

math **NEWS**

Entertainment For Man Woman and Goat

Volume 40 Number 1

inside....

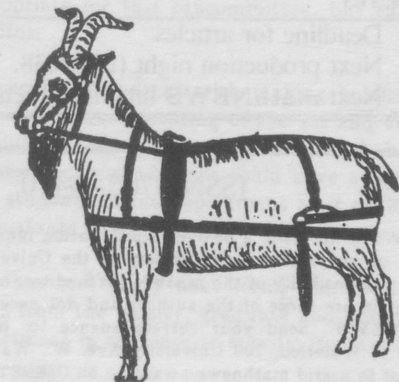
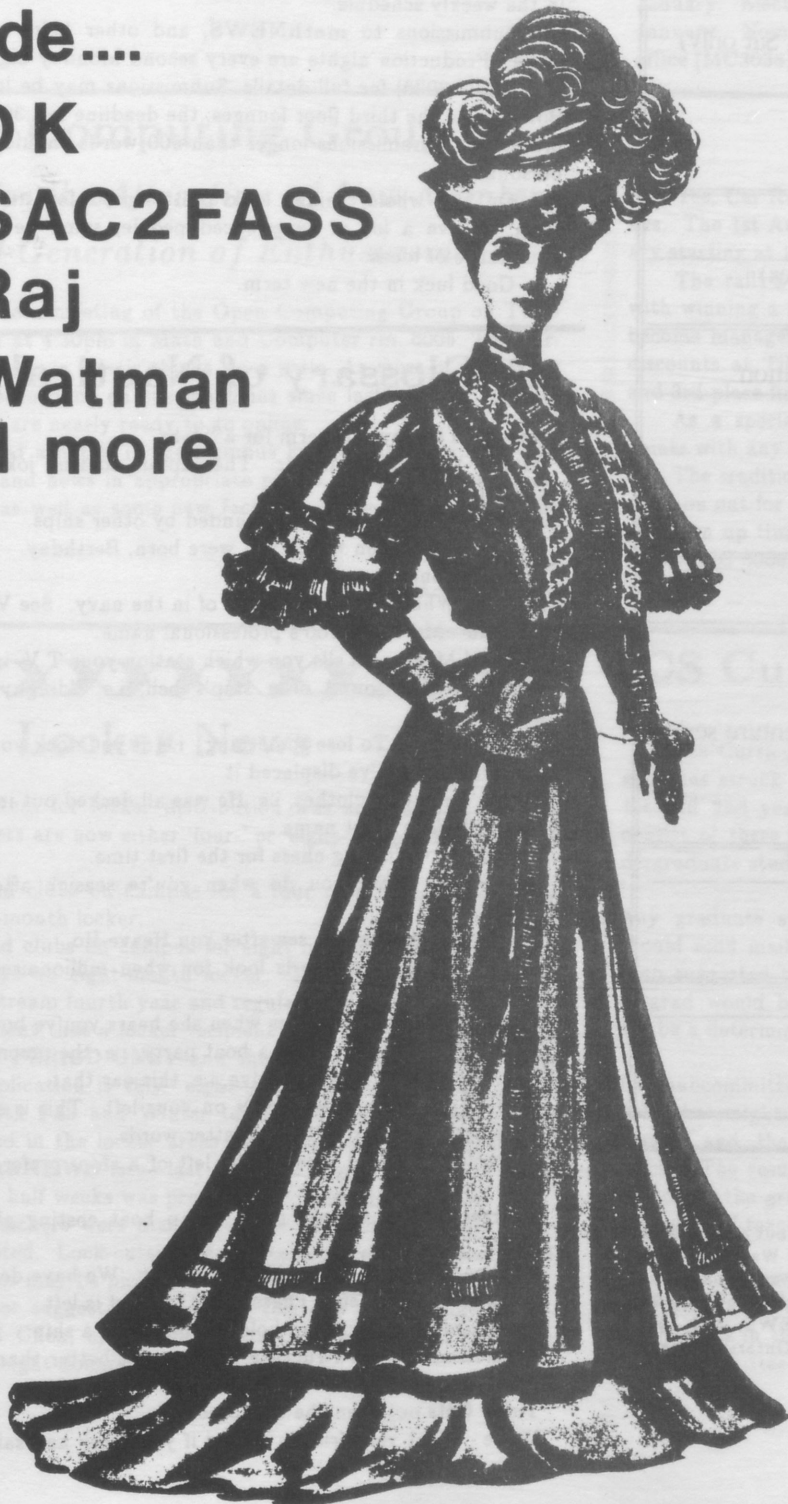
DK

SAC2FASS

Raj

Watman
and more

Jan 17 1906



LookAhead

Math Events	
17 Jan	Deadline, MathSoc council nominations
20 Jan	Add/change deadline (and abnormal drop deadline)
25 Jan	MathSoc Car Rally
30 Jan	'Why Am I Studying Math Anyway' panel discussion, 3:30 pm MC 2065
3 Feb	Drop deadline, withdrawal deadline
Co-Ops Only	
17 Jan	Resumés due, 4:30 pm
24 Jan	Want Ads available
Fed Flicks	
AL116 at 8 pm (extra shows at 10:30 pm on Fri, Sat only)	
\$1 Feds, \$3 aliens	
17-19 Jan	Mad Max: Beyond Thunderdome
24-26 Jan	St Elmo's Fire
31 Jan-2 Feb	Gremlins
Cinema Gratis 9:30 in the CC—it's free!	
(with selected short feature)	
22 Jan	Caine Mutiny (Square Pegs—Round Holes)
29 Jan	Metropolis (Boomsville)
DCS Courses	
Free! Contact DCS (MC 2045) for more information	
20-22 Jan	UNIX™ Part I
20-22 Jan	CMS Part II
23 Jan	WATFILE2 Preview
27-29 Jan	Intro to WATFILE2
27,29,30 Jan	Intro to GML
UW Arts Centre	
Call 885 4280 for more info and tickets	
18 Jan	Ann Mortifee
21 Jan	Kloset Komics 2
21 Jan	Amadeus: His Rivals
24 Jan	The Caribbean (Kiwani's Travel & Adventure series)
25 Jan	The Ring of the Fettucines (opera)
27 Jan	Cannes '85 (world's best commercials)
until 23 Feb	North of 17 (in The Gallery)
Other Events	
21-24 Jan	KAOS Sign-Up
23 Jan	Business Course begins
30 Jan	In Search of a Sun (multi-media show)
mathNEWS	
27 Jan	Deadline for articles
27 Jan	Next production night (MC3038, 7 pm)
31 Jan	Next mathNEWS hits the streets

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Editor: dan schnabel

A Word for the Editor

Welcome back to UW.

In response to public opinion, mathNEWS will be attempting something new this term. Many people have expressed a desire to see mathNEWS on a weekly basis, and although we are beginning on the bi-weekly plan, it is our intention to have mathNEWS available weekly by the end of the term.

To overcome the financial problems of weekly production, an advertising team is being employed this term. When they are successful enough, mathNEWS will become a weekly source of information, entertainment and advertisements. You are always welcome to come to MathSoc and/or visit your Class Rep to insist on increased funding for mathNEWS. Hopefully, the quality of mathNEWS will not suffer in the weekly schedule.

Submissions to mathNEWS, and other help, are always welcome. Production nights are every second Monday night—drop by our office (MC 3036) for full details. Submissions may be left in our Black Box outside the third floor lounges; the deadline is 4:30 on the night of production. Submissions longer than 500 words should be given to me personally.

On the whole, things look pretty good for mathNEWS this term. We've a lot of experienced people, some new blood and an abundance of ideas.

Good luck in the new term.

dan schnabel

A Glossary of Nautical Terms

- Ahead - The nautical term for a "John".
 Astern - Without humour. The captain told no jokes; he was astern captain.
 Amidships - Completely surrounded by other ships.
 Berth - The day on which you were born, Berthday.
 Bunk - Phoney sea story.
 Buoy's - What there's too much of in the navy. See Village People.
 Captain - Mr. Kangeroo's professional name.
 Channel Marker - Tells you which station your T.V. is on.
 Dinghy - The sound of a ship's bell, i.e. "dinghy-dinghy, dinghy-dinghy".
 Displacement - To lose something. i.e. If you dock your boat and later can't find it, you've displaced it.
 Deck - To put on clothes, i.e. He was all decked out in his new suit.
 Eddy - Nelson's last name.
 First Mate - Winning chess for the first time.
 Heave-Ho - What you do when you're seasick after eating Ho for lunch.
 Dock - The person you see after you Heave-Ho.
 Hitch - What pretty girls look for when millionaires invite them on their yacht.
 Keel - What your wife does when she hears you've bought a boat.
 Moor - What you want for a boat party, i.e. the moor the merrier.
 Oar - Introduces an alternative, i.e. this oar that.
 Port - Facing the bow, port is on your left. This is easy to remember since both port and left are 4 letter words.
 Porthole - A round hole on the left of a ship, preferably above water level.
 Quarter deck - A floor on a cheap boat costing about 25 cents to build.
 Starboard - There are 2 sides on a boat. We have defined Port so this is the one that is left. Therefore starboard is left.
 Starboard hole - A round hole on the left of a ship.
 Superstructure - A structure that is a lot better than the one on your boat.
 Tide - Gets out even the toughest dirt.
 Wake - What your friends attend if you drink and sail.

Resumé Deadline—TODAY!!

The Department of Co-Ordination and Placement is continuing to enforce all their submission deadlines, especially those for resumé.

If you submit your resúmes late, they will not be accepted. This means that the employers to whom you apply through the 'Want Ads' and late postings will receive your Co-operative Student Record and your marks, but not your resumé.

This change is necessary because over the last few terms late submissions have increased to the point that the processing efficiency of the records section of the Department has been seriously eroded. This, of course, has affected service to both students and employers.

Resúmes for co-op students in Arts, HKLS and Math who are seeking employment for the the May-August 1986 work term are due at Needles Hall reception desk by 4:30 pm, TODAY (17 January 1986).

Math Society Elections

Nominations are now open for the following positions on the Math Society Student Council

- President for W86 and F86
- Vice-President for W86 and F86
- Treasurer for W86 and F86
- 2 2B Co-op class reps
- 3 2A Co-op class reps
- 3 3A Co-op class reps
- 2 1N Regular class reps
- 2 2N Regular class reps
- 1 4N Regular class rep

Nominations accepted from Monday 13 January until Friday 17 January. Elections will be held Monday 27 January and Tuesday 28 January. Nomination forms and more info available in the MathSoc office (MC3038).

Open Computing Group

Meeting for the Attraction of New Members and Generation of Enthusiasm

There will be a meeting of the Open Computing Group on Tuesday, January 21 at 4:30pm in Math and Computer rm. 6005. The purpose of the meeting is to stir things up a little. As most of you know not much has been done on the machines since last summer, despite the fact that we are nearly ready to go online.

I have posted a notice in the Campus Events list in Imprint, and will post flyers and news in appropriate places. I look forward to seeing everybody, as well as some new faces, at the meeting next Tuesday.

Rick Sellens
Group Administrator

Car Rally

Yes, Car Rally fans, you're reading correctly, the tradition continues. The 1st Annual MathSoc Car Rally III will be Saturday 25 January starting at 11:30.

The rally's free, and as well as the immense prestige associated with winning a MathSoc Car Rally (previous winners have gone on to become managers at Bell Canada with an expense account and group discounts at Tilden) there are also trophies for each of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

As a special added bonus this term only, earn free Winterfest points with any Car Rally entry.

The tradition lives (gum ball?). So tune up your rallying skills and come on out for a good time.

Sign up times, sheets and more info are available in the MathSoc Office (MC 3038).

Brett Martin



Locker News

A new system for locker distribution was adopted last fall. All third floor lockers are now either 'four-' or 'eight-' month lockers. This means:

1. Students and clubs on campus for a four month term should receive a four-month locker;
2. Students and clubs on campus for eight months, Fall and Winter, should receive an eight-month locker. This includes eight-stream frosh, four-stream fourth year and regular students.

The agreement that a locker recipient signs with MathSoc is for a FOUR MONTH PERIOD ONLY—and this is not stated in small print either. The implication is this: eight-month lockers must be signed for twice, in both Fall and Winter terms. Several reminder notices have been posted in the locker areas since the start of the term (and in the final mathNEWS issue last fall) and a 'grace' period of effectively one and a half weeks was provided for reclaiming a locker.

Unclaimed lockers were made available on Wednesday and 'eviction' notices posted. Lock-cutting should take place this weekend and any found articles may be picked up in MC 3038.

Comments or suggestions regarding this new system may be addressed to Cyril Chen, c/o MathSoc. Just remember that MathSoc does not charge eight dollars per locker.

CS Curriculum Subcommittee

The Curriculum Committee of the Department of Computer Science has struck a subcommittee to report on possible changes to the 1st and 2nd year undergraduate curriculum. The subcommittee will consist of three faculty members (Booth, Dyck, and Munro), one undergraduate student (Jan Gray), and one graduate student.

Any graduate student interested in serving on this subcommittee should send mail to Wendy Myrvold (WJMyrvold@watENG). It has been suggested that a graduate student who attended UW as an undergrad would be appropriate for this subcommittee, but that need not be a determining factor.

The subcommittee is specifically charged with making recommendations that might lead to a total restructuring of the 1st and 2nd year courses and the introduction of a Computer Science Laboratory course. The result of these recommendations could have a significant impact on the graduate students in the department as it could affect the duties of teaching assistants in a major way.

After the subcommittee has met (early next term) there will be an open solicitation of views from the faculty, graduate and undergraduate students in the department in response to specific issues raised by the subcommittee.

Valuable Remnant Recovered

In the fall of 1985 windows were installed in a number of the doors leading to the stair-wells in the Math and Computer building. The pieces cut from these doors to make room for the windows were carelessly thrown away without any regard to their historical and aesthetic value.

However, in a rare and fortunate discovery, much like finding a new compartment in your wallet, this mathNEWS reporter came across one such door-hole.

Now on display in the mathNEWS galleries (MC3036) this door-hole is a dense accumulation of particle board covered on both sides by a thin layer of novascotium. The estimated value of this hole is between 600 and 800 dollars per kilogram.

Visitors to the mathNEWS galleries are always welcome and admission is free.

dan schnabel

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J. D'Oe's Ramblings

Even though none of you will recognize my pseudonym, let me assure you that I have written for mathNEWS before. It is just that I keep changing my name from term to term, with it being "Igor" in fall/84 and "The Mad Irishman" in spring/85. Anyway, the main purpose of this article is not to discuss my previous history but rather the computer fees. I do not like paying them any more than you do. However, I believe that the computer fee, or some other equivalent funding, is necessary because the University of Waterloo really needs the money. Although there are many reasons why UW is in this bind, a major culprit is the provincial government. From the January 8 issue of the Waterloo Gazette it states that the federal government pays about \$4,600 per student per year while the net cost to the province is only a little over \$500. This means that the students pays in tuition more than twice as much as the provincial government! In total, Ontario now provides the lowest support among any province in Canada. A better way to eliminate computer fees than withholding them is to let the provincial government know that university education is important to Ontario's future, and that the government should be spending more to ensure that the students get a quality education. This of course is only my opinion. What is more important is your opinions. Tell your fellow students how you feel about computer fees through mathNEWS.

While you are at it, also tell me what you would like to see in my math column, if anything. For those of you who weren't here last summer, I wrote several articles dealing with interesting (in my opinion) mathematical applications. This term, against my better wishes, I was convinced to continue these articles so that it would be the "math" in mathNEWS. I just hope that it wasn't a mistake.

J. D'Oe

Lightning Strikes Former UW Professor

In a tragic incident early this year, a distinguished former University of Waterloo mathematics professor, Dean Ofmath, was struck by lightning while biking from the University of Tennessee to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He died instantly.

Professor Ofmath, who most of us remember simply as Dean, only recently left the University of Waterloo to work in the U.S.

"He did an outstanding job in all areas of endeavour, as teacher, administrator, and as a leading researcher," said Dr. Douglas Wright, president of UW and a guy who wouldn't sue anyone for misquoting him.

Professor J. Alan George, dean of the Faculty of Mathematics, with whom Dr. Ofmath had been a very close associate, said "So often when we worked together it was as if we were one and the same person. It's as if a part of me has died."

"In a way, though, it is a sort of justice from above," he added. "His leaving UW was almost criminal."

When prompted for the meaning of "Justice from above," Professor George clarified, "Above the provincial and federal governments, of course."

As if to agree with Professor Alan George, Lyn Burkowski said, "Yes," to which she later added, "I agree," and summarised by saying, "Yes, I agree."

In a related incident, a number of former University of Waterloo professors were found lying by the side of Interstate 95 in Michigan. Autopsies indicated that their brains had been drained.

dan schnabel

Ask D. K.

Dear Dan K.,

When in the C+D, what doughnut should I buy to attract babes? I am even willing to pay extra for a brownie or turnover if it will make the babes look my way.

Mindful of Macho Munching Maneuvers

Dear MMMM,

I believe your question strikes a social chord familiar to many. Indeed, injudicious purchases at the C+D have often been the only barrier preventing a faultlessly ecstatic social life.

My first advice is to forget about blowing big bucks on extravagant items such as brownies or turnovers. Buying expensive items bespeaks a flashy, boastful character lacking in subtlety.

What you want is to portray the layed-back, macho kind of guy that you are. You want a doughnut that tells the babes that are watching, buying it was an expression of emotional sensitivity and good taste. In effect, you want the penultimate doughnut.

The penultimate doughnut is not fashionable (obviously not the big emulsified ones covered with browned coconut). It is not dull, or bad tasting (avoid plain or Maple). Although there has not been an official testing panel decision, it is the opinion of this writer that the penultimate doughnut of UW is the variety covered with plain dessicated coconut.

It is a doughnut whose unpretentious simplicity yields flavour enough to last through a full cup of coffee. If you buy this one regularly and handle your crumbs well, you will have to hire bodyguards to fend the babes off.

Good Luck,

Dan K.

Next Week: Is drinking a cold drink on a cold day too existential? If so, what size of coffee should I buy?

Applied Math Club

Some of you may recall an Applied Math barbeque which was held last summer (the day before the AM 381 midterm). The success of that event prompted its organisers to form the Applied Math Club.

The club ran a number of events during the Fall term, including a seminar on compact disc technology and an exotic coffee and tea party.

In the next four months the Applied Math Club is planning more opportunities for applied math faculty and students to socialise as well as more seminars, which, though applied math oriented, will be of interest to students of all mathematic disciplines.

Upcoming events include a coffee and tea party on January 30th. Applied Math sweatshirts will also be available soon.

To become a member of the club and partake of free coffee, tea and snacks, come out to any club event or visit the AM club office in MC5168. Membership is only 50¢, probably the best 50¢ you'll spend in this building (even better than green muffins). You don't even have to be in applied math to be a member—you don't even have to be in math!

dan schnabel
AM Club Publicity

Waterloo Christian Fellowship

From January 24th to 31st, Waterloo Christian Fellowship presents "There Must Be More", a week of events at the University of Waterloo.

Discussions, debates and presentations will give students and members of the community a chance to look at the relevance of Christianity to today's issues.

Two multi-media presentations and a debate between Dr Clark Pinnock and Rabbi Philip Rosensweig on the messiahship of Jesus will highlight this week.

Advance tickets for the multi-media shows are available from U of W's Federation of Students. All other events are free of charge.

For more information, please call John at 743-2518 or Peter at 888-8627.

Winterfest

WINTERFEST '86 is the University of Waterloo's alternative to hibernation! January 24 and 25 (Friday and Saturday) are the big days on which teams of 25+ will take on the challenge and the fun of Earthball, ice sculpturing, plank walks, toboggan pulls, and more. Teams collect points for participation, costume, team cheers, and fan support.

In addition to outdoor fun, WINTERFEST '86 features David Wilcox in concert, pubs, food, and an Inuit winter games demonstration by the Games Museum.

University societies, residences, clubs, and miscellaneous students will enter teams and hope community teams will meet them on the playing fields (e.g. Uptown Waterloo businesses as a team?).

Registration is on a first come basis. Forms are available from the Student Alumni Association (885-1211, ext. 2038) or the Federation of Students, Board of Entertainment (ext. 2358) at the University of Waterloo.

Bring friends and family and help us to warm up winter with fun and camaraderie at WINTERFEST '86!

CSC Flash!

Just a note or two in these pages to let you know what the Computer Science Club is up to this term. This week we held our first two events of the term (for me it's "will hold" since this is Monday and not the Friday that you are reading it on). On Wednesday the 15th we held a tutorial introduction to Unix presented by two of our local gurus-at-large Rob Ferguson and Guy Middleton, while on Thursday we held an "Amiga vs. Atari ST vs. Macintosh" showdown with a machine of each species on display and the respective owners expounding their relative merits.

Future events will include interesting guest speakers from far and near, a movie/video night, and any other interesting ideas that people can come up with. And of course we have our never-ceasing Friendly Consulting Service whenever the CSC office (MC3037, across from MathSoc) is open, which is most of the day.

Drop by and have a cup of tea!

Calum

From SAC to FASS

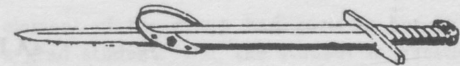
Is anyone out there in Applied Math interested in being a member of the Student Advisory Council (SAC) to the Department of Co-ordination and Placement?

You would represent math students (and the special concerns of Applied Math students who alternate between Math and Engineering placement), make suggestions toward the improvement of the co-op program, and learn about why co-op is the way it is. If you're interested, leave a note in the SAC mailbox, in MathSoc.

Meanwhile, the ole' SAC reporter is moving on to a FASSer life, so don't blame me for future SAC reports ...

By now, the parts for FASS '86 - "The Scream Play" should have been handed out. For any newcomers, FASS stands for Faculty, Administration, Staff, and Students, who get involved in a comedy/musical play each February. The auditions last week were tough--to get a part you had to be sure to attend. (And with my singing, acting, and dancing abilities, I'm glad it didn't take any more!) Now, the work starts, and in only three weeks you can see the finished result. This year the show will run for two weekends (look for several zombies after February 15) in Theatre of the Arts. Hope to see you there!

-BP



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Tutorial Centre

If you're in 1st or 2nd year Math, you will no doubt be interested in the Math Tutorial Centre. The centre is located in MC 3032 and is open for 35 hours a week. As an experiment this term, tutorial assistance will also be available in Dining Room #1 at Village 2. While you're at either tutorial centre, you will find tutorial assistants who will be wearing the pink "Ask Me" buttons. They can help you with most math problems.

FeedBack

To the editor:

I would like to respond to Kimmo Rautapuro's letter last issue [actually, issue 39:5, 15 Nov '85-Typ], in which he revealed how he is preparing to tell his mother that he is an engineer.

I have known this about him ever since I was a small child, and have always accepted it as perfectly natural. You may be surprised that my parents would allow a practising engineer anywhere near an "impressionable" youth, but in fact, there was never any possibility that I would become an engineer. (I admit I experimented a bit-I spent my 1A term in Applied Math with Engineering Electives-but I quickly realized that my heart was in Pure Math. The only result of the episode was a greater tolerance for those who are different.)

I have discovered a great deal of prejudice against people like my uncle. People whisper in mocking tones, "Engineers approximate $\sin r$ by r when r is small!" Toleration of engineers' techniques, they claim, will destroy all mathematical rigor: "The wages of approximating \sin is death."

But mathies will not necessarily start dividing by zero if engineers are accepted by society. Indeed, if we are talking about rigor, I have marked the assignments of some of the people who criticise engineers for using approximations (that are actually very close to the exact solution). Those same mathies turn around and state that if $n \geq N$, then $n^2+2 \geq N^2+2$, so $\frac{n^2+2}{n^2+1} \geq \frac{N^2+2}{N^2+1}$.

Finally, I would like to point out to Kimmo and others that many cities have organisations for parents and friends of engineers. So if you're wondering how to break the news that you're not really in Applied Math, we can help. If your parents are worried about the rigorousness of engineering techniques, rest assured that many of the people who come to us still have their doubts about when it's correct to differentiate a series term-by-term, but still find the personal support helpful, even if they don't always agree with us.

Yours sincerely,
Alan Yoshioka
4A Pure Mathematics

Dear mathNEWS:

I enjoy reading your paper whenever it comes out but I couldn't help but notice that on last issue's cover [issue 39:6, 29 Nov '85-Typ] there were at least two references to Satanism and I was wondering if you knew what you were doing when you published it.

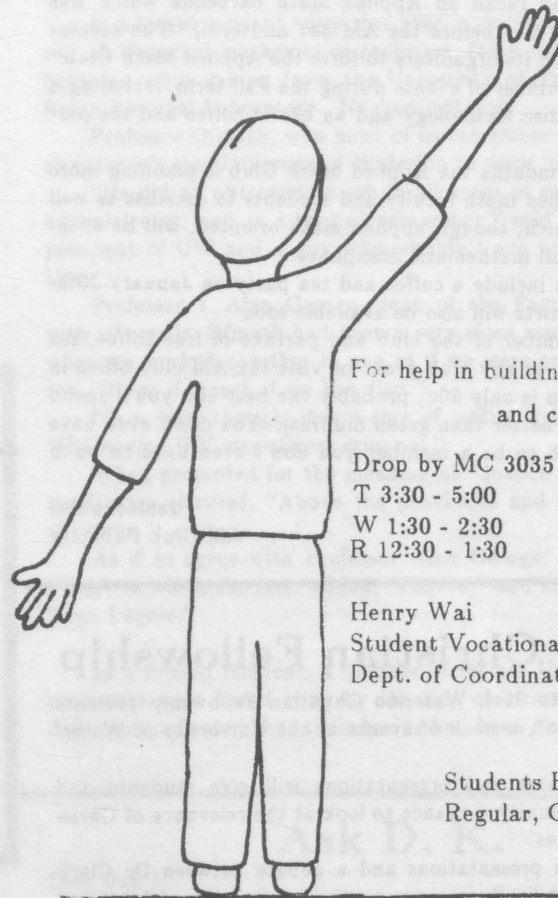
Sincerely,
B. McKillican, 1A applied math.

Dear B. McKillican:

The producers of mathNEWS change with each term but I think I can safely say that they did not know what they were doing.

dan schnabel
editor

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THE ADVENTURES OF WATMAN



"Wholly Mackerel, Watman!", he said, examining the fish that the computer had just emitted.

"No, Duck, it's not a mackerel. This is a tuna! Do you know what that means?"

"New Brunswick, Watman?"

"No, Duck, this tuna represents a new form of biological warfare. The Watcomputer is trying to warn us that Captain Lowliner is trying

to start a war between the country to our north and our own glorious nation!"

"We've got to stop him, Watman!"

"Yes, Duck. Into the Watmobile!"

"Right, Watman!"

"Actually, perhaps we should have lunch first, while we have the tuna here."

"Clever thinking, Watman!"

Three weeks later, when they had recovered, they headed south towards either the lair of Captain Lowliner, or else to a land where the tuna was safe (but McDonald's wasn't). Shortly, they could see the squat concrete towers of our beautiful campus.

"Wholly money, Watman! Maybe that's what the Watcomputer was trying to tell us."

"What, Duck?"

"Well, we got a tuna. Tuna suggests food poisoning, food poisoning suggests Food Services, so Captain Lowliner must be hiding somewhere in the Villages!"

"Activate the Watscanner, Duck."

"You never taught me *how* to activate the Watscanner, Watman."

The Watmobile pulled onto the shoulder, and raised its hood in a futile attempt to look inconspicuous. After hours of trying, Watman succeeded in activating the Watscanner, only to find...

"According to the Watscanner, Duck, Captain Lowliner ought to be only three feet from here!"

"Har, Duckie, have you ever been to sea?"

"Oh no, Watman!"

"Quick, Duck, acti...mmmbmlmm".

Tied back to back on the conveyor belt leading to Richard Hatfield's favourite canning factory, they slowly regained consciousness.

Will Watman go to the can? Will Duck be Star ~~Kissed~~ struck? Will we be saved from a biological invasion?

Tuna in next issue, same Wat-time, same Wat-place.

Da-da da-da da-da da-da, da-da da-da da-da da-da... **WATMAN!**

The Chuckler

O.D.E. to a Girl with a Curl or Fight Fire with Fire

I guess I knew I was back in Waterloo when I heard a group of students referring to themselves as dull-bar. At first I thought this could be a great new expression, like "wunderbar". You could walk into a classroom and say, "Geez, 8:30 classes are really drag-bar."

Then it occurred to me that it was unlikely a group of people would proudly call themselves dull. The more I puzzled over the expression, the more frustrated I became, until in a flash of horror and despair, I realized that "dull-bar" actually translated as "dull-complement".

I was in the only academic resort in the universe that thought doing the twist was creating a Mobius strip. Waterloo, University, math building, math humor, despair: the train of thought was inevitable.

Every term was worse than its predecessor. It seemed to be an integral part of university life and more and more it approached the limit of my patience. This term, I projected, would prove to have a difference. The question I had to pose myself was how to approach these groups with no identity and annihilate such pathetic characteris-

tics and hence normalize their behavior. My acute eye made a line towards a circle of people pointing out an obtuse member. This put a new angle on things! Taking a deep psi, I set out to rectify my dilemma.

The distinct element of the group had curls in her hair. Apparently she was a grad student. Del, the student in question, was diving up some supplementary differential forms for the others to sign. I remarked she was cross, as I complemented her curls, resulting in my becoming tensor and tensor. Non-plussed, I carried on continuously.

"Delta, or may I call you Del? I never could differentiate between the two. I think you beta lemma tell mu something."

With no variation, she asked, "What do you mean?"

"Don't you psi; you've been over-ruled by an all encompassing sense of bad humor."

"Please reiterate your last communication; its input was invalid."

"Omega!", I cried, "I've been transformed into your group."

And so completes this sad tale.

Bruce "Fozz" Sutherland

The Raj of Rochester

Part One

Yes, that's my name: Pierce Williams to friends, Pierce Arrow Williams to my father (a car fanatic), PWILLIAM to the computer, and 82094372 to the registrar. I pretty much resemble your ordinary Joe Student at this university: tired, overworked, but given to occasional bouts of drinking and merrymaking. Beyond that, I'm a very cautious person. It takes me a long time to really get to know people (more than just on the surface level) and still longer to believe in them.

That's what I was thinking when I heard about Steve. It was a cold bright day in January. Rather than working on my essay, I was sitting at my desk in the residence, staring at the sun on the snow, trying to figure things out. When I looked up from the ground I saw someone high on the wall edging their way along the opposite side of the courtyard. He broke a window and climbed into the room. I heard a yell.

"Quick, get the don! He's hung himself!"

Poor Steve. Young, smart, good-looking; I sometimes caught myself envying him. I'd always thought he had everything going for him. He was the third one in my residence that year. Just like the others, it was too late to ask why. But if I knew the explanation I probably wouldn't accept it anyway. Suicide just strikes me that way.

Later in the day I shelved the essay and made ready to go to the computer room. I heard thunder in the distance, and this was odd. It was the wrong season, and far too cold for rain. Still, as I walked outside I could see and hear the lightning crack through the clouds, and felt little sparks coming off the shaft of my umbrella. I had entered the computer building and was climbing the stairs when I heard one Godalmighty bang - as if lightning had struck where I stood - and the lights went out. Alarm bells rang in the distance.

As I paused on the stair the ringing stopped, but the lights didn't come back on. Suddenly I smelled something like almonds and fresh flowers all around me. As I reached for the railing something warm and wet brushed my face; I screamed and screamed. The steps, slippery as they had not been before, went out from under me and I bashed my shoulder on something hard. I curled up in pain as I fell down the stairs.

There were little dry leaves all over the floor of the landing, and I could feel insects moving beneath them. My arm throbbed and swelled, and I felt like a lopsided Popeye when I got up and made my way down the stairs towards daylight. Somehow, something - the lightning? - had ripped the front doors off their hinges. My shoes went crunch crunch on the dust and bones in the entrance way.

Once outside, I noticed the rain had stopped; but that wasn't all - the university was gone. I mean, the building were still there, but they were in ruins. The windows were broken, walls crumbling, and in every crack and corner vegetation thrived. Strange trees grew thickly where the lawn had been, and some even thrust themselves up through the buckled ramparts of concrete by the road. Wishing I had a machete, or a giant can of weed killer, I clambered down the steps.

Now, if you were faced with such an abrupt shift of reality, a sort of waking dream, what would you do? Something had happened to me in that stairwell; people and cars and wet snow had gone away somewhere and left me among ruined facades and with a rather menacing jungle to face. I went through my options: (a) fold my arms, close my eyes, and wait for it to go away; (b) go back inside and explore; (c) try and find someone - how about a tourist information bureau? - to tell me where the hell I was.

The first option struck me as rather stupid, and of going back into the dark with the creepy crawlers and the wet ones, so I chose the third. It was like being trapped in one of those "Choose Your Own Adventure" books. Then I remembered why I quit reading them. I always got killed at the end.

(to be cont'd.)

UltraClassified

(mathNEWS once again presents UltraClassifieds, the personal ads column that's yours to use for free. Just send your classifieds to mathNEWS via MC 3036 or that Black Box out in the third floor.)

If you have a CS437 textbook (System Simulation by Gordon) I can borrow or buy, please call Merrill at 888-6493.

Roulette Boards and Cloths. French Roulettes.



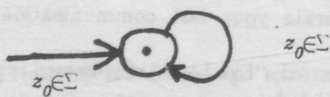
A limited quantity kept in stock.

Single zero, outside measure, 12 in., 25/0;
14 in., 29/6; 16 in., 38/6; 19 in. 45/6

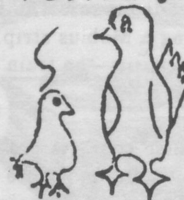
Blatant Filler

Let $\Sigma = \{ \text{all high school students, and all igneous rocks named "HENRY"} \}$

Then the following machine characterises the York University registrar's office:



DO CHICKENS
COME FROM
PEOPLE?



RapidFire

event descriptions

- **Start your own business:** There will be a non-credit course for individuals who want to consider independent business as a career alternative on Thursdays from 23 January to 13 March. Fee is \$80 for full-time UW students, \$240 others. Call Part-Time Studies at 888-4002 for more information.
- **Job Search Workshops:** A number of workshops relating to job search topics have been organised by Counselling Services and Co-Ordination and Placement. Topics include Resumé Writing, Resumé Critiquing, and Successful Interview Skills. Come to Room 1001 at Needles Hall for more information or if you want to sign up.
- **Why Am I Studying Math Anyway?** This is the theme of a panel discussion which will be held on Wednesday 29 January at 3:30 pm in MC 2065. Scheduled panelists include Ross Isenegger, a UW Math graduate (1985 Gold Medallist), Computer Science Professor D. Wood, Assistant Dean R.G. Dunkley, and another panelist yet to be scheduled. This event is part of WCF's Christian Awareness Week and is open to everyone. Co-sponsored by MathSoc.
- **Multi-Media Presentations:** In Search of a Sun is a multi-media presentation that features the music of performers such as Bruce Cockburn, OMD, Pink Floyd and others. The presentation examines the way we live and the goals we follow. In Search of a Sun is followed by another multi-media presentation, "Say It Isn't True", which takes a look at life from a Christian perspective. Presentations will be held on Thursday the 30th of January at Humanities Theatre. Watch for posters for more details; advance tickets will be available at the Fed Office. These presentations are sponsored by Waterloo Christian Fellowship and the Federation of Students.

- **KAOS is back!** Yes, it's time for another round of that popular spy-vs-spy game. The Grand Prize is a one-week trip to Daytona Beach (the winner is drawn from all eligible KAOS players; you don't have to win the KAOS game to win the trip). The last person left in the game wins \$150, and there are lots of other prizes, too.
You can sign up on the 21st at the V1 cafeteria (4-8 pm), on the 22nd on the 2nd floor of the Math building (11 am to 3 pm), on the 23rd at Carl Pollock Hall, or on the 24th at the Campus Centre (11-4). See KAOS posters for more information.

- **Sabres Road Trip:** Today, there will be a road trip to see the Montreal Canadiens play the Sabres at Buffalo. Contact MathSoc right away if you want a nice diversion from your school work.
- **Co-Op Student Panel Sessions:** Co-ordination and Placement would like senior students from each faculty who can talk to large audiences about their work term experiences. Possible topics are positive and negative aspects of co-op, relocating in a new area, and employer/student relations.

If you would like to participate as a speaker for this workshop, please contact Tom Haapanen at MathSoc for more information. The workshop will be held on the 3rd of February; more information in the next mathNEWS.

Dear Steve,
I don't know quite how to begin.

Slash

Masthead:

Well here's mathNEWS - i think i have a reason to be proud. The crew have done an outstanding job. They were:

Andrew T., Cary Tismar (who will be expiring soon), G.R. McFarlane, Fred W. Paul Obeda, John O. Ken Shirriff, Ggreggg Simmons, Dave Leibold, Dan (capital 'D') K. and Kerry Garner. Thanks once again

Thanks also to all contributors. Apologies to Scooter!, whose article we hadn't received and Slash, whose article was cut short by the arrival of pizza.

Enjoy

dan schnabel
editor

OUR \$10.75 NEW 1902 MODEL DROP FRAME GIRLS' BICYCLE FOR GIRLS FROM 7 TO 12 YEARS OF AGE.

THIS SPECIAL \$10.75 BICYCLE is the highest grade bicycle made for girls. Made of the highest grade material, by skilled mechanics, equipped with the highest grade equipment, including the celebrated single tube guaranteed Herooc tire, and covered at our special \$10.75 price, a price based on the actual cost of material and labor, with but one small percentage of profit added.

THIS IS THE EXACT SAME BICYCLE as our special \$10.75 boys' of the girls' style of drop curved frame.

YOU WILL NOTE girls from 7 to 9 years of age, 16-inch frame for girls from 10 to 12 years of age. The price is the same. In ordering be sure to note the different the frame to accommodate the different ages.

UNDERSTAND, every bicycle is covered by a binding guarantee as to quality of material and workmanship. Every pair of tires is covered by our regular guarantee.

DESCRIPTION.

This bicycle is exactly the same as the boys' bicycle, with the exception of the drop curved frame. The frame is 16 or 18 inches high made from highest grade tubing, nicely annealed, nicely finished, made extra strong in every part. The wheels are 16 or 18 inches in diameter, strictly high grade. We use high grade, full finished spokes, non-removable hickory rims. Hubs are strictly high grade, drawn from bar steel, full finished, heavily nickel plated, ball bearing throughout, with ball retainers.

TIRES—These are the celebrated Herooc single tube pneumatic tires, fully guaranteed. Tires come complete with quick tire repair outfit.

SADDLE—We use a special high grade Juvenile saddle.

HANDLE BAR—We furnish a strictly high grade steel, raised handle bar, heavily nickel plated, highly finished, complete with leather grips.

BEARINGS—We use strictly high grade bearings, drawn from bar steel, full finished, accurately gauged and adjusted, tempered to a straw color, highly finished and fully guaranteed.

No. 1902. Girls' 16-inch drop frame bicycles, with 16-inch wheels, for girls 7 to 9 years of age..... \$10.75



No. 1902. Girls' 16-inch drop frame bicycles, with 16-inch wheels, for girls 7 to 9 years of age..... \$10.75

From the above illustration, engraved by our artist from a photograph, you can form some idea of the appearance of our handsome new model \$10.75 bicycle, the 1902 wheel, but you must see, examine and compare this bicycle with bicycles offered by other houses at greatly advanced prices to appreciate the extraordinary value we are offering.

CHAIN—We use a high grade 1/2-inch chain, the best chain used on any juvenile wheel.

PEDALS—We use high grade combination pedals, full ball bearing, heavily nickel plated and highly finished.

HANGER—We use the very latest 1902 hanger.

SPROCKETS—Sprockets are the latest style for 1902, made from the very best steel, highly polished, heavily nickel plated and beautifully finished, as shown in design.

No. 1902. Girls' 16-inch drop frame bicycles, with 16-inch wheels, for girls 7 to 9 years of age..... \$10.75

GEAR—Geared to 40 inches.

EQUIPMENT—You get in this wheel the very highest grade equipment, the same high grade equipment that goes on our highest grade ladies' wheel, including the very best Herooc tires, finest nickel plated handle bars, ball bearing pedals, extra quality saddle, tool bag, quick repair outfit, wrench and oiler.

FINISH—Finished in either black or maroon, as desired, handsomely finished, all usual parts heavily nickel plated on copper.

No. 1902. Girls' 18-inch drop frame bicycles, with 18-inch wheels, for girls 10 to 12 years of age..... \$10.75

TEN DAYS' TRIAL OFFER. While quite you to send cash with your order, we give you the privilege of a ten days' trial of the bicycle, during which time, if you have any reason to feel dissatisfied with your purchase, simply return the bicycle to us and we will immediately return your money, including transportation charges.

The Tales Of Dirk Halfspeed

Part One

Dirk Halfspeed was out of it. Not out of it as in "I'm out, be back at one," but rather out of it as in, "Doctor, the patient is in a coma."

Dirk had hooked up with a teaser at a party. At this party it now seemed to Dirk that he had had three Pan Galactic Gargle Blasters and was now having a hard time remaining conscious. It would be quite natural for him to be unconscious at this point, for one gargle blaster has been compared to having one's brain smashed out by a slice of lemon wrapped around a gold brick, two gargle blasters has been compared to being hit by a slice of lemon wrapped around a small Japanese car, and three has been compared to being hit by the same car twice, once forward, once in reverse.

A strag he wasn't. He was a hitch hiker from the top of his head to the tip of his towel. He had travelled widely throughout the galaxy, seeing all the major sites like Ursa Minor Beta and Eccentrica Gallumbits. Now he and the teaser, whose name he could never remember, were on their way to Milliways, the Restaurant at the end of the Universe.

"You don't look so good," said the teaser.

"I feel great," replied Dirk as he sunk into unconsciousness.

A while later when Dirk regained consciousness he found himself sitting at a table with a red and white checkered tablecloth in a bistro. Espresso and garlic were strong in the air. Dirk surveyed the room. There were four tables other than the one he was sitting at. Sitting at three of these were humanoids but at the fourth was a pair of hooioovoos eating lasagna. He had never seen anything quite like it. Eccentrica had been different, but these hooioovoos were downright strange. One was dressed in a very attractive, low cut dress (obviously the female of the species, he thought), while the other was outfitted in a handsome suede shoe. Nice looking couple, he thought.

Dirk was seated facing the interior of the bistro with his back to a large bay window. On the opposite side of the room next to the hooioovoos' table were the doors to the kitchen through which went the waiting staff and from which will come someone who will play an important role.

Dirk's eyes drifted eventually to the table in front of him. On this table sat a large, cold plate of spaghetti. The spaghetti wasn't touched, but had a large hollow in it. Dirk's chin tickled. He scratched it. He was shocked by what he discovered. There was something red on his chin. He checked his cheek. There was something red on it too. His mind instantly leapt to the only conclusion it could: he was bleeding.

"By Zarquon, I'm bleeding. Someone please throw me a towel," he screamed not all too calmly. But all that was thrown his way were a few strange glances, particularly by the hoolooovoo in the suede shoe.

It was at this point that an attractive waitress came from the kitchen to his table.

"Here, take this," she said as she threw Dirk his own towel from the chair next to him. He cleaned his face and for the first time smelt tomatoes.

"Ah huh," he thought. "I have spaghetti sauce on my face."

There were only two ways he could have gotten it there. Firstly, he could have been bleeding tomato sauce or secondly, he could have fallen face first into the plate of spaghetti. He discounted the former because he couldn't remember a time when he had had his blood replaced by tomato sauce, so it must be the latter.

At this moment the waitress who was still standing beside him spoke up.

"It was the strangest thing I've seen since I've been working here."

"What was?"

"When you came in here with your friend, of course!"

Two questions came to Dirk's mind at the same time, which was quite something. He decided to ask one, and if he liked the answer, he would ask the second.

"What was so strange about someone coming in with a friend?" he asked, knowing full well that he couldn't remember anything from the time he had ordered his first gargle blaster at a particularly forgettable party to the time he found himself in this bistro.

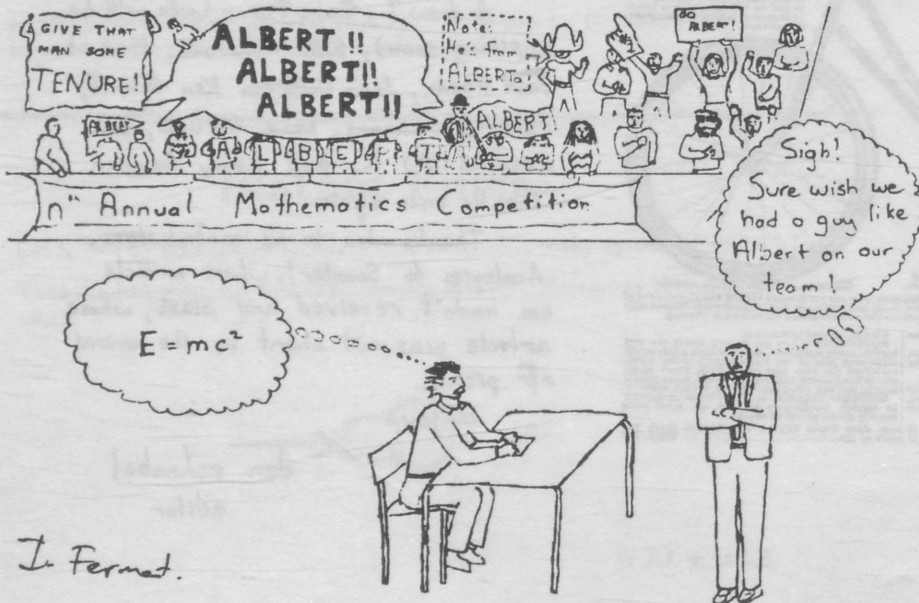
"Your friend dragged you in, propped you up in the chair, took your towel out of your carry all and put it here on the chair next to you. Before leaving, your friend ordered a plate of spaghetti for you and then promptly disappeared. When I placed the spaghetti in front of you, you fell face first into it, and you've been like that 'till just a few minutes ago."

"Well I guess that was strange," Dirk said. Now was the time for Dirk to ask his second and possible very important question.

"What friend?" Dirk asked, trying desperately to remember.

So we leave Dirk Halfspeed, wondering who this friend is. Is it the teaser? If not, what has happened to Dirk while he was unconscious? What role does the waitress play and more important to Dirk, what is her name and phone number? Stay tuned for the answers.

James Andersen



No. 39R109 This is one of our very stylish hats for young ladies. A hand made, natural colored straw braid, covered on a wireframe, trimmed fully in the front and all around the crown with wired loops of fine quality Japanese silk in three contrasting colors, white, pink and maize. The facing is made of narrow folds of maize colored mull, and the black velveta bandeau is covered with three full size pink muslin roses. This is an exceedingly pretty hat for a young lady, richly and tastily designed, and at the price we offer is exceptionally good value. It can be ordered in any color desired. Price, each \$1.98



More Notes On My Life

First Blood Part II

This movie is about a poor misunderstood derfy who goes out into the real live world again for a second time. Like all sequels, this one was set in roughly the same place as the first: Ottawa, "Our nation's capital"

Nothing much exciting occurred.

Though one of his friends did lose his bus pass.

Twice.

In one month. (This person also wore a canoe on his head ("Mr. CanoeHead") as his costume on Hallowe'en, which may explain something).

And another one also lost his bus pass. Luckily he had a bike which he could ride to work on.

Then it was stolen.

Then his wallet was stolen. Luckily he hadn't bought a replacement bus pass by then, though he did lose \$\$\$, his driver's license, his birth certificate, his S.I.N. and (most importantly) his student ID card (required to get into Fed Hall without paying the buck cover).

Derfy did meet all sorts of interesting people though.

On the bus.

Dirty old men (and some not so old), who eyed all the young women.

Dirty old women, who not only eyed all the young men, but slapped their butts (at least derfy's) and made rude suggestions. Suffice it to say that derfy quickly learned which buses to avoid and which buses to take.

Derfy not only met people on the buses, but also talked to them.

This was a rather silly thing to do, as people who ride buses and are willing to talk to perfect strangers are weird.

As in the neurotic young woman who swore that she was having a nervous breakdown.

Which she then proceeded to prove. Though one must admit she did have very good reasons at the time. Her boyfriend was not her boyfriend but her ex-boyfriend and currently had another girlfriend even though he still was acting like her boyfriend (though the other girlfriend didn't know about how he was fooling around with his ex-girlfriend) and ...

Derfy also learned about PCBs.

He found out that about 3-4 years ago the hanger beside where he worked supposedly had a spill occur in it. Though the military (who owned and operated the storage area) now will not admit that a spill did occur. "It was just oil." Some speculation did occur as to why (if it was just oil) they tore out some of the cement floor at the time ... and as to why the water supply was NOT tested. (Visions of children with just that little bit "extra" were running through derfy's head at this point).

This information slipped into derfy's awareness because there was a massive movement of PCBs occurring at the time. Guess where they were being moved to. You guessed it - derfy's workplace! All the employees were reassured that it was perfectly safe. But the government expert refused to say that he personally would work that near to PCBs. "Ah, but I don't have to work here and you do." Can you guess where derfy will not be working next term?

Many other interesting things occurred in this movie, but overall I would rate it an 11+3i out of 10, and would definitely recommend that you watch it.

derfy

P.S. the fact that I am a leading character in this film has nothing to do with the high rating. Though I do stand to make millions off of the ... highly educated and nice people who will be watching it.

The Gooch Corner

(Although I was supposed to continue my discussion about the all-too-obvious faults of Wayne Gretzky this week, a more pressing matter has since arisen. Although Carthaginians may find it difficult to believe that there are matters more important than Mr Gretzky, alas it is true.)

I was watching a news special on my television recently, when I noticed that a generous portion of it was spent dealing with Northern Ireland. I was interested in seeing how the media would portray the more recent events transpiring there; the new Anglo-Irish agreement, the various reactions to it etc. However, the network producing the special had obviously never heard of the word objectivity, as instead of applauding the milestone agreement, the 'reporters' chose instead to condemn the British government for trying to (for once) deal with such an explosive situation in a responsible manner. The manner in which the 'reporters' fell all over themselves in praising the protestant citizens for resisting the agreement was enough to make a maggot gag. Indeed, if one did not know better, after watching that program one would believe that the Rev. Ian Paisley is the second coming of the Messiah, or in the very least, a respectable human being. However, The Gooch experiences great difficulty in accepting the falsehood that this Paisley exhibits characteristics of a human being at all, much less a respectable one.

The program then depicted a touching story about a protestant man living in the province of Ulster (which, for those of you unfamiliar with geography, is in Northern Ireland). With his young son at his side, this man was shown walking through the fields which, the narrator said, have been in his family for 'several generations'. This man then reiterated his hope that the British would reconsider and nullify the monumental agreement, as its existence is certainly 'the first step in taking (his) land and giving it to those catholics'. Then the narrator further extrapolated on the injustices of this happening. However, did the narrator, in his attempts to sympathise with the protestant population of Ulster, consider the fact why the land had been in the man's family for only 'several generations'? The reason why is because several generations ago, in an effort to consolidate their domination over at least one section of Eire, the British imported protestants from Scotland, purged catholics from Ulster and surrounding areas and gave the spoils to the Scottish immigrants. If the reporter had been anywhere close to objective, he would have revealed this fact. But he did not.

The reporter then launched into an often-heard berating of the IRA, which soon transformed, as these pronouncements often do, to a condemning of the republic of Eire and of all Irish catholics in general. Please don't misinterpret what I'm saying. If these 'journalists' would restrict their condemnations to that aberration known as the IRA, the brutality of whose actions is matched only by their cowardice, then I would not complain. But thanks to such shoddy journalism as I was exposed to the other night, Carthaginians and for that matter Canadians consider Irish catholics and the IRA to be one and the same, which is definitely not true. Are all Quebeckers PQ? Are all UW students yuppies? Are all engineers asinine? (Okay, so that last one was a bad example)

As if to show that they too can follow in the footsteps of the IRA, Ulster's protestants have begun develop vicious feelings of their own; holding demonstrations which soon degenerate into rabbles, thanks to the urgings of the good Rev. Paisley. Why does the media not condemn these rabbles with the vigour with which they condemn everything about Eire's catholics? Why must the catholics always be in the wrong? Until the media tries to be objective, skeptics such as myself shall always remain.

With that note, I depart. . . .

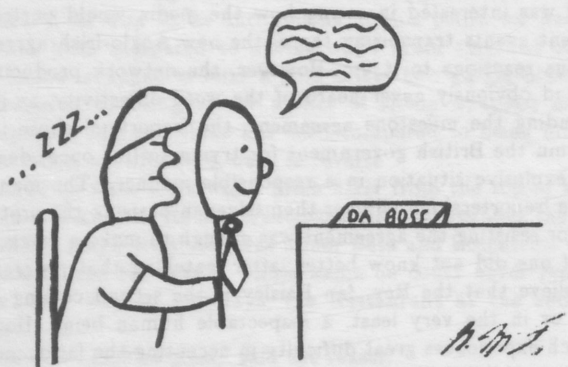
(Contrary to what you may believe after reading the above article, I am not a catholic. However, I certainly know an injustice when I see it.)

"Multiply through by 0"

Prof Cummings
PMath 334

mathNEWSquiz #1

THE INTERVIEW



What You'll Feel Like in Two Months

To prove the impossible proof,
To solve a non-linear DE,
To invert an infinite matrix,
To find a dx by dt ,

To guess if that sum will converge,
To find an arithmetic mean,
Or prove Fermat's last theorem out of
Nothing more than sweat and caffeine

I am a Mathie
And proud of it too
I'm even less rational
than square root of two
I'm crazy, demented,
I look like a fright
Because I have been up all night
proving "Black equals White."

The Goldbach conjecture is naught
When faced by the Mathie's onslaught
Prime factors and NP-completeness
Take mere picoseconds of thought;

A Hilbert space is an amusement,
Transfinite induction as well,
But the Algebra that is due Wednesday
Perplexes me halfway to hell.

I am a Mathie
I can integrate
The square root of $\tan x$
In an unconscious state;
But that doesn't help much
In MATH 244,
Since I must stay conscious
and sleep hence no more.

1. Who provided the voice of "Dopey" in Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarf's"?
2. Which Canadian maritime disaster happened on November 10, 1975?
3. By what name is Caspar Gutman better known as?
4. Nat King Cole and Stubby Kaye performed the title tune from which western motion picture?
5. How many cars comprise the starting field of the Indianapolis 500 auto race?
6. Who played Buck Rogers in the 1939 movie serial?
7. What are the "Pillars of Hercules"?
8. What was the name of the "Jetson's" pet dog?
9. Who composed the "Golliwog's Cakewalk"?
10. Why is it bad that Chicago Cub pitcher Billy Hands recorded 14 straight strike outs?

Quiz solutions may be submitted on or before Jan 24, 1986 in the flight recorder on the third floor outside the C&D lounge. A skilled prize-winner will be announced, along with the solutions to mathNEWSquiz #1, plus a brand new mathNEWSquiz, in the next (?) issue of (your friend, in Friday statistics classes) **mathNEWS**.

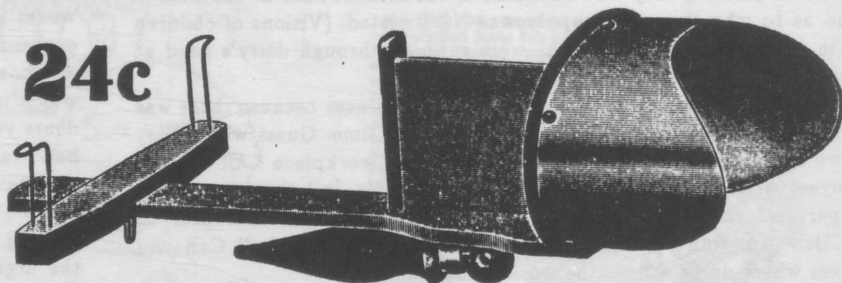
And now, for those who waited with "baited breath" (sounds like the cat that stole the cheese from the mouse-trap...) over the holidays, here are the solutions to mathNEWSquiz #5: "From Russia With Love" was the second Sean Connery 007 film; Ellen Fairclough was minister of Citizenship and Immigration in Dief's 1957 cabinet; "But, baby, if I'm the bottom ... you're the top!"; the BBC banned "Miri", "Whom the Gods Destroy", "The Empath", and "Plato's Stepchildren" Star Trek episodes; Little Richard; Phillip Marlowe; the storming of the Bastille, July 14, 1789; Pete Rose met Ray Fosse at the plate in the 1970 All-Star baseball game; Bruce Lee played "Kato"; and Joe Green's (Guiseppe Verdi's) "Il Trovatore", "the Troubadour".
the mathNEWSquiz master

On I/O Devices:

"The Joystick is the major I/O device of the world."

Neil Ostlund
CS 335

STEREOSCOPES



STEREOSCOPES AND VIEWS NEVER WERE MORE POPULAR THAN AT THE PRESENT TIME.
With the large assortment of views which we list, there is an endless amount of entertainment to be obtained from an outfit of this kind, at a very small expense. We do not list the cheapest line of stereoscopes made, for we cannot conscientiously recommend them to our customers.

YOU CAN MAKE BIG MONEY SELLING THESE STEREOSCOPES AND VIEWS.
Our 36-cent views readily bring \$1.00 per dozen. Our colored views, for which we ask you only 54 cents, will sell easily for \$1.50, and our best grade views should never be sold at retail for less than \$3.00 per dozen. Our 24-cent stereoscopes sell like hot cakes at from 75 cents to \$1.00 each.