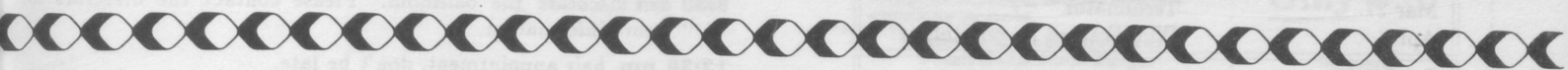


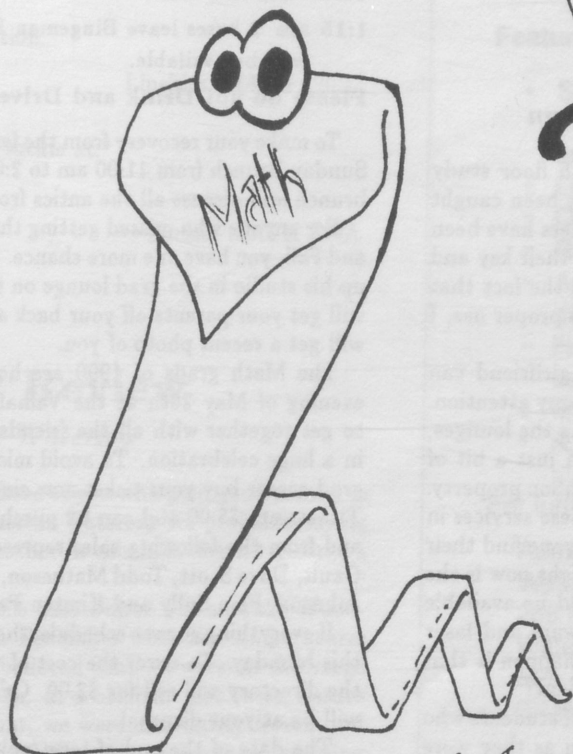
math NEWS

Volume 52 Number 5

March 16, 1990



Special Jumbo
Sized Issue!!



The Invasion of
Cutesy Math
Symbols from

Hell

LookAhead

mathNEWS	
Mar 26	(MathSoc, MC 3038 @ 19:00)
Mar 30	Issue #6 production night
	Issue #6 hits the stands
Faculty Dates	
Apr 3	Yippee! Last day of classes.
Apr 6	Boo! Exams start.
Cinema Gratis	
Mar 20	Spaceballs
	Star Trek IV
Mar 27	Terminator
Apr 3	Who Framed Roger Rabbit?
Fred Flicks	
Mar 16-18	License to Kill
Mar 23-25	Parenthood
At the Shelter	
Mar 16	St. Pat's Weekend
Humanities Theatre	
Mar 20,23,24	A Midsummer Night's Dream
Apr 1	Jane Siberry
Fred's Mall	
Mar 30	Spirit of the West

Prez Sez

The MC Neighbourhood Watch Program

Recently, it has come to my attention that the fourth floor study areas are being abused heavily by students. People have been caught drinking, playing cards, and sleeping in the room and others have been caught jamming the doors open after they have returned their key and thus ended their responsibility for the room. Aside from the fact that these people are ruining the room for those who put it to proper use, I have a much deeper concern with this situation.

It makes me extremely frustrated and upset (as my girlfriend can attest to) when instances such as the above are brought to my attention. It seems that every day I hear reports of students abusing the lounges, taking supplies from the Office, trying to get away with just a bit of extra coffee from the C & D, or just plain destroying MathSoc property. It makes me seriously consider why MathSoc provides these services in the first place, why we don't just shut down and let everyone find their own staplers. For instance, the big project at MathSoc right now is the acquisition and implementation of a Mac Lab that would be available at a nominal cost, 24 hours a day, complete with software and laser printing. But why should we bother when all that will happen is that someone will try to abuse or destroy or steal the equipment?

The answer of course is that its only a small minority of students who are abusing MathSoc services, the rest simply use them as they were intended. Unfortunately, it is this minority who may us to restrict our services to everyone. MathSoc does not have the resources to police all of its activities — we work mostly on the honour system. As a result, we get burned sometimes, which ends up singeing the rest of the Society.

So what can be done, what can you as honest upstanding citizens of Math do to help? Simply put, don't abuse MathSoc services, and if you see anyone who is, either ask them to stop or come and tell us. I know it may be uncomfortable to do this, but when the alternative is withdrawing the service altogether, I think you'll find it worth the effort.

Tom Vandelloo
MathSoc President

MATH GRAD BALL

Stepping Out in Style

All the planning and preparation that began last summer and has continued for the following ten months is coming to a close. The end product will be an unforgettable evening for over four-hundred and eighty individuals who will be attending the 1990 edition of the Math Grad Ball. Many hours of volunteered time by members of the graduating class have made the MGB become the most memorable social event during our years at the University of Waterloo.

The following is a list of important details for everyone involved with the MGB!

8:30 am decorate the ballroom. Please contact the directors for more information.

12:30 pm hair appointment, don't be late.

2:30 pm pick up corsage and boutonniere from the florist.

5:15 pm bus leaves from math loading docks.

5:30 pm cocktails, mingling, photographs: arrive early.

6:50 pm photographer takes a break for dinner.

7:00 pm dinner is served.

9:00 pm dance begins.

11:00 pm raffle off the door prizes.

12:00 am coffee and cake is served.

12:45 am last call.

1:15 am 2 buses leave Bingeman Park for UW. Taxi cabs will be available.

Please do not Drink and Drive!!

To make your recovery from the festivities less painful, Fed Hall serves Sunday Brunch from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for a mere \$7.95. So let's do brunch and discuss all the antics from the night before.

For anyone who missed getting their grad photos taken in the Spring and Fall, you have one more chance. Claude from Jostens will be setting up his studio in the grad lounge on the fifth floor on April 2, 3, 4. This will get your parents off your back and your cousins in the old country will get a recent photo of you.

The Math grads of 1990 are hosting a convocation party on the evening of May 26th at the Valhalla Inn. This will be a great time to get together with all the friends you have over the past five years in a huge celebration. To avoid missing the final party of your undergrad career buy your ticket now since the event was sold out last year. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased in the MGC office (MC 3042) and from the following sales representatives: Sharon Tucker, Malcolm Gault, Dave Scott, Todd Matheson, Dan Row, Emil Mlinarevich, Linda Johnson, Pam Sully and Kirsten Petereit.

If everything goes to schedule, the class of '90 directory will go on sale this Monday. To cover the cost of word processing and photocopying, the directory will sell for \$2.00. Over 275 addresses of your classmates will be at your disposal.

The date of the end-of-term pub is tentatively set for March 29th. Keep on the look out for further details. If you have any suggestions please contact the social directors, Ed, Eileen, and Steve.

The yearbook editors Carol and Chris will be accepting MGB photos if they are developed on Monday. The immediate turn around is required because the final yearbook layouts must be mailed on Tuesday.

The fundraising directors still need a couple of more people to help with Bingo night on April 16th. The sign up sheet is on the MGC office door (MC 3042). Scott and Julie, our memorabilia, have informed us your receipt and pick up your rugby shirt at the grad office.

Kelly Sturt
Emil Mlinarevich
MGC '90 Chairs

Prof Quotes

"First you sort the data into little runs. Second, once you have the runs...uh..."

G.H. Gonnet, CS 340

"You're not as confused as you think you are."

C. Small, MATH 138

"Let me just take a p outside..."

S. Brown, STAT 230

"So you add up all the zeroes, and what do you get? One! Only in a probability class..."

MacKay, STAT 230

"It's obviously not an important function. If it were, it would have a name."

Lipshitz, MATH 230A

"You can call it the Lipshitz function."

Lipshitz, MATH 230A

"TV: The great video tit that we suckle at."

Furino, MATH 234A

Weather Review

Winter in Waterloo

***** (7 stars out of 10). Those of you who paid good money to experience this year's winter weather in Waterloo are probably saying to yourselves, "Is he Nuts? The weather in this hole doesn't deserve a single star, let alone seven."

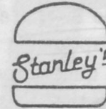
Viewed in retrospect, however, this past winter was a stroke of sublime genius. We were tantalized in December with low temperatures and mounds of snow. Naïvely, we believed that we were on the verge of a long overdue beautiful ski season. In a brilliant plot twist, nature delivered a January thaw. After that, we were alternately frozen and warmed, drenched and blown. All this led to this week's heart-warming preview of summer. I won't tell you how it all ends, so as not to spoil the brilliant spectacle coming our way.

I am reminded of the more abstract work on display in the deserts of Arizona. There, weather afficianados are treated to scorching hot days followed by near-freezing nights. Admittedly, the weather here is much more understated, but I believe that lends to its credibility. I would argue that Waterloo's winter weather this year has much of the subtle charm of some of the better fog-bound moors of England.

Of course, you may ask, if I am so enamoured with the winter weather here, why did I only give it seven stars? I would have to admit that, while I found this winter very entertaining, I would much rather have spent it in Honaloulu.

Steve

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 olde-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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COMBO**

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

Masthead

Help! Is this National Apathy Week? Where is everybody? Thanks to lack of support from the math student body this is a decidedly *SHORT* issue. Thanks to the people who did come out: Penny Watt, Dave Nuttall, Steve Smith, and Kivi Shapiro.

Of course a special thanks to Marion and Graphic Services, because they're always there when you need them.

Paul and Dave

In Defense of mathNEWS

Recently, *mathNEWS* has come under fire from a variety of printed sources. Most notably in the Imprint, and the K-W Record.

We believe, as editors, we are primarily responsible to the intended audience of the paper. The article that was in question was called "How to Get Girls." It is the editors' firm conviction that this article is funny and that it would be found funny by the majority of readers of *mathNEWS*. If it happened that an article offended a large majority of the readership, then it could be considered in poor taste. It happens that there was only one letter of complaint sent to the *mathNEWS* in response to "Girls." The Record reported that "several" complaints were received, but the fact is that they were not received by us. *mathNEWS* has yet to receive any formal complaint from any sort of organization, or group.

Why are these publications and groups are so willing to rant and rave about us but not talk to us and explain their concerns? We believe that these papers have acted in an extremely irresponsible (i.e. hyper) manner by publishing accusations that have not been made to us.

Paul J. Sahota
and
Dave Weil

Fed Report

We are sorry that there has not been a Fed Report yet this term. Unfortunately, of your fine representatives only two are on campus at this time and both of us were involved in the election/referendum and chose not to use *mathNEWS* as a forum to speak.

Let's talk Fed stuff now. The winners of the election/referendum are John Velinga, President, Kim Speers, as VPUA and Tess Slivinsky as VPOF and CFS-YES.

Winterfest was a success with more events and better attendance than in years past. The Student Life Building has been put on hold for a while because we could not prepare an information package in time for a referendum this term.

24 hour bank machines are on the way but no word on arrival time. Nominations are being accepted for Student Leadership Awards. Nominations close on March 27 and the awards will be announced on April 1 at a special banquet sponsored by Waterloo Christian Fellowship and the Federation of Students. If you have any questions please call us at either the MathSOC Office or at the Fed Office.

A closing note. Your new reps are Jeff Hornby, Seema Wadhura, and Patrick Wong.

garbled mess and
Roger Tudor



ISSN 0705-0410

mathNEWS is normally a bi-weekly publication funded by and responsible to, but otherwise independent of, the Mathematics Society at the University of Waterloo. Content is the responsibility of the *mathNEWS* editor; however, any opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of MathSoc or *mathNEWS*. Send your correspondence to: *mathNEWS*, MC3041, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, or to userid mathnews@watserv1 on USENET.

Editor: David Weil and Paul J. Sahota

CSC Flash!

Or, half a column in half an hour

Not to outdo last issue, the intrepid CSCFlasher has left off writing the article until half an hour before the I/O room closes and is writing it on the condition that it fills up a half-column. Anyhow, we have had lots that is to be going on in the near future, so here goes:

- the *wedgeD* dinner is coming up on us quickly. Make your preferences known on the blackboard in the office as to when &&/|| where you want to eat.
- Our next (and probably last) talk of the term is coming up. Look out for posters about a small talk by Jim Boritz on (you guessed it) SmallTalk, a computer language. The talk will be subtitled for those of you who don't understand the language.
- This just in: the Computer Science Club is throwing, uh, putting together a team to compete in the SUNYA Programming Games, being held at the State University of New York at Albany on March 31. If you want one more thing in your hectic schedule coming into finals, please leave a note at the club or an e-note at tbvanbelle@watcgl. We should be having a seminar about programming contests yesterday or today (featuring the outspoken Eric Veach), so keep your eyes peeled for publicity material. (Note: we are also starting to prepare for the ACM's annual Regional Programming Contest in the fall, and if you want to pitch in... you know.)

During the last executive meeting, David Nuttall, Kivi Shapiro, Colin Plumb, Terry Van Belle and Steve Garan were added to the list of authorised Office Staffers, so look forward to the office being open somewhat more often now.

Calum T. Dalek

