (math ads {and wats this shit about pimps and prostitutes?}), scotty's helper Georg Mandrive, Alison Burnham and dan, me (yeah), McSniq, aneristic, Dr Terrence Till, Scooter (sadistic you are!{I have been punished enough!}){I appreciated the letters. Thanks. Hope to here from you then and again.}, Kimmo Rautapuro (whoever you are?!), J Ll Morris, GRACE(which we've used up.), MLE(emily), The editor, me, Pee-Wee Mathie (na, I'll be nice.) and Teddy Bear, the mathNEWS quiz master (who?), Woody Tobias(and Sr), and finally Frank Letiniowski(no comment).

Thanks to the following for what they did!... Darren Jones, da Gooch who provided me with not one but two whole articles to edit and then lose. Yeah! Ohhh shit. grmcfarlane who poked his head in the door and got my attention. Frank Letiniowski for selecting the winning grid word by david's pseudo (sensored to protect my brains from complicated thought) method. Tessa Loyson for not leaving the layout table and keeping busy, gosh impressive. Nancy Giffon for testing my loyalty. Cyril chen for making sure anything to do with mathsoc was correct. David Leibold for doing everything he does that keeps me on edge and from going insane and for not letting me change production to monday nights. Ken Shirriff for doing excellently what I do best and other things that had better remain unknown. dan schnabel (who has a lower case opinion of himself) for imagening articles and using MY terminal (plus all the other stuff he did)! Frank Grossman for only taking up a couple seconds of my time in order to verify he was doing the right thing. Stuart Hodgins for showing up and keeping busy (I hope you got some Pizza). Genia Vanderkruk (spelling thankyou) for getting out of bed when I needed her! (Insidious aren't I?!{Now you'll know who you can trust.}). Tom who knew Watts Haapanen for his consulting and observations. Glen Moffat for his fine efforts (you got off light.). Rob Cambell for his allergy to pizza (so that I could have more.). Graphic Services for giving me headaches. Merrill (whatever it is you call yourself I can't remember) a new (humm I got it.) layout artist and NOT eating pizza. Tina Klein (who was wearing jeans so I couldn't compare her to TnT{ Think about it... slowly!}) another new layout artist. Lastly Tom Ivey for also making my life difficult and telling me how my spelling and grammar aint da best (but mostly for providing some help when everyone else had deserted me.). Oh-yes and Raechel for dropping by smiling laughing and then leaving. If there is anyone that I missed then consider yourself lucky.

Grace (mathsoc) here is what you wanted. Apologies to the following but their grid words just didn't make it: Sean MacDonald, John Gilhuly and all those Squirrels who are out of their nest (which had better be in a tree.). And special thanks to me for staying up till 10:30 to type this

D.R. Kuzell

Pee-Wee's Big Column

More Tips

Given our university's "yuppie" rating (courtesy of the Toronto Star), it seems appropriate to direct a few articles towards this group (read "market segment"). Not wanting to limit myself to an analysis of Jaguars and gourmet baby food, I have turned to that topic which is near and dear to all of us: knowledge! Knowing a system to achieve success is a very valuable asset. And so forthwith, let us embark on a wondrous journey wherein we shall discover how to *succeed through lying*.

That's right! And it's not limited to a privileged few either; anyone can do it! "But", the skeptical reader might say, "many people do lie, and fail." True enough, but those folks lacked a comprehensive system to rely on. Let's hustle on to a quick overview.

First of all, we need a good definition of lying. There are many possibilities, but we require that it be an act of willpower guided by conscious decision. Therefore, let "lying" = "not being true to what one believes to be reality."

Lying is simple, but lying well is difficult. The necessary habits might take years to perfect. This week, we'll start with a simple exercise you lucky readers can start on right away to pave the road to your success!

This technique should be applied whenever you are confronted by a difficult problem and you are running out of time. First, make an honest effort to solve the problem. Second, check the solution. If the solution seems fine then leave it: don't use high-powered lying theory in trivial cases. If you spot a flaw in the solution, you have three choices:

- 1) Try to correct the solution. This is *very* inefficient.
- 2) Smudge the writing a bit and scribble lines to help obscure the error. Your speed at this will improve with time. OR 3) Pretend the problem is unsolvable and go on to the next question. This method has exceptional time-efficiency.

Option 3 is both powerful and flexible. According to the 80/20 rule, 80% of the marks of a question are obtained in the first 20% of the time spent seeking the solution. Therefore, odds are that you will get a "B" in 1/4 the time it takes some other slob to get an "A". More importantly, you can apply the extra time to getting "B"'s on questions the keener won't have time to start. Notice too that in a midterm or exam situation extra time can be directly applied to solving problems further (or going home to study for your next test). In contrast, anyone who used option 2 effectively would spend most of their time deciphering the little squiggles on the page. With midterms under way, I'm sure we'll all get a lot of practice in these techniques. Good luck,

Pee-Wee Mathie

To be continued (?)

P.S. Inspiration for technique #3 goes to Teddy Bear Mathie.

mathNEWS quiz # 2

1. Who penned "The Murder of Roger Ackroyd" in 1926?
2. Which agency is officially known as the "Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopastnosti"?
3. Who are Daisy Duck's nieces?
4. "Incense and Peppermints" was the only Top 10 recording of which rock group?
5. Which science fiction hero made his debut in the short story "Armageddon 2419 A.D." written by Phillip Nolan for "Amazing Stories" magazine?
6. Which two active pitchers have victories over all 26 existing major league baseball clubs?
7. If it is 6 pm, how many ship's bells is it?
8. Which World War II movie, starring Sir Alec Guinness, was based on a Pierre Boulle novel?
9. Who was the first woman elected to the Canadian Parliament?
10. Which American author, when informed that Calvin Coolidge was dead, said "How can they tell?"

Quiz solutions may be submitted in the flight recorder (ie. *BLACK BOX*) on the third floor outside the C+D Lounge. A lucky prize winner will be announced, along with complete solutions to this and a brand new quiz, in the next issue of mathNEWS.

Solutions to mathNEWS quiz # 1:

1. Humphrey Bogart played Fred C. Dobbs in the 1948 motion picture "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre".
2. "A.k.a." is short for "Also known as".
3. The quote belongs to Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau.
4. "The White Star Line" owned the Titanic.
5. Snoopy was born at the Daisy Hill Puppy Farm.
6. The Rolling Stones recorded their "Out of Our Heads" album in 1965.
7. The "maillot jaune" was introduced to the Tour de France in 1919.
8. Mel Brooks and Buck Henry created "Get Smart".
9. Art Pepper played the saxophone.
10. The Flintstones have a "Stoneway" piano.

A very good solution was submitted by the first prize winner John Gilhuly Esq. (a frosh no less). Congratulations. Your especial mathNEWS quiz prize may be picked up in the MathSoc office (MC 3038).

the mathNEWS quiz master

PSST!

WINE & CHEESE Nov 2

Yes, the infamous Wine and Cheese is at South Campus Hall. From 8 till 1AM, \$5 gets you **eight** glasses and imported cheese. It's theme?

"PIMPS AND PROSTITUTES"

"Capitalism is the exploitation of man by man. Communism is the opposite of capitalism."

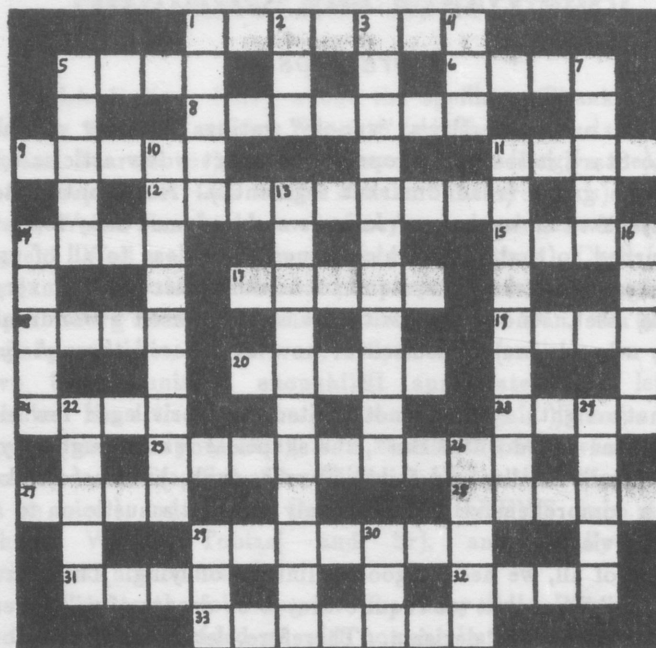
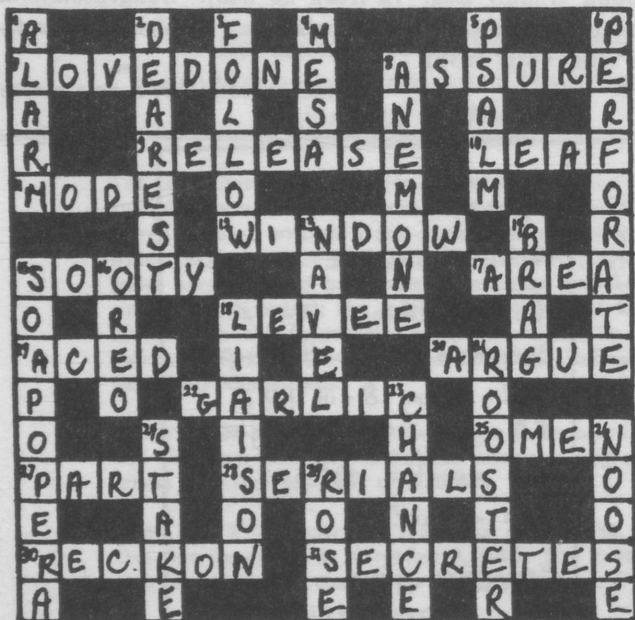


Across

1. Position Cain around the devil. (7)
5. Release a period in reverse. (4)
6. A U.S. city in short measure of seafood. (4)
8. Nudge around in the morning for a portion of the meeting. (7)
9. Three letters in a row hesitate to postpone. (5)
11. see 13 down.
12. So kippers can play a child's game? (5,4)
14. A fish could also play a musical instrument? (4)
15. Every current in pardon. (4)
17. Respond about the group of scenes. (5)
18. I took a truck to a Russian. (4)
19. He will sound part of his shoe. (4)
20. A cap is around the poison. (5)
21. Whether to double back for the French girl. (4)
23. The strange guy around fifty goes for the homely. (4)
25. Paying attention to the stern sale. (9)
27. I went with a certain guy for dinner. (4)
28. Phys. Ed. is able to have a nut. (5)
29. "Not dat French dress - take it off!". (7)
31. Lay around many a female. (4)
32. Nothing this way until the river. (4)
33. Worked up a fine to the Communist. (7)

Down

1. A vessel on the street completely rigid. (5)
2. see 15 down.
3. Recondition to head nowhere. (2,9)
4. Two hundred metre bicycle manufacturer! (3)
5. Two letters a year will clean out a person. (5)
7. Many mice mixed may make a doctor. (5)
10. Seat lines may be necessary. (9)
11. A drinking establishment that hops home? (4-5)
13. and 2 down and 11 across.
Fanciful sex or enjoyment for the physical being. (9,2,3,4)
14. Short underwear? (5)
16. The rolling terrain was cold starting on the second. (5)
22. I lead to perfection. (5)
24. Exit from the French short street. (5)
26. Softly in three directions, many pay out. (5)
29. A bad year to have to colour. (3)
30. We have a headless time unit. (3)
Frank Letniowski



Places in the GridComments

Well, we had a great response for our GridWord last issue. And we have a GridWord prize winner, too. Her name is Jill Fleischman as chosen by the pseudo-random monetary selection method. Our lucky winner can come to MathSoc (MC 3038) sometime to pick up the mathNEWS GridWord secret prize. Honourable mentions go to Jack Rehder & Cyril Chen, Greg Clarke, Angela Ruitter, Dani Roloson, Catherine Olinski, Cornell Carter, Mark Mason, Peter Simpson, Gary Matsell and Malcolm MacAulay, and John McIntosh for their correct GridWord submissions. Also, Doug Watt, Jim McCaw, Rob Sutherland, Zamil Janmohamed submitted GridWords; alas, these were not perfect. The correct answer appears elsewhere in this issue. Thanks for GridWording along with us, and do try again.

We also present some GridComments from you to us. Here's one from John McIntosh:

"Good job on the GridWord, Frank; a little easier than usual though. By the way, how many of the "honourable mentions" are perfect Grids? Could you please mention the # of perfect Grids solved each week"

Henceforth, we're listing correct and not so correct Grid solvers each issue, as seen above. Also, if you have any comments, please submit them with your GridWord, and watch them appear in this space.

This week, be sure to play GridWord, the mathNEWS cryptic crossword puzzle. Just fill it out, and hand it in to us care of the BLACK BOX (ie. flight recorder) on the 3rd floor.

Woody Tobias, Sr

Quote of the Week

"I don't know who Seidel was—probably Gauss's programmer."

John Li. Morris, CS 375