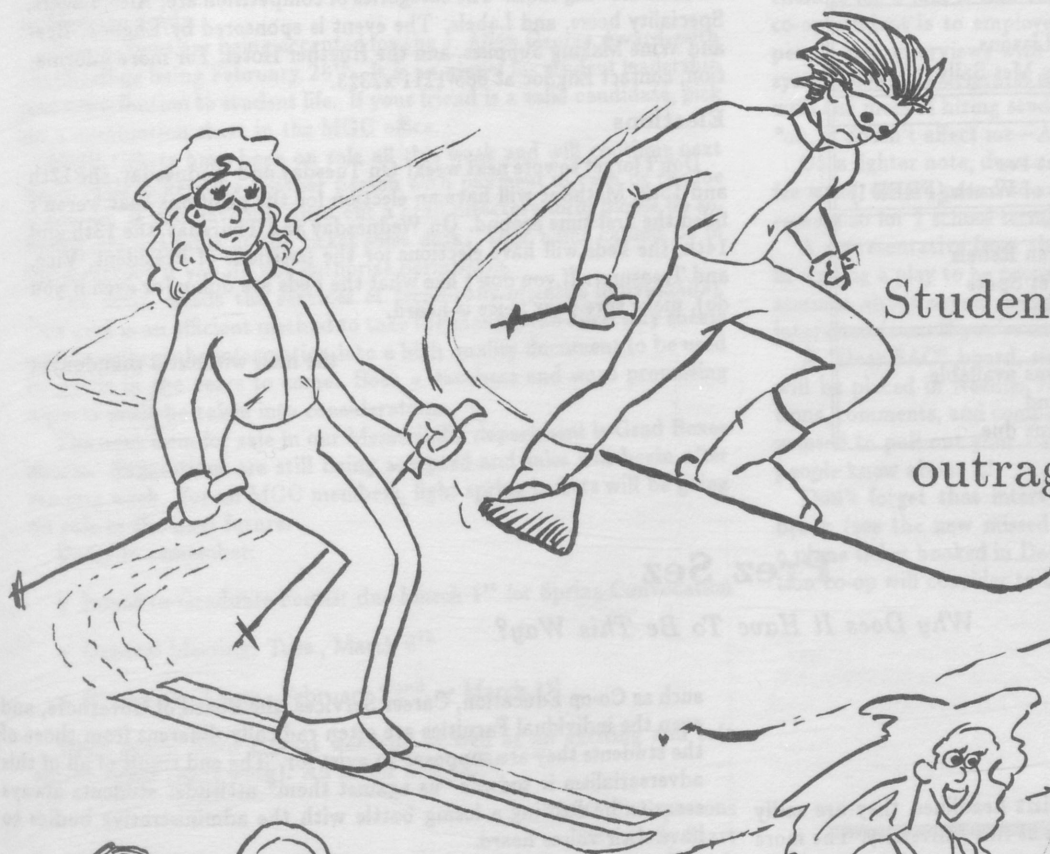


math **NEWS**

Volume 52 Number 3

February 9, 1990



Students on Spring break;
the
outrage of Interviews!



PISAHOSTA 1990

Look Ahead

<i>mathNEWS</i>	
Feb 26	Issue #4 production night
Mar 2	Issue #4 hits the stands
Mar 12	Issue #5 production night
Mar 16	Issue #5 hits the stands
Cinema Gratis	
Feb 13	The Holy Grail The Meaning of Life
Feb 27	Dark Crystal
Mar 6	Sleeper
Fed Flicks	
Feb 9-11	Roadhouse
Feb 16-18	Dangerous Liasons
Feb 23-25	When Harry Met Sally
Fed Hall	
Feb 12	The The
Feb 15	Yuk Yuk's at Fed
Feb 26	The Grapes of Wrath (FREE !)
At the Shelter	
Feb 16	The Forgotten Rebels with The Wet Spots
Mar 1	The Phantoms
Co-op Dates	
Mar 1	Ranking forms available
Mar 2	Interviews end
Mar 2	Ranking forms due

Events

Winterfest

Winterfest '90 comes upon us March 1st to 4th. The Feds will be erecting a large tent on the PAC patio. The party starts Thursday night with an airband contest and a hot tub. There are many other wonderful events happening, so be prepared to participate. Volunteers are still needed. Have even more fun—call the Feds and get involved.

Beer Brewing Competition

There is an inter-university beer brewing competition taking place. Students from Guelph, Laurier, and Waterloo have the chance to show off their brewing skills. The categories of competition are; Ales, Lagers, Speciality beers, and Labels. The event is sponsored by EngSoc, Beer and Wine Making Supplies, and the Huether Hotel. For more information, contact EngSoc at 885-1211 x2323.

Elections

Don't forget to vote next week! On Tuesday and Wednesday, the 12th and 13th, MathSoc will have an election for the positions that weren't filled the first time around. On Wednesday and Thursday, the 13th and 14th, the Feds will have elections for the positions of President, Vice, and Treasurer. If you don't like what the Feds are doing (or even if you do), make sure your voice is heard.

the man without a pseudonym

Prez Sez

Why Does It Have To Be This Way?

- “Administration vs. Faculty”
- “Faculty vs. Undergraduates”
- “Societies vs. the Federation”
- “Clubs vs. Societies”

While these phrases sound like *Imprint* headlines, they are sadly just a sampling of the prevailing attitudes at this University. The more time I spend at this institution the less it seems to me to be an academic community striving towards common goals of education and research. Instead it seems to be a collection of distinct bureaucratic bodies, each trying to grab whatever it can from all of the others without regard to the consequences.

At the most basic level, it appears that the University should exist for students alone. After all, the underlying precepts of any University stress education above all—that's what Universities are for. At a more concrete level, it is we the students who pay the fees to attend. Yet for some reason, the truth is that Waterloo is run by the administration for the benefit of its supporting industrial community and for the research it produces. The net result of this is that teaching must take a back seat.

Unfortunately, this de-emphasis on teaching is not the final result of the administration's misplaced priorities. Much of the time and energy of the University's administrators goes into running bodies such as Food Services, Security, and Plant Operations which, although they do provide worthy services, are openly hostile to student activities and opinions. Food Services restricts the activities of the on-campus C+D's, Security mercilessly tickets and tows cars, and Plant Ops relentlessly tears down posters all over campus regardless of the information they carry. Nor are these the only problems. The concerns of departments

such as Co-op Education, Career Services, the Board of Governors, and even the individual Faculties are often radically different from those of the students they are supposed to exist for. The end result of all of this adversarialism is today's "us against them" attitude: students always seem to be fighting a losing battle with the administrative bodies to have their voices heard.

Even the students themselves are not immune to this infighting syndrome. Many individuals do not feel that their respective societies are representing their concerns adequately. Similarly, many societies do not feel that the Feds are doing all that great a job when it comes to addressing student issues. Here, the result is that each group or individual either keeps their views to themselves or voices their concerns in venues where they cannot be heard.

What is the solution? More and better communication and representation between all levels of University government and the students they supposedly represent. Right now, the level of involvement of undergraduates in University administrative bodies is nil to minimal and there is no representation from upper-level governing bodies on student boards. Student societies and the Federation must share much more than a few meetings per year. If the administration, the faculties, the societies, and the students all get together and start to define and work towards common goals of excellence in education, research, and services, there should be no limit to what the University of Waterloo can accomplish.

Tom Vandeloop
MathSoc President

Où-est le Bonhomme?

MGC visits Québec City

A busload of Mathies including numerous grads returned safely from an adventurous weekend at the Québec Winter Carnival. The grads quickly adapted to frigid climate by adding long johns to their dress code and by consuming potent liquids, such as Caribou, for medicinal purposes.

Walking through old Québec City makes you feel like you are visiting an historic French town. The only negative aspect of the trip was the fact that the only Bonhomme the grads viewed was a statue. The question remains: where is Bonhomme? If you've never been to Québec City it has been highly recommended by every one of the travelling and sightseeing grads.

Nominations are being accepted for the J. Allan George Award, with the deadline being February 28th. It is an award for student leadership and contribution to student life. If your friend is a valid candidate, pick up a nomination sheet in the MGC office.

MGB tickets have been on sale all this week and will continue next week. The tickets are \$35 per person with payment in cash or cheque accepted. If you have not filled out a grad directory form please do so. Forms are available at the ticket sales desk. Your name cannot be in the directory if you do not authorize permission.

The MGC needs the services of technically-oriented individual(s). Our goal is an efficient method to take the many Grad Directory sheets and transform the information into a high quality document to be used by grads in the years to come. Both a database and word processing aspects must be taken into consideration.

The next item for sale in our Memorabilia department is Grad Boxer shorts. Suggestions are still being accepted and sales will begin after reading week. For all MGC members, light spring jackets will be going on sale in the near future.

Dates to remember:

- Intent to Graduate Forms: due March 1st for Spring Convocation
- General Meeting: Tues., March 6th
- Grad Pub: Thurs., February 22nd or March 1st

Once again, have a great weekend as well as an exciting and safe spring break (next week). Au revoir mes amis!

MGC Chairpersons
Kelly Start
Emil Minarevich

Swords and Sex

I was sitting in the mathNEWS office contemplating sex; I was holding my broadsword at the time. It was a very big broadsword. How big is your broadsword? More to the point, how big is your sheath? There is a big shortage of sheaths around here. Of course, there are a lot of daggers claiming to be swords, and many of the real swords are bastards. Only a few swords will be fortunate enough to have a well-fitting sheath and vice versa. Safely sheathing your sword is an important skill. Improperly sheathing your sword can lead to complications later in life, such as rust spots, warped blades, and other metal defects—not to mention rotting sheaths. If you are fortunate enough to possess a good leather sheath remember to oil it properly, twice daily (an anti-rust foam is suggested). It is recommended that you use a strong methodical thrusting motion when sheathing your sword. Continue until the sheath squeals and the sword melts.

the man without a pseudonym
The Great Gizmo
bob

SAC stays SAC, not SCAB

Just as a word of reminder for those of you who were asleep when picking up the Want-ads, there is a new missed interview policy being implemented this term. If you miss 1 interview for no real reason (like "Well, gee, I didn't see my name on the board"), you will not be able to use a number 1 ranking (i.e., you won't be able to participate in a 1 to 1 matching with employers); your highest job ranking will be 2. If you miss another interview, you will still be able to continue interviews, but will not receive credit for the work-term.

The reason that co-op is getting serious about missed interviews is that last term, over 500 people skipped out on employers who made an effort to show up and see students. Not only does it screw up your chances for a job, it also reflects a horrible image of what a Waterloo co-op student is to employers. Just imagine what happens if enough people skip interviews with enough employers: mysteriously, the co-op system slowly deteriorates as employers get more and more discouraged with the mess of hiring students. Think about it the next time you say "oh, it doesn't affect me—ABC Company promised they'd hire me."

On a lighter note, due to the weird, convoluted work-report marking fee issue, we are proud to say that: a) it's currently \$8 dollars, b) will remain so for 2 school terms.

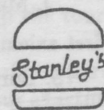
A representative from the Sexual Harassment Office asked for help in writing a play to be presented in the MATH 000 (Co-op Orientation) sessions about sexual harassment on co-op work terms. If anyone is interested (even if you're not on SAC), please contact them directly.

A "Dear SAC" board, similar to that of the "Dear Library" board, will be placed in Needles Hall on the interview boards. It's for questions, comments, and complaints about the co-op system. If you always wanted to pull out your hair about something, this is the place to let people know about it!

Don't forget that interviews will continue through the February break (see the new missed interview policy above). Going away on a plane ticket booked in December is obviously not the sort of explanation co-op will consider to be a valid reason for missing an interview.

Your Math SAC reps,
Jeff "Fearless" Hornby
Mark "Moishe" Kerbel

The Stanley Burger Philosophy



At Stanley's we believe that each customer deserves a great tasting, wholesome meal. Every item on our menu is prepared the old-fashioned way using only fresh, nutritious ingredients. Our burgers are made with 100% pure beef, all-natural spices, no added preservatives and are served on bakery fresh buns. We take pride in putting only the best into everything we make.

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Fresh Home Made Burger
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(Across from WLU)
(Limit one coupon per purchase)

**STANLEY
COMBO**

Stanley Burger
Fries
Pop

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Expires Mar. 2th, 1990

Prof Quotes

We had a much larger selection of prof quotes this week, but there are still a disproportionate number of quotes proceeding from those classes in which are enrolled members of the staff. How 'bout it folks? I'm sure there must be at least a few people awake in at least a few of those classes. Or do you not bother to listen to the prof? Is that a stupid question?

"The definition of a tensor will scare the hell out of anyone who isn't a pure mathematician by birth."

G. Tenti, AM 361

"You should not be concerned by the fact that the constants are variables."

S. Lipshitz, AM 353

"He's not boring, I'm boring. He's bored."

I. Szarycz, RUSS 102

"If you read some of those muscle-building magazines, which I constantly do . . ."

Dr. Bols, BIOL 473X

"Now we're all ready to get this sex."

Dr. Bols, BIOL 473X (Mammalian Reproductive Physiology)

"I love that term 'by inspection.' That mathematically means when you don't know what else you can do, you can look at it and it looks back at you."

Larry Smith, ECON 102

"Approximations which have a bound on the error are called Science. Approximations which have no bound on the error are called . . . Economics or something."

Shadwyck, MATH 230A

"Every time I talk about the beauty of math they look at me like I'm senile or something . . . or worse."

Dunkley, C&O 270

"It's the sort of thing you take to someone in the Pure Math Department. Shove a little between the cage bars. They love doing this sort of thing."

Ian McGee, AM 343

"We'll come back at twenty-five to nine—that's when the big hand hits seven."

J. Killoran, ENG 208B

"Most professors are failed comedians anyway."

J. MacKay, STAT 230

"Try to do it the easiest way; that's the first axiom."

S. Burris, MATH 234A

"Suppose you want to do this . . . you are the prof, and you want to massacre your class by doing this."

G. Tenti, AM 361

"We'll do the engineering proof . . . it's true for these two nodes; therefore it's true for *all* nodes."

D. Wood, CS 340 (pointing to two nodes in a binary tree)

"Not that you'd do these bonus questions for extra marks—but because you find them immensely pleasurable."

D. M. Jackson, C&O 230

"As soon as you see a difference of squares, you start to salivate, don't you?"

S. Vanstone, MATH 135

CSC Flash

In which drivel is spewed forth in voluminous quantities

Since the last CSC Flash, very little has happened. In particular, no tea or doughnaughts have been served. Well, at least none that the CSC is/are aware of. Mike Donat did give a successful talk on message passing and the environment at Microsoft. Successful being defined as "so many people showed up that we ran out of doughnaughts." The preceding sentence would seem to contradict the one before it, but, since the bit about Mike Donat was mentioned in the last Flash, it's old news, and technically, no new doughnaughts (or tea) have been served since then.

There will shortly have been an executive meeting at which many things will have been discussed. Check the newsgroup uw.csc on your favourite Unix(tm) box for details. It might even be interesting. For example, the minutes of the last executive meeting revealed to the world for the first time that Trevor Green eats worms. (Not news to those already acquainted with Trevor.) There may be tea, but doughnaughts are unlikely at the executive meeting.

There will also shortly have been a CSC-sponsored trip to FASS. Seeing as FASS is on campus, it won't have been much of a trip, but one of the conveniences of being a CSC member will have been that you won't have had to get your ticket yourself.

"10 years ago in the CSC Flash" will not be seen this week because I can't be bothered to find an old copy of mathNEWS.

The CSC office still hasn't recovered from the massive clean-up left over from the sordid Calum/election scandal. It looks like it's permanent.

Calum T. Dalek



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For further information write to or call:

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Waterloo Co-operative Residence Inc.
268 Phillip Street
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 6G9
(519) 884-3670

History of the World

This past weekend (Feb. 2, 3), a wondrous, a mystical event occurred. The great Scunt gods, known collectively as Psychosys, sent many groups on strange quests. This was the Winter '90 Engineering Havenger Scunt. For the second time in University History, a (mostly) Math team, Math Hysteria took part.

The most prominent participants were:

Michelle Robb	- The Boss
Daphne Greismann	- Costumes and Co-ordination
Penny Watt	- Treasurer
John Morton	- Village Co-ordinator

Shaggy	Mike Buckley
Dave Weil	Rob Bell
Doug Hopkins	Morgan Johns
Steve Smith	Craig Hughes
Dave Nuttall	Dave Gibbs

There were others, but this article shouldn't be too long.

The theme of the Scunt was "The History of the World." We performed many twisted acts, some more twisted than others. Here are some memories you can contemplate:

- Adam and Eve ate the apple (Doug / Daph)
- back to nature in the CC (Doug / Daph)
- making a Rob Lowe's video (Doug / Shaggy)
- Domer, the Wonder Hump (Doug / Penny)
- Snow angels... face down... naked... shrivel... (Mike / John)
- Grunt the great god having a thing for Eve (Grunt / Daph)
- Where's my big salami? (Doug / Daph)
- Hercules and Newton (Morgan / John)
- Vanna White (Dave Nuttall)
- Psycho-Bitch from Hell kills Romeo? (Daph / Lance)
- Street Samurai / Snake / God of Death (Dave)
- Ring road torch run (Doug)
- Where's my Tylenol (ALL)
- "We need how many 24's?!" (Michelle)
- Is this *REALLY* legal? (Security)
- "Tell me where Daphne is. O.K. 2000 points" (Grunt)

We would all like to extend our thanks to Psychosys and the other teams, and we look forward to participating again. The top five teams were:

1. Enorgy
2. Chemandoes
3. Toast
4. Screwdriver
5. Math Hysteria

The man without a pseudonym

VapidFire

Death of a Nation

MADRID — The tiny mountain nation of Andorra was tragically annihilated when a herd of elephants destined for the Madrid Zoological Gardens strayed off the highway. Said zoo director, Anne E. Ball, "Like, I don't know what happened, it was, like, one moment trooping down the highway and the next thing you know, so long Pyrenees! Giggle!" Neither of the surviving Andorran citizens could be reached for comment.

BEIJING — Things are returning to normal in China as, after a period of tranquility, 100 students were executed in Tian An Men Square for making faces at a portrait of Mao Zedong. Our reporter could not be reached for comment.

TEHERAN — A new show on Iranian Television is being aired, starring a 12-week-old baby who claims to be the reincarnation of Ayatollah Khomeini. "Khomeini" has asked his listeners for \$12 billion U. S. so he can complete his arms deals by March 31, or Allah will call him back.

WEST PALM BEACH — The share value for Maple Leaf Gardens on the Toronto Stock Exchange is being used as a monitor of Harold Ballard's health by doctors caring for Ballard at Maple Leaf Hospital in this Florida resort. They have hooked up a direct line to the Exchange floor and say they have so far been alerted of three blood vessel dilations and one potential heart attack by sharp rises in the price of the shares. Dr. Dick Less commented, "We'll release them when it falls below \$15."

$u(w)$ — Normally quiet campus life was disturbed on Tuesday when the Right Wing, quasi-violent, pretty darn radical group **SHEEP AGAINST NORDIC SWEATERS** staged a rally in the Arts Library. One woman was injured when her sweater was removed by angry sheep who chanted "Give us baaack our daaaddy!"

Mr. Death
The Griffimmer

Timbits for All

The Winter '90 MathSoc Car Rally went off without a hitch (as opposed to the organisers' planning run, which didn't). 6 fearless teams ventured forth into the wild wilderness around KW, avoiding Bright, Ontario (see comment above), and made it back to East Side Mario's with clean cars, 6 non-chocolate timbits, and old newspapers (and no dog horror stories—also see above).

The final winners were Carol Vanderburg and Mark Young (together with 2 friends), followed by Mark & Chrys (with someone stuffed in the trunk). Third place was tied by 2 teams with 2 people: Brent & Chris (with 3 too many wires) together with Katy & Glen (time: 5 hours, 10 minutes). Fifth place went to Allison & Rich (who were the only ones to know who developed the Connestoga College rink), and Jeff & Todd wined up the tour (with the quickest overall time, 2 hours, 35 minutes).

Congrats to all for participating and hanging around the restaurant while we used our exacting, accurate (and sometimes improvised) judging rules to calculate your final scores.

Fearless Jeff and Moishe, your organizers

Masthead

Isn't this wonderful. It's not 0:07. Yeah! This is a good thing. (I think.)

Not so wonderful. We're reprinting this and it's now 2:17. We just can't win.

The most excellent people who came out and helped tonight were: Dave Nuttall, Dan Astoorian, Steve Smith, Takashi Toyooka, Doug Hopkins, Glen Reesor, Penny Watt, Koorosh Shahrokh, Jeff Newton, and Simon Hèbert. Thanks to all and to all a good day, eh.

Thanks to Marion and Graphic Services.

Letters to the Editors

Shocked by Ad

It really surprised me, when reading the Jan. 26, 1990 edition of *mathNEWS*, to see a full page advertisement on page 5. Now you might say that *mathNEWS* has carried ads before (Stanley's Burgers springs to mind), but those ads were about 1/8 of a page.

So everyone's feeling the crunch of underfunding and soon *mathNEWS* may have an advertising section for companies, etc. We have enough entities trying to get our attention and it *was* comforting to read a publication that was not full of it. I don't think you have to stoop to those lowly depths.

4A Math/CA

Editor's note: The following letter has been condensed because of space considerations.

Dear *mathNEWS* editors:

I was disturbed by one of the article in your issue of 26 January and would like to raise some points for your consideration.

The article that bothered me was titled "How To Get A Girl".

The text of "Girl" offers, in the guise of advise, straightforward exaggeration of obnoxious and sexist behaviour. Let us be charitable and assume that the author was attempting to sarcastically mock such behaviour and send the message that is wrong. It is only in its effect that such a piece can be judge, and I think it takes a keener satirical pen than you or I wield to pull it off.

Suppose a reader decided that the article was really mocking those who think that such obnoxious behaviour will succeed in its stated aim, namely, to "get a girl". In other words, the reader concludes that sexism and aggression is wrong only because it doesn't "work". The idea of woman as objects to be acquired is reinforced.

There is also the problem of long-term effect. What about this suggestion - completely false, by the way- that "the faculty is speaking about about lowering admission standards in order to equalize the male/female ratio"? How many reader will remember, the next time that the subject of affirmative action comes up, that they read that in a humourous article and it wasn't to be taken seriously?

What reactions might female readers have? Some might smile ruefully, though they are unlikely to take much pleasure in descriptions of behaviour that, on a milder scale, they are all too likely to encounter. The general effect, I think, is chilling: discussion is inhibited, and a sense of community, of belonging, is violated.

I'm sure you're aware that women make up only 30% of the incoming first-year class. You may not be aware that the percentage drops steadily through second, third and fourth years. There's no single obvious cause of this, and we'll never be able to point to an article like "Girl" and say that it was responsible for this incident of sexism or that woman's decision to drop out. But I think that, in small ways articles like this are contributing to the problem.

We must not underestimate the power of words, particularly when they are committed to print.

Prabhakar Ragde

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Editor: David Weil and Paul J. Sahota

Ultraclassifieds

Denise: Just how did you know the layout of the Men's washroom?

Rutabaga & Moo

Watch out for large dogs in stables (especially if you're driving a small Honda).

Rallyers in future car rallies

My friend, don't be a loser. Come to my seminar! I tell you how to make meeyuns!

Tom Vanderloo

Ed, you just admitted to me you were gay. This disturbs me.

Your roommate

NEWSFLASH!

Jo Kee Ner, a third year UW student, passed away in his CS 212 class last Thursday. The autopsy report said simply: "He died in his sleep." Said his best friend: "He just couldn't take it anymore. Joey once told me that he found the first week of CS 100 more stimulating."

"Does anyone know why there was this tall guy with long, blonde hair running around the comfy lounge on Friday wearing a raincoat and no sign of pants? I'd hate to see what he had on under the coat."

T. Stephien, CS 444

From The Olympian To Molly Ringwald: "What about sound effects?"

From Molly to White Rabbit: "You didn't shave!"

From White Rabbit to Molly: "Ya, well your feet are cold!"

FYI Operation Korma-alpha commences in 5 days, with Korma-beta following 2 days later. Be ready.

Q

"Margaret loves Mattie-poooh"

EV III & Murdo

Stupid cow seeks huge mutant with inferior blood-type for foot-writing and strawberry consumption. Muscular face preferred. Serious replies only please!

Woman in green seeking large salami. If found call Eve.

Hey, Mike L., did you figure out where to stick it?? Try the south side of the equator.

C.C.

Hey! Guess what!! MB was *early* Jan 17 1990!!!

Mistress Di, we your willing slaves try to keep you amused and awake, but we anxiously await the whips and chains. But please Mistress don't forget to bite this time.

your men servants

Chris I know you're not cheap, but after denying not being sleazy, what's a guy to think.

Sigh + Duff

Faculty of Mathematics

Dean's Honour List

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement throughout their undergraduate careers the following students will "GRADUATE ON THE DEAN'S HONOURS LIST" at Spring Convocation, May 26, 1990 and have their names displayed in gold on the walls of the Faculty Colloquium Room (MC 5158).

RUSSO Giuseppe (Actuarial Science & Statistics)
SWIFT Sharon Lynn (Math/Management
Accounting/Information Systems)

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement during the Fall/89 term, the following students qualified for the Dean's Honours List.

ABRAHAM Matthew Lancaster, ALLEYNE Jason C., ANDO Seiji, AU-YEUNG Sel-son, BELL Carolyn Mae, BIBBY Katherine Anne, BIR Michael Paul, BRADLEY David M., BRUNSTING Raymond Joe, BUCKLEY Michael Andrew, BUTCHER Thomas Matthew David, BUTTON Darryl Thomas, CAULEY Brian Marcus, CBNTORE Paul Matthew, CHAN Sze Sze Ada, CHAN Franky K.L., CHAN Shung Fai Jimmy, CHAN Steven, CHAN Tsz Kin Michael, CHAN Wing-Leung, CHANG Su-Chin, CHEUNG Shuk Man Annie, CHRISTENSEN J. Daniel, CHUI Bo Yue Janis, COLEMAN James, COLMAN Ian Richard, COOK David Gary, COONEY Christopher William, CRAFTON Bradley D., CUSCIANNA Alfo, DANTOWITZ David J., DARVEAU-GARNEAU Nicolas, DAW Trevor A., DEAN Michael Philip, DEMAITER Blaine Mary Rose, DITULLIO Giuseppe Carmine, DRUERY Jeffery Douglas, DUCHARME Dale Matthew, EBBO David Serge, EDELSON Robyn Arlene, ENGLANDER Mathew Blair, BRICKSON Julie B., FARRER Glen Robert, FISHER Monique A., FONG James, FONG Wai Leung, FRENKEL Leonard, GAMBLE Steven Todd, GAUBET Dean, GIBSON Geoffrey M., GLAISTER Ian Matthew, GOBRTE Steven J., GOOI Roy Chu Nan, GO-SAI Pareeh, GOURLBY Rene Stephen, GOWAN Christopher Brent, GREEN Stephen Joseph, GREENSPOON David I., GRBER Kevin Glen Roy, GRIFFIN Kenneth Anthony, HAMANN Francois Richard, HAZENBERG Graydon Hendrik, HENSON Kee Anne, HILL Betty-Jo, HODGE James Robert, HORNEY Kathryn Blaine, HSU Leon Cheng-Lin, HWANG Robert, IRSCHICK Bruce Christopher, JACKSON William Ernest, JACOBS Lester Urban C., JOHNSTONE J. Doug, KAETHLER Richard, KAMAL Ramin, KARSTEN Richard Harry, KENNES Carl Louis, KILBREATH Toby Diane, KOELLER Judith Ann, KONG Wun, KRAY Jansen KUCAR Olga Anna, KUCARIC Cheryl Marie, KUNZE Herbert Edward, KUSTERS Norbert Paul, KWOK Chi Wai William, LAFFRADI Lisa M., LAM Wilson Chi Ko, LAM Wing Tat, LAMB Julianna Krystal, LAPPAN James William, LAW James To-Cheng, LEE Gregory Thomas, LEE Simon, LEBIANE Peter Attilio, LESLIE Christina Sunita, LBUNG Kwok Wai, LBUNG Yollie Yolanda Yuk Yi, LIU Wayne Biao, LORBER David A., LOWACHEE Sean, LUMA Darren Alan, MA Kin Wai Wallace, MA Wai Man Theresa, MACCHARLES Ross Paul, MACFARLANE D. Kent, MACLELLAN Carol Marie, MAK Karen, MAMO John R., MARSHALL Brian Robert, MCALLISTER Michael Joseph, MCKENZIE Andrew Craig, MEHTA Atul Kishor, METZGER Christine L., MICHAEL Amir, MISTRY Chetna, MOHAMMED Asad, MONTBIRO Manuel Jules Savio, MOORE David Alex, MOORHOUSE Timothy Bruce, MORTON David Kennedy, MURPHY Danny Kevin, MURRAY Eithne M.G., NAUMANN Bernard Richard, NEWMAN Geoffrey Graham D., NEWMAN Michael William, NG Kai Yuen Kelvin, NG Lai-Mei, NG Ngai Hung Jimmy, NGAI Sek Ngai, OOI Soo Liang, ORPEN Derek Neil, PARKINSON Scott Terrance, PARSONS Kimberley Joy, PATCHETT Mark E., PAVAN David John, PBIRCE Stephen, PENNER Michael Erwin, PIECHOCINSKI Peter, PIGNAT Daniel Joseph, PILLE Geoffrey John, PLUMB Colin Christopher, POMERLEAU Guylaine, POON Stanley Ka Hung, PORTER Jonathan, POWOJOWSKI Miroslaw Ryszard, PTASHNY David, RAVIGNAT Damien, RICHARDS Michelle Fiona, ROOK Harvey, SANTOSUOSSO Kevin, SASHBGYI Andreas Istvan, SCHIEDEL Juanita, SCHOFIELD Michael B., SHEN Ann, SHINER Jeffrey Allan, SHIP Harold Jeffrey, SIDDIQI M. Faisal, SIU Steven Chi Fung, SMITH Kevin Edward, SO Cheuk Man Henry, SONG Charles J., SPENCER Scott William, STEVENS Warren Geoffrey, SUM Alex Poon-Kwan, TAKAHASHI Kevin Ken, TALIB Shams, TAN Ken Seng, TAVES Christopher David, TONG Andrew Ka Yin, TRINH Van Tai, TSANG Glenn, TSANG Wing Yin Teresa, TY Kich Tsung, ULBRICH Michelle Sylvie, VANDERPOST Gerald Peter, VBACH Eric Hugh, WAN Yuen Wai Christopher, WANG Herman, WANG Nan Daniel, WEATHERHEAD Thomas Andrew, WHITE Thomas Boothby, WIELOWIBYSKI Marek Stefan, WILLIS David Timothy, WILLMS Allan Richard, WONG Eric Fong, WONG Man Tsun, WONG Tang-Chit, WONG Vince, WOOLRIDGE Dale Nelson, WU Dennis Chi-Yun, WU King Kwong Felix, YANG Peter Shawn, YAP-CHUNG Nicola Grace, YBUNG Alex, YOUNG Carmen Min, ZAKINTHINOS Anis, ZHAO Linda, ZHENG Luo Quan, ZUCCHERATO Robert Joseph

About mathNEWS

There is a small group of people that gets together every other Monday night to generate the periodical that you hold in your hands. There are a number of excellent reasons why you should come out to a mathNEWS production night and help out.

- *We need help!* We need both skilled and unskilled labour. Have you ever wanted to write an article. If you feel that deep down inside, you may have the potential to write something silly or profoundly funny, we would like you to come out.
- mathNEWS can teach you the fine art of last minute production. Come out and experience the thrill of racing against deadlines. If you ever wanted to acquire the fine skills required to accurately wield an X-acto knife, then mathNEWS is for you!
- Being on the mathNEWS staff is a sure route to immortality. Once you have written in mathNEWS your words are permanently recorded in the annals of all time. Each issue is sent to Ottawa to be kept until Canada fails and all other memories of our age are lost to the winds of time.
- mathNEWS staffers are well fed with the finest quality pizza.
- The single most important reason for coming out and contributing is that it is a lot of fun!

The LookAhead section of this paper contains the dates of the next few production nights. If you can't make the next one, come out to the one after that. Be a part of the great mathNEWS tradition at U(W).

The Editors of the Sword

Proof of the Week

Consider the product $(2)(3)(5)(7)(11) \dots$, which contains as a factor all prime numbers. Clearly, this product $= \infty$, i.e., if x is prime, then x divides infinity. Equivalently, if x does not divide infinity, then x is not prime.

Also, Euclid's proof that for every prime number there is a greater prime number is well known, and need not be reprinted here. Hence, ∞ is the largest prime number.

But, since ∞ is prime, there is no integer x which divides it. Hence, there are no prime numbers.

Johnny Mathless



"Noticed how Math Profs begin to look like Bella Lugosi around Midterms?"

Now!

Sitting in the C&D,
with grazing Bovines watching me.
Looking Blank and chewing cud,
they never catch the smell of blood.

Big Blue Butchers take the best,
corporate vultures pick at the rest
to help construct their ugly barrow,
they break our bones and suck our marrow.

They build their towers from our brains
to protect them from the Earth's remains.
They take our souls and pay us cash,
so we will emulate their stash.

And so perpetuate the bile
that chokes our planet with a smile.
While fatty bodies grasp and suck,
their soulless minds don't give a f**k.

The one salvation lies with us.
We ought to stop it, in fact we must.
All our effort, and nothing less,
or rot in hell with all the rest.

If we don't clean up, no one will,
and my kids shouldn't die in swill.
They shouldn't hide from the Sun,
and public beaches should be fun.

Country streams without brown foam,
and healthy woods in which to roam.
They shouldn't dream of atomic lights.
(A dream I've dreamt a thousand nights)

My children happy, my planet clean,
prospects better than they have been.
We have to work, *you* have to see,
because it's down to you and me.

Caleb J. Howard

You Have Problems!

- You know you have problems when you don't quite know what goes into writing a resumé.
- You know you have problems when you're worried about what you should do in an interview.
- You know you have problems when you're still not able to identify your special skills.

You don't need to worry, however, because we have the answer for you: *The Student Career Advisors*. We may not have the answer to all of your problems, but we sure can help with some. Your S.C.A. is a student volunteer trained to help other students in areas of resumé writing, interviews, career planning and a lot more. The Math S.C.A. is located in room MC 3035. Her office hours are 1:30pm to 3:00pm on Tuesdays and 1:00pm to 2:30pm on Thursdays. Just drop by. No appointment is needed.

See? No Problem!

Anna V.
Math S.C.A.

Why They Call It "Advanced Honours"

We had only known each other for a matter of minutes, but already the class had agreed on one thing: Monday morning was a lousy time to start a math course. A few people scribbled madly into notebooks; others leafed restlessly through confused notes; most of us stared bleary-eyed at the chalkboard at the front of the room.

Eventually (and to the dismay of many in the room) the door at the front of the room did open as an elderly, distinguished-looking gentleman entered and carefully placed his lecture notes on the desk. I sat up and scrambled to find a pencil.

"I," he began, "am Professor Neumann. My office is MC 7042. My office hours. . ." By this time I had managed to find my pencil, and I started taking down what Professor Neumann was saying. As I hurried to keep up, it dawned on me that I was no longer in high school.

The entire room focused on the tiny corner of the chalkboard where Professor Neumann was scribbling. It was evident that I was not the only one in the class who did not understand the plethora of Greek letters crowded on the board, as I could hear confused mumbblings of, "What's that he's writing?" and "I've never seen that notation in my life!" from behind me. Professor Neumann turned to face us.

"This is how your final mark will be calculated."

About a dozen people got up and left the room. I glanced at my watch and discovered that we had only been there for three minutes. I mused to myself that at this rate the room would be empty thirty minutes into the lecture.

"We shall define a calculus as the set of properties of a real-valued function of one or more real variables," continued the professor, ignoring the exodus in a manner which suggested that he was quite accustomed to people walking out on him. From left to right Professor Neumann systematically filled the chalkboards with complex formulas which nobody had ever seen, yet which were affectionately labelled "Review" at the top of the first board. Perhaps he's only kidding, I thought to myself.

Forty minutes later, Professor Neumann stopped writing and faced the class once again. "Here is assignment number one. It is due next Friday." With this he removed a stack of papers from his briefcase and let it fall to the desk with a resounding "Thunk."

Slowly I walked to the front of the room and picked up an assignment. I looked at a question at random:

Let S and T be nonempty bounded subsets of the real numbers. Prove that the supremum of the union of S and T equals the greater of the supremum of S and the supremum of T , and that the infimum of the union of S and T equals the lesser of the infimum of S and the infimum of T .

I noticed that many of the people leaving the room had not bothered to pick up an assignment. I wondered why I myself had not left at the start of the lecture. I attributed it to sheer stubbornness.

Taking a deep breath, I hurried to get a word with Professor Neumann before he left the room.

"Do your lectures always go at this pace?" I asked hopefully.

"Don't worry," the learned man replied with sympathy in his eyes. "Things will pick up on Wednesday."

Johnny Mathless

Ode to Steve

As the S.O.L. fish looked upon the sea of emptyness
He noticed that its inner depths were shallower than his own.
Over in the distant abyss the others swam as he merely
Sank.

?

As the Chicken danced the dance of death without his
Head, the others looked upon him while cackling,
Laughing, with their heads still intact finding other ways to
Amuse themselves.
After all, they were only chickens.

!

The sun was rising but it was twilight at the same time.
The end was nearing for the homeless Cucumber sprawled
out in the

Garden

Of shrubberies.

It was almost like the end of all vegetables.

?!?

What is life?

Asked the lizard as the tire of the truck pushed him closer
To the other

Tire,

And squished him.

The baby within the confines of the safety seat in the truck
answered:

Glurploogumpus, wanablouroid, Plthhhhhhh.

The mess was cleaned off the tire at the next gas station.

Many more lizards asked the same question; however,

No trucks were around to answer their demanding voices.

!?!?

The bullet joyously screamed thru the air

Into the gaping jaws of

The hungry

Dandelion.

Stupid flower.

?!?!?

The C.S. major looked at the clock. It was

4:30 am.

He thought of all the MONEY he would make if he graduated.

The A.M. major fondled with his

Pen.

He thought of all the MONEY he would make if he graduated.

The Actuarial laughed as he saw the first question in the
brutal

Exam.

He thought of all the MONEY he would make if he graduated.

The Artsie listened to his stereo.

The Screaming Blue Milkmen From Mars didn't seem to
sound so good

At 2:30 in the afternoon.

He thought of MONEY

As the moth flew out of his plastic wallet.

He only heard the Milkmen

Screaming:

Glurploogumpus, Wanablouroid, Plthhhhhhh.

!?!?!?

The girlfriend came home after scuba diving.

"Look what I found Steve!"

He only looked horrified as he stared at the stiff

Fish.

"I found it while I was scuba diving."

Deja-vu hit him

hard.

"Strangest thing. It was the only fish in the sea of emptyness
that was

Sinking."
?!?!?!?

This poem is an ode, hell its a god damn tribute to a good buddy
of mine who used to be a mathie but transferred to arts this term.
Actually, he had trouble getting into arts (don't let that sidetrack you).
He is a fine example of someone who came to his senses and said enough
is enough. He wanted to go out in public and say "Life is one big joke",
and "I am an artsie" as one big sentence with many metaphors and not
be laughed at. Because I am still a mathie and he is not, (notice the
lack of transition) I figured that this was the only way I could express
my true emotions for his ungodly situation. He probably understands
this poem but for the real people out there (mathies) please do not try
to relate or even understand this because if you do you'll find yourself
in the never ending line up to get into arts. As for me I wrote this
after consuming some mind altering beverages so I leave you geniuses
out there with a quote from the movie Platoon.

"Sheeet you dum."

Crush or Kroosh
whatever pleases you

Recycle This Article

Ever seen a recycling receptacle, Billy? Well, your friendly Math
Recycling gangbusters already have 1 in place (close to the C&D). Chris
says: "Don't throw trash in it, you Maroon." There are 8 more on
the way:

- 2 on the second floor by the large lecture halls: 1 for cans, 1 for paper
- 2 on the fourth floor by MC4021: 1 for cans, 1 for paper
- 4 on the third floor between the C&D's: 1 cans, 1 paper, 1 hard plastic, 1 glass

The reason they're not there yet is that Plant Operations have to okey-
dokey them first ("shuffle, shuffle, shuffle").

For those of you C&D lounge slizards who wanted to know what
the fu... er, clanging noise was around 3:00 each Wednesday, it's the
weekly "Sorting of the Cans" Ritual. We have to separate the tin from
aluminum, as a) they won't take 'em unless they are, and b) we only
get buck\$ for the aluminum, but only if it's separated (Tin men: no
racial slurs intended here).

If you show up to help, *hint, hint* we can even let you in on the
big Caramilk secret, as well as how to tell the difference between tin
and aluminum cans. We'd especially appreciate if those of you in the
not-quite-autumn-years of your academic career help out, since the cur-
rent group consists entirely of people planning to graduate this spring
(Yippee!).

(Serious appeal here. . .) If you have any earth-shattering (or other-
wise useful) suggestions about recycling, there is a board by the Math-
Soc photocopiers, *OR* if the pink office is anathema to you, show up on
Wednesdays.

Condensed Topic inserted here

WATROC is the Waterloo Recycling on Campus group. We are a
bunch of people from different faculties/residences trying to co-ordinate
our efforts. We meet Thursdays @ 6:00 in EL109. If you're interested
come to (my seminar!) a meeting, or talk to me for more details.

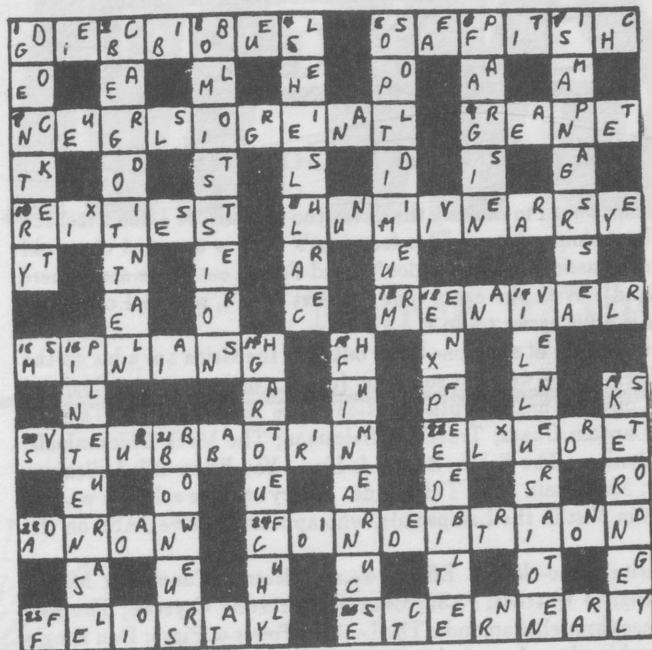
Chris Rosenquist, esq.
C.E.O., Math Recycling
(Isn't he title-hungry? - Moo)

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for further information, contact the Graduate Secretary, Dep't of Management Sciences Faculty of Engineering, CPH 4309, ext. 3670



mathNEWSquiz # 3

Since the Squizmasters are both busy with FASS this week, I'm filling in for the administrative part of this. They did mail me solutions to last week's and a new squiz 'cause they knew I wouldn't have the time or inclination to do one up. The winner of this squiz is **Chameleon** who got 8 correct out of 18. The other submitters were: **Magician** (5); **The San Francisco '29ers** (3); **The Dairy Council** (2); and **Vistlik the Lampshade** (2). I got seven correct, but I can hardly count my own solution since I'm marking them. The answers for *mathNEWSquiz # 2* are:

1. Luke
2. It was blocking his view of Venus.
3. 39 1/2 foot
4. Fred and Betty
5. Mock
6. He had a thpeech impediment.
7. Mt. Elbrus, Soviet Union 18,510 ft (5)
8. The St. Lawrence Great Lakes Waterway.
9. Valdes Peninsula
10. Vostok, Antarctica
11. The Australian Desert
12. Pitcairn Island
13. Dan Quayle
14. Vice-president
15. Thomas Foley
16. Speaker of the house of representatives
17. George Mitchell
18. President pro tempore of the Senate

And now for the new squiz:

Star Trek

1. What is Spock's father's occupation?
2. What crime nearly resulted in Wesley Crusher's execution?
3. Who brought the first tribble on board the Enterprise?

4. What military statigist is a hero of Rika's?
5. Who is the director of the Cetacean Institute?
6. How many Klingon vessels were destroyed by V'ger?

Music

7. Name the members of "The Travelling Wilburys".
8. Who wrote the "Swan Lake" ballet?
9. Which two musical instruments are played by the Smothers Brothers?
10. Who composed the music for "The Sound of Music"?
11. What year was the first issue of "Rolling Stone" published?
12. What was David Bowie's name at birth?

Movies

13. What was Woody Allen's birth name?
14. What was the last film Elvis Presley starred in?
15. Who was born Thomas C. Mapother IV?
16. What was the name of the community attacked by "The Birds"?
17. What film features Dr. Emilio Lizardo?
18. What film's soundtrack featured such pieces of music as "Flight From Peru", "The Basket Game", and "Desert Chase"?

Chameleon can pick up its winner's prize in the *mathNEWS* mailbox in the MathSoc office. As per usual, *mathNEWSquiz* submissions are due by 18:30 on Monday, February 26th. They can be left in the **BLACK BOX** or under the *mathNEWS* (MC3041) office door.

Lord S'Djawkheril
for Mr. Death and dag
and The Raving Lunatrek



Recycled GridComments

I've heard that I'm making the Grids too difficult, so I don't feel too badly about doing this. . . This fortnight's Grid is a repeat of an old fletniowski classic (I hope you don't mind Frank, out there somewhere in gradland). With the extra time for next issue's, maybe I can make one that is a bit easier to do.

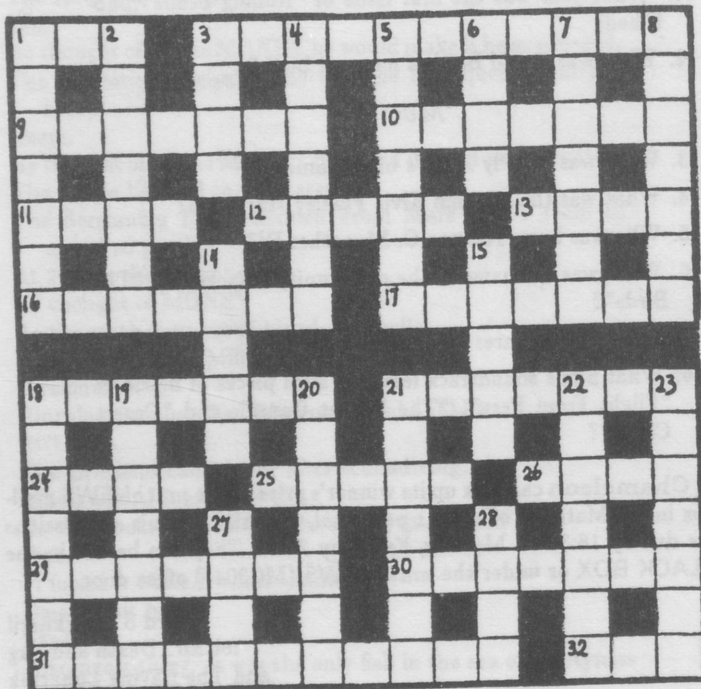
This week's set of solutions bears out that the Grids are a bit on the tough side. There were no solutions (correct or incorrect) submitted for the Conventional. Cryptic solutions were received from: The Return of Captain Chaos; Travelling Salesman; The Mock Chickenloafs; The Avalonians; The Easter Bunny & Lips—You Know It!!; Millenium Falconer; Magician; Z.B.; Thinkdude. A very strange solution was received from Vistlik the Lampshade, who appears to have FASS on the brain.

Favourite Piezo-electric Effects were: Electron Tunnelling Microscopes; Digital Watches; FASS; Chocolate Frosting Crystals; The way light shines through diamonds; The Leaning Tower of Piezo; Don King's hair; Watching beer foam in an ultrasonic bath.

Comments: I'm back, I'm bad, I'm marking your assignments!; Not going to comment, wouldn't be prudent; I can't wait for Elvis the Series to premiere. (Long live Rambling Silence); Rot not, for in N-space are all manner of things possible; No thanks; Something to do on FASS Tech Weekend; Cut the Bulls**t; I'd like to thank my wife, kids and Roget's Thesaurus; The Romulan is too busy in FASS to do the GridWord. Please see FASS 1990 to make it worth is, and to find out what the lampshade is for.

This Grid's winner is *The Avalonians*. I'm making some GridCertificates up, so drop by MathSoc and ask about them. I'll write a couple for the first Grid's winners as well. I hope this Grid is slightly more generally accessible. Solutions, as always, are due by 18:30 next production night (Feb. 26th) under the mathNEWS office door, or in the BLACK BOX. Have a good slack week all!

Lord S'Djawkheril
with thanks to fletniowski



CRYPTIC

Across

1. The Spanish affirm one hundred, as in the original (3)
2. A magician we followed sickly with an atomic being at the start (11)
9. An expensive cut for the lord of the lower mid-section (7)
10. Ran back with the fee for story-telling (7)
11. Aged abnormally, by God! (4)
12. The street's current measurement of postage (5)
13. Join fifty pigments (4)
16. The ship reversed one hundred in near the thing (7)
17. Not a note born for the candidate (7)
18. A bronze man slopes the curve (7)
21. A note to a sibling about cell division (7)
24. A star revised painting, et al (4)
25. Above average drive all in white (5)
26. Canadian aero-firm talks back? (4)
29. Fight a trigonometric physical Greek (7)
30. Sugar forms a relation around an irregular coast (7)
31. Little dancer not quite old enough to be an adolescent (5-6)
32. Attempts that rival your lead (3)

Down

1. The cusp set for the could-be criminal (7)
2. A mongrel raves for the fruit (7)
3. A holy representation of one prisoner (4)
4. Crazy moon sound of the clock (7)
5. A person of fine quartz puts you to sleep (7)
6. The hog reacts inwardly to the monster (4)
7. That thing took two guys to the European! (7)
8. A sci-fi fan voyages a thousand times, that is (7)
14. Rotated range of ire (5)
15. Nothing inside will tempt you to hide (5)
18. Temperature hurried to position the bus (7)
19. Insanely slang for a special fruit container (3-4)
20. Decay risen upon the city (7)
21. A "fad" lump right behind the wheel (7)
22. Help to dine at the dock (7)
23. A cry rose to the witchcraft (7)
27. Sojourn of one year in a pig pen (4)
28. Mark, direct the speed of light to accelerate right! (4)

Name: _____

Favourite Sword: _____

Comment: _____

CONVENTIONAL

Across

1. TURF
3. SPELL
9. MYTHOLOGICAL GIANT
10. COAT OF ARMS ANIMAL
11. CORRUPT
12. OCEAN INLET
13. PLAYTHING
16. SUMMER AILMENT
17. DONATION
18. BRITISH AUTHOR
21. FRENCH MONEY
24. INDICATES
25. UNSOCIABLE
26. COWBOY EQUIPMENT
29. STRADDLING
30. JOINED
31. BEHEADED
32. CAP

Down

1. ACCOMPLISHMENT
2. SPEECH
3. METAL
4. SEA
5. UNSIDED
6. OPERA SOLO
7. ELEMENT TYPE
8. CONFOUND
14. SWEET DRINK
15. TWIST
18. THROW OUT
19. MYSTERIOUS
20. CONSPICUOUS
21. YARD GAME
22. STAMP
23. NOBLEMAN'S TERRITORY
27. IMPERFECT SPEECH
28. WARM