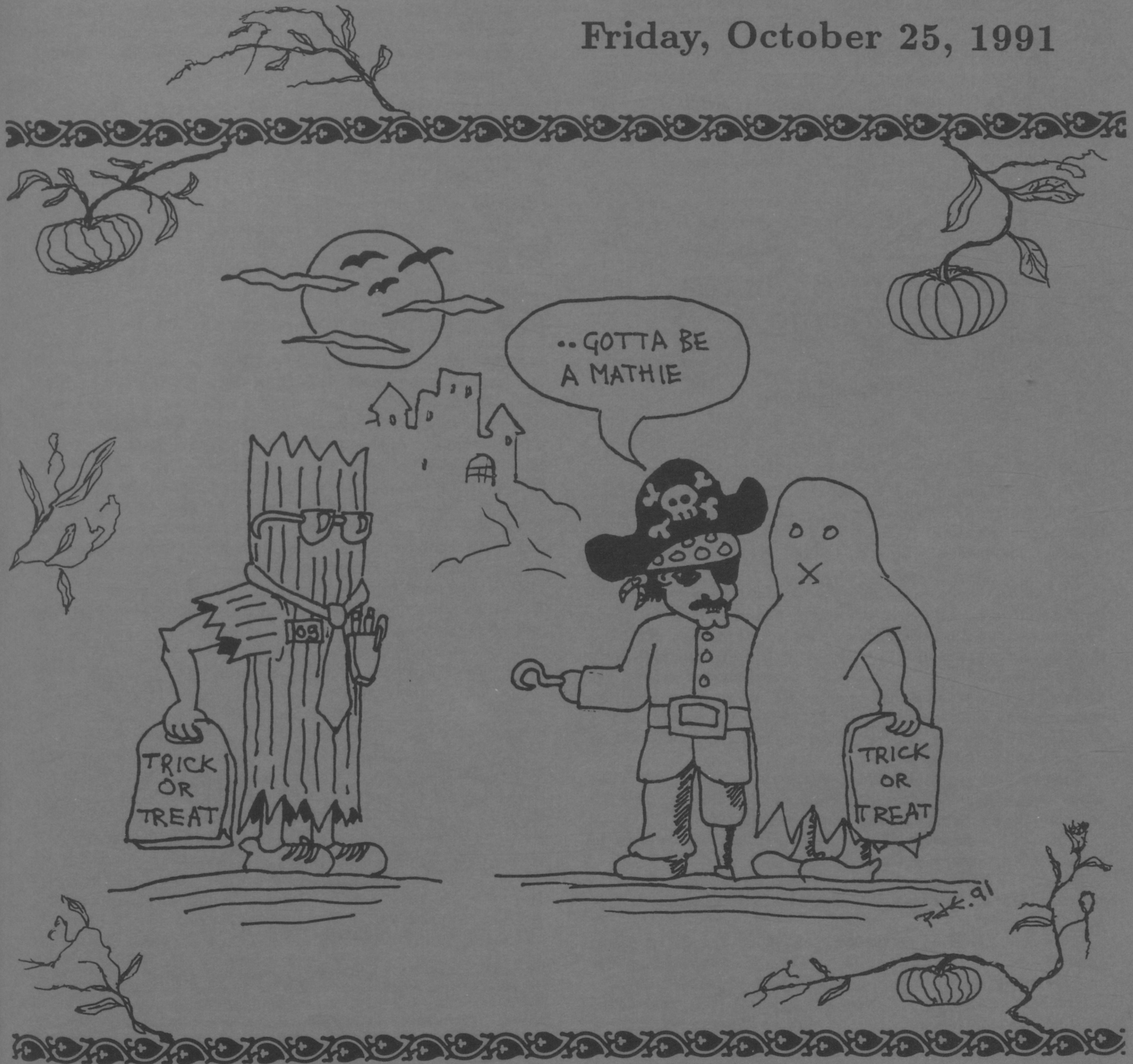


Volume 57 Number 4

math **NEWS**

Friday, October 25, 1991



Look Ahead

mathNEWS	
November 4	Issue #5 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
November 8	Issue #5 hits the stands
Information Sessions	
October 28	M.B.A./Management Science 4:30pm, MC 5158
October 29	3B CS Info Night 7:00pm, location TBA
MathSoc	
October 31	Rocky Horror
November 9	Car Rally
Co-op	
October 31	Interviews end
November 1	Ranking forms available
Cinema Gratis	
October 29	The Big Chill



Prez Sez

The events have been eventful this term! Have I captured your interest yet? The first two lines of an article should grab the reader's attention!

The Undergraduate Affairs Committee is busy changing around our courses. Their recommendations will be sent to the Faculty of Mathematics Council on Tuesday, October 22nd. So by the time you read this the outcome will already be decided. The recommendations being presented are as follows. Note the changes take place as of next academic year if they are approved.

The Computer Science courses are being changed around yet again. The first year courses, and the CS major courses will be changed. Now a CS major will be able to take 4th year courses in 3B! CS/Bus major will not be offered anymore. CS/Information Systems will be taking its place.

Business majors will be offering another area of specialty: The Risk Management & Insurance Package. It combines Act Sci courses with an already strong Math/Bus program.

New Act Sci courses will be offered — The Introduction to Casualty Insurance, and Casualty Insurance.

Changes to C&O courses and programs are colossal. C&O 270 will no longer be able to count towards a Math Honours Degree and many more...

If you are interested in the decision of the Faculty of Mathematics Council in regards to the issues above or anything else contact myself or Jason Fournier through the MathSoc office.

The Mac Lab is almost here — the locks are being put on the door as you read this article — drop by to check it out!

MathSoc is here for you — please stop by and ask any questions!

Dee Vint
President

MGC '92 Update

Thanks to everyone who came out to the Grad Info Session last Thursday. (We apologize to all Accounting students who were unable to attend due to a conflict.) Here's a recap on a few things:

- Yearbook sales have been going on all this week on the 3rd floor, in front of the display case. **TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER!** 1992 Yearbooks are \$25 each, with only \$2 extra for a personalized copy. And for this week only... a **FREE** copy of the Group Photo will be included in the purchase price. (This offer won't be available in the winter term.)
- The **KOLOSSAL KEGGER** party is tonight! Tickets are available from MathSoc and the MGC office for \$5. Tickets at the door are \$6. Starts at 8:00 p.m. at Weaver's Arms. For those who won't be drinking, admission is free.
- Next week: The Amazing MGC Bake Sale! Wednesday, October 30th, on the 3rd floor outside the C+D. Volunteers are needed to show off their culinary expertise! Drop by the MGC office during our office hours and sign up. All efforts will be rewarded.
- Upcoming: Bowling Night on November 7th.

Appealing to all artists! We would like a shirt designed for this term. Please submit all designs to the MGC office by 10:00 a.m., Monday, October 28th.

Want to be in the yearbook? We are actively searching for all pictures that you have of you and your friends. Please leave your pictures, along with your name in the MGC slot in MathSoc. (Negatives are not necessary, but pictures can not be returned.)

If you ever have a question, please feel free to drop by our office, MC 3029. If you aren't on our volunteer list, sign up soon! Volunteers are needed for upcoming events and to help publicize them. Get involved and make your graduating year a year to remember!!

Thanks to everyone who has already contributed their time and effort.

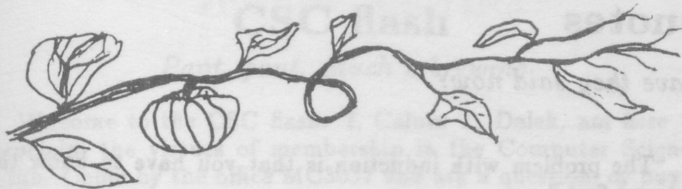
Angie
MGC Chairperson



ISSN 0705-0410

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Editor: Mike Reade, Betty-Jo Hill



Pure Math C&O Club column of the (bi-)week

in which free lunch is at last laid bare

Well, well, well...

Yes, it's once again time for your friendly neighbourhood PMC update.

Yes, herein will at last be revealed what Cayley said to Cauchy after Cantor told them that arbitrary A and B were off intersecting in the bushes while the Sylow groupies were demonstrating against the increase in increasing functions with negative derivatives almost nowhere, but at the same time Madge was heard to say, "you're soaking in it", referring of course to the now (in)famous theorem of Jumpin' Jack Flash to the effect that his condensation points were dripping into his open sets and flooding our beloved club office.

Yes, all this and less, right here in front of your very own face.

First of all, talks. Professor Tenti spoke yesterday on the connections between mathematics and the natural sciences. I can't give you more details as I haven't been there yet. Our next talk is on Monday, Oct. 28 at 4:30pm in MC 4062. Professor Ravi from stats will be giving a talk. You may know him from his frequent contributions to a certain mathNEWS column, which I shall leave unmentioned. Please note the time change. That is for this talk only, we will try and stick to Thursday afternoon. Professors Wagner and Dickey will be giving talks on November 7 and 14, respectively. Doughnaughts and pop will be available, as per usual.

I can't give you any more details on upcoming social events, as they have not yet been finalized. We are still taking movie requests for our movie weekend, to be scheduled soon. In sports, we won our last football game on Thursday. Yes, we have a football team, and we actually won. Hey, I'm impressed. Our next and last volleyball game will be on all hallow's eve. Yes, the 31st. We plan to win, and furthermore we plan to do so dressed in 15th century period costume. Well, maybe not. But come out and cheer us on anyway. And furthermore, we issue an open challenge to any other club: we will take you on in the game of your choice. preferably circular-saw-blade frisbee on the sixth floor (to the death), but we'll accept any other sport as well.

On an administrative level, you might want to know that the PMC club is now officially the Pure Math and C&O club. In fact, I'll go change the title of this article right now. This raises the question: do we therefore need a second mascot? To solve this problem, I will declare a contest. Do we need another mascot, and if so, who should it be? I will personally buy one lunch at the C+D (sub and a drink) for whoever submits the best answer. Leave answers at the office (MC3033) marked "attention: promotions officer". Submissions must pass minimum criterion standards as defined by P.H. (writing "bob" is not a valid answer). Contest not open to employees of General Dynamics or any other yicky mega-corporations. Only members are eligible to receive the grand prize. Memberships are of course available for a mere one dollar from our office (MC3033). Anything exalting the eternal glory of pure math, c&o, or Bert will earn you bonus marks.

Jeanie

SocTalk

Another Monday, another column...

It's been a vunderbar couple of weeks since we last met. Thursday, of course, a whole bunch of mathies went to University Night at Bingeman Park, and it was great! And, I hear, everyone was well-behaved on the buses - no complaints. (Well, maybe the "Dare you dare you" girl!) Also, two weeks ago we had a barbeque for charity, and we managed to raise about \$200 which has been split between the K-W food drive and our local chapter of Childfind. Thanks to Sharon and the PMC, Eric, Brent, and everyone who came out to support the cause!

Upcoming events include our Hallowe'en Extravaganza (on Hallowe'en, of course) consisting of a costume contest, pumpkin carving contest (reserve your pumpkin in MathSoc!) and (of course) the Rocky Horror Picture Show which is gonna be wild! Be there or be sorry! Plans are also in the works for a Fed Hall night, another pub at the Bomber, a car rally during homecoming, and other good stuff. Watch for details on those 8-1/2x11 posters you find all over the math building — they're occasionally informative.

Thanks to EC for last issue's column.

Until next issue... Keep on partying!

Karen Wasslen
Social Affairs Director

P.S. I just wrote the last midterm of my university career. What a feeling!

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Prof Quotes

What dumb things have they said now?

"Nagging is a form of negative reinforcement. 'Take out the garbage. Take out the garbage. Take out the garbage.' Sometimes I have to say it four or five hundred time before she'll do it."

Cameron, PSYCH 101

"Don't take notes on what I say unless you find it totally fascinating... which is probably most of the time."

Limber, MATH 235

"Remember the other day when we did something with something. Tell me if I'm being too vague."

Limber, MATH 235

"In America, they say, 'In God we trust.' In STAT 231, you also say, 'In God we trust.'"

Ravi, STAT 231

"I don't even know a damn thing about this..."

Ravi, STAT 231

"Geologists used the word 'cleavage' first."

Roberts, Earth 121

"We'll make it more complicated just for the hell of it."

Roberts, Earth 121

"This is one of those limits that says, 'Divide me in two, and do me from both sides!'"

Wainwright, MATH 137

"... the kinky little spot — that's what I'm worried about."

Zorzitto, MATH 147

"If you don't know logarithms, good for you."

Zorzitto, MATH 147

"My throat feels like the bottom of a parrot's cage... a very live, active, defecating parrot."

Morrison, Physics 121

"Now, I'm not going to put an infinite number of steps on the blackboard — we've only got 50 minutes, we don't have time for that."

Morrison, Physics 121

"On the test, make sure you say 'I can do this because I learned the theorem in class,' not 'I can do this because I have some instinct in my body which tells me it's right.'"

Zorzitto, MATH 147

"She's bitching cause she's a bitch, and bitching is what bitches do."

Cameron (talking about his wife), PSYCH 101

"I can talk big when she's not here."

Cameron, PSYCH 101

"The problem with induction is that you have to know the answer first."

Gilbert, MATH 145

"Oh, that's right, you don't spend your entire life doing calculus, do you?"

Dickey, MATH 135

"Is there a simplification? Since I ask this question, it must be possible."

Wong, STAT 230

"Being the way I am, I told him I wanted his daughter."

Ravi, STAT 230

"If any of you get less than 80 on the midterm I'll kick you out of this class."

Ravi, STAT 230

"Easy means homework question."

Limber, MATH 235

"Please keep your eyes on your paper. If I do catch anyone cheating, I will do the worst thing possible... tell your mom."

Rempel, PSYCH 253



"It's good that you pointed out this mistake, because now you can see that I'm an idiot, too."

Hewitt, MATH 216

"... wait a minute — I didn't make any mistake. What are you talking about?"

Hewitt, MATH 216

"I woke up this morning and went through my usual routine, but I couldn't find my teeth."

Morrison, PHYS 121

"... equals two-fifths sine 2x, plus the other shit."

Hewitt, MATH 216

"I think of (yo)u as a variable."

Richmond, MATH 227

"Not all instructors are geeks. Don't write that down Michael."

Ravi, STAT 230

"I have made it a point since I was a kid to be the envy of everyone."

Ravi, STAT 230

"If I can do whatever I hope to do, I'm a god."

Ravi, STAT 230

CSC flash

Pant, pant. Much a-brewing

Welcome to the CSC flash. I, Calum T. Dalek, am here to proclaim the virtues of membership in the Computer Science Club. Come by the office MC3037 and ask a question, or buy a membership, and have some tea.

There are several talks coming up this term. The first will be a talk for first and second year math students explaining how to access your descartes account and use electronic mail and news. It will be held Tuesday, October 29, at 3 PM in the Maple Lab (MC3007). If you haven't yet used your account, see the consultants in MC3011. They will activate your account if you have ID. Also, be sure to pick up the introduction to Unix which is available there.

For 3B students, there is the annual 3B info night, also on Tuesday the 29th. On Thursday October 31, there will be a talk about Ethics and Computer Science by Conrad Brunk. There will be a micro C++ talk coming up in the next two weeks, which is a followup to the lecture on C++ which was yesterday (Thursday evening). Look for posters for all of these events. Tea and Doughnaughts will be served.

Also, on November 23, we will have the 8th annual CSC Othello Tournament. You need to enter by November 16th, so come by MC3037 (the office), and ask a friendly Office Staffer for a copy of the rules, and an entry form. The fee is \$7 for non members and \$4 for members. It can be written in any language, and run on any computer. It should be a lot of fun.

The money for the CSC t-shirts and sweatshirts are due today, so send in your preferences and deposit sometime today. An \$8 deposit for a t-shirt, or \$15 deposit for a sweatshirt is required. If your friends get one too, then the price will be less than the deposit.

Now on to more exciting news. I have been busy with a recent discovery in the american southwest. It seems that I have found a prehistoric computing device. Like modern devices, it is silicon, with impurities. Experts at Stanford are examining the device in an attempt to determine its operating principles, although success is unlikely. Once the initial examination is complete, they will be sending the device here for permanent display. Perhaps the exec can get it up and running, replacing the machine recently stolen.

Keep informed, and read uw.csc, or come by the office for an interesting chat. I must fly now, but you'll be seeing my representatives everywhere.

Calum T. Dalek

Club Stat

Special Member-only Tutorials

What	Date	Time	Where
STAT231	Friday, October 25	7-9pm	DC1350
STAT230	Monday, October 28	7-9pm	DC1350

The Club Stat Bash will be held the second weekend in November. Details to be announced.

Memberships are still available in our temporary office MC3030 whenever the door is open. Good luck to all on their STAT midterms.

The Prez and Vice

ActSci Club

This is going to be a short report because the V.P. is tired and there are not a lot of events in the near future. (Some of us have actuarial exams to write on top of midterms and Oktoberfesting.) Our last two events were a big success. We sold all of the tickets to Yuk Yuk's and there was a large turnout for the lecture given by our friend the hat lady—Daphne Bartlett—the President of the SOA.

Coming Events:

- November 1-13—Exams
- November 22—11:30 Ray Digby, talk on "Non-Traditional Careers" (room TBA)
- mid November—"Party at the Farm" (transportation arranged)

Good luck on your exams, everyone.

Remember: Memberships still available in MC 3030.

The Rhymster, Kevin Reimer

P.S. Anyone sold a T-shirt yet?

Vegetable Substitute Found in Coffee!!

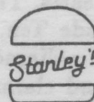
I was at home last week, with my cat Nibblet, and my budgie, Tweetie when I actually sat down and read the box that contained the dried vegetables that I had eaten for supper. And I realized that there were essentially the same ingredients in that as there were in a bag of coffee. Then I got to thinking.

If we drink coffee, then does that mean we don't need to eat vegetables? I wanted to find out, so I talked with Dr. Root at the Institute for Higher Understanding of Fruit in Idaho, and he did indeed confirm that Coffee is a supplement for most nutrition in your diet. Indeed, if you consume 15 cups of coffee a day, and nothing else, you will not only be extremely healthy, but you will also be primed to get your Computer Science degree at any major University.

So I am presently consuming all I can, and I'll admit, I do feel that energy running through my veins.

I'm Andy Rooney

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Expires Nov. 8th/91

Bridge over Troubled Waters

It was a dark day in the land of Hey University. Not many people were awake when the impossible happened, but the word spread like wildfire. Ace had been beaten.

It was the annual University rubber bridge Individual, and all the regulars were there, ready for a chance at the prize, a trip to Las Vegas for 2. The score was tight, but with one board to go, Ace was winning by 210 points. This was what he held on the final deal:

♠ KJ9
♥ AKQ
♦ AKQJ
♣ AKQ

How could he go wrong? This was the best hand he had seen in his life, and soon that trip would be his. He was ready, deciding what to open the bidding, whether to be gentle, or just crank out 6NT and hope for the best. Then the unbelievable happened. Jack, his RHO, opened with 1 Spade!! Ace couldn't believe his ears, but he temporized with a double, and heard The Count DeThyrin responded 2 Spades. Really. This, as weird as it sounded, was just too much. It then went Pass, 4 Spades from Jack, like he meant it!!! Enough was enough, thought Ace, and he just bid 6NT and let be done with it, and then a most wonderful things happened. The Count bid 7 Spades!! There was NO way that this could make. He started thinking about the sun, the shows, the gambling, but not so much that he forgot to double.

This was the hand

	ACE	
	♠ KJ9	
	♥ AKQ	
	♦ AKQJ	
	♣ AKQ	
JACK		COUNT
♠ AQT87		♠ 65432
♥ void		♥ 5432
♦ void		♦ 5432
♣ 98765432	VICTOR	♣ void
	♠ void	
	♥ JT9876	
	♦ T9876	
	♣ JT	

After the opening lead of the Jack of Hearts, The Count ruffed in hand, ruffed a club, Finessed the spade Ten, ruffed a club, finessed the Queen, ruffed a club, ruffed a diamond, played the Ace of spades to pull the last trump, and claimed. MAKING SEVEN!!

What had gone wrong? The Count was gloating. The score was enough to put him in first and he was already packing his bags. Before he left, he tried to find Ace, but couldn't. It was as though he had just disappeared.

Ace Upmysleeve

Ultraclassifieds

Bugs,
Have you seen 'Creator'?

C.

Ross,
50 yards, 60 yards, 100 yards...

Norma

M Sci 211,
Hey, down in front wearing the trenchcoat, SIT DOWN!!!!

The guys behind you

M.W. (AKA Mr. Defensive),
Si senior.

Andrea

Dorset Babe,
Apples & pears and tons of pash.

263K H2O

Sandra,
Mais non. Hi need 'elp wit my algy-brah. (And make her fast 'cause my car, she's parked twice.)

Unanimous

Rob D.,
It's so nice to see you again.

Rob M.

Julie Andrews,
Can't wait to see you in your hooker outfit. Or is it an outfit?
Rapunzel masquerading as Butter Co-op

Math Frosh,
Either be quiet in lecture or transfer to Carleton!!

Get Serious

Hey Miss,
Heyrow, my name is Chawree.

Chawree

Hey You!
If you see a white bear that answers to the name Queasy, could you please tell him to come back to the MathSoc office...I promise not to hog the bed.

Blonde Ambition

Everyone
I just want you all to know that I hurt.

Rex

To All:
This is to certify that the opinions of some members concerning footwear and the attractiveness of said items do not reflect the official opinion of all members.

A president of THE WWG



Midterm Affirmation

(Stuart Smalley is a caregiver, a nurturer, and a member of several twelve step programs. However, he is not a licensed therapist.)

Hi, my name is Stuart Smalley, and this is Midterm Affirmation.

Before we get started, I want to apologise for last week's column. I had just bombed a midterm and I was a little frazzled and lost my train of thought several times. Getting drunk first was a mistake, but I admit that, but thats ... okay, because I'm human and I'm allowed to make mistakes.

And the column before that was also not one of my best, because I was about to write a midterm that I hadn't studied enough for and I was too tense and a little cranky. But I won't dwell on that, because I refuse to beat myself up.

Okay. I'm glad we got that little part over with, because it is not my favourite part of the article. Which is not to say that I'm uncomfortable with my past performance, just that I don't want to prejudice this week's column. I feel good, because I'm smart enough, I'm good enough, and dog-gone-it, people like me.

Now for today's column. I haven't had any time to prepare anything, what with writing midterms and studying for midterms and worrying about midterms and wondering why on earth we have to go through this hell and why my life is coming to such an overloaded state and... (deep breath)... but I don't want to talk about that right now. I want to talk about today's article. I'm just going to let it formulate in my mind and express my thoughts in a clear and concise manner.

Okay, I'm drawing a blank. And I'm getting nervous, because today's article isn't going very well, and I feel as though maybe, maybe I should just go home and cry myself to sleep (sob). But no (sob), I refuse to think negative thoughts. That's just stinking thinking, and I refuse to beat myself up. I am visualizing a successful column. I can see it now.

Okay, it's not working. I've completely screwed up, and I wouldn't be surprised if the editor cancelled my series. But I know that I can do better, because I am a human being and what I think is important. I am worth listening to.

Alright, that's all the time I have for today, so I guess that it's time for our midterm affirmation. Look at your reflection in the monitor; don't look at me, look at you, because only you can help you. Now say to yourself: I am a human being. I am special. I am intelligent. Even if I fail a midterm, or two, or three, it doesn't mean that I am stupid. I am my own person. I am smart enough, I am good enough, and dog-gone-it, people like me!

Self-affirmed Fuzzy
McGyver

The Secret Of Our Success (to the tune of Sit On My Face)

Come to my place and copy my statistics
I'll come to your place and copy your CS lab
I love to help you calculate
When you help me integrate
It gets me an A
Meet in the lounge to finish our assignment
If only the photocopier was working
If the profs realize
that we all plagiarize
They'll be kicking our asses
In all of our classes
All day...
'Til we pass away



A message from the Coalition for the Ethical Treatment of Balloons

We stand for the rights of balloons everywhere.
We aim to stop the following cruel acts:

- Poking balloons and throwing them around.
- Stepping on balloons.
- Making balloons high and sending them on a "trip" by releasing them in public places.
- Or the worst, the water balloon fate whereby the balloon is hurled at great velocity and enjoys an ever so brief thrill which is ended abruptly.

Through our lobbying efforts, we hope to ban such abusive research and experimentation, and instead keep them in only well protected reserves, or have them returned to their natural habitat — the rubber plant forests of Brazil.

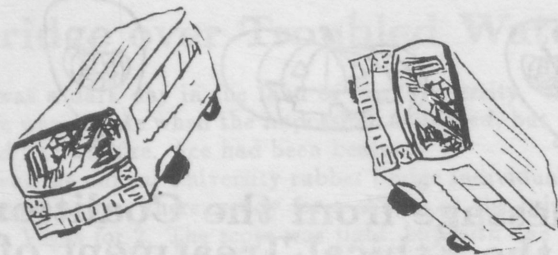
Thank you for your time.

Sgub Ynnub
Your Local Representative

WLU and UW are hosting a Joint M.B.A. and Management Science Information Session

Monday, October
28, 1991
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
MC5158

Wednesday, October
30, 1991
4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
CPH 338



Object Oriented Transmission Protocols on GreyhoundNet

As outlined in last issue's column, all data transmitted across GreyhoundNet's bus lines is in the form of either a passenger-structure or a baggage-structure. Let us first concentrate on the first of these.

A typical passenger-structure is an object containing several gigabytes or terabytes of useless information. It has some pre-programmed AI faculties, so it is in fact possible to tell a passenger-structure where to go and it will be able to find its destination without further prompting. As the net is not free, each passenger structure is associated with a ticket, which is the way to ensure the legitimacy of any given passenger-structure's passage on a given bus line.

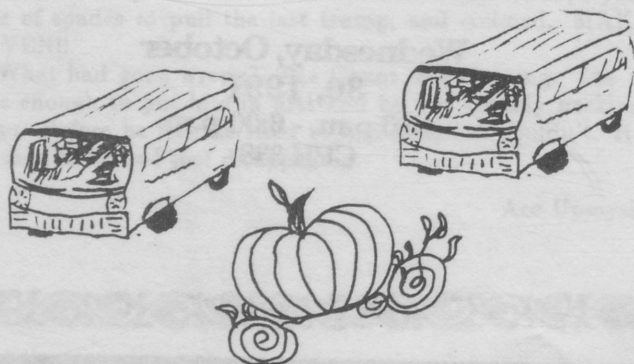
As most passengers also point at, or carry, one or more database-like baggage-structures, which may at times be stored in different media or even on different buses, there must exist a system to uniquely associate each baggage-structure with one passenger. This is done with a novel technique known as the baggage tag.

Each baggage-structure inherits a pointer, or tag, from its passenger-structure. This tag also contains other useful information such as destination and routing so that independent handling routines can forward the baggage rather than the passenger having to transport it at each interface node. This is purely a convenience measure, but it greatly enhances the attractiveness of GreyhoundNet as a data-transfer mechanism.

As far as uploading and downloading are concerned, the procedure has to be mostly automatic, as the interface between bus and platform exhibits a great deal of variation. Generally a passenger-structure waits in the terminal, which is a network of platforms as well as a network-server known for some obscure reason as a waiting lounge, until the bus for which they have a ticket arrives at a platform. The local Ethernet announces the departure of all bus lines to every passenger-structure, and it is up to the structure itself to upload, or board, itself and its baggage.

In the next issue, we will examine the architecture of the bus itself, as well as the platforms and local networks.

Mr. Death



Edible Condoms?

A short time ago, there was an article in the *Globe and Mail* concerning the use of chocolate bar wrappers as condoms in Australia. This was a serious article, but how could we let it pass us by? Just think of the possible pick-up lines: 'Hey baby, wanna see Mr. Big?', 'Hey, You got chocolate in my peanut butter...', 'If you've got three friends, I've got a Kit-Kat you can share.'

The advertising companies have known about the property of the wrappers for some time it seems: 'Snickers really satisfies.', 'A Mars bar a day, at work, rest or play.', 'M&M's melt in your mouth, not in your hand.', 'Oh Henry, It'll get you every time.', 'You better not lay a finger on my Butterfinger.', 'The only thing better than your Crispy Crunch, is someone else's.', and of course 'You can take it fast, you can take it slow, you can make it last, you can make it go.'

Some companies seem to be trying to use the name of their chocolate as the advertisement: Skör, Hershey Kisses, Oh Henry, Mr. Big, Big Turk, Sweet Marie, Wunderbar, Cherry Blossom, Milky Way, Three Musketeers, Eat More, and Temptation.

I'll leave you with these thoughts: How come Almond Joys got nuts, and Mounds don't? Is that a Mirage? And just how do they get that soft creamy caramel inside the Caramilk bar?

The Wiz.

Other Random People
(Thanks Ed)

MastHead

Aren't midterms the worst? I haven't written any yet, but I haven't started studying for them yet either. The stress, the guilt. All this and interviews, too! (I know, I should be grateful for getting interviews, and I am. They provide an excuse for not studying, right?) So enough for this masthead that no one wanted to write.

Here's the list of faithful who came out this week to help put this paper together, along with their favourite thing to cut with a machete: Shannon Mann (wordy articles); Christina Caldarelli (milestones); Eric Sutherland (computer terminals); Mike Hammond (certain CS profs...); Sara Feyler (Meech Lake accord); Chris Beauregard (small, cute, defenseless animals); Michael Melvin (engineers (hardhat—engineer's option)); Monica Rooney (the grass at P.O.E.T.S.); Rob Del Mundo (rap records/New Kids On The Block members); Dale Wick (carrots); Ellen Hsiang (pile-ons); Curtis Desjardins (Sadomasochistic Pink Fluffy Tutus); Sharlene Schmeichel (Vogon ships); Philip Rittenhouse (trick-or-treaters); Bill McEachern (Politically Correct People); Dee Vint (anything within reach); Chris Reuter (orchid); Erich Jacoby (body hairs); Brent McDermott (mosquito foreskins); Mike Abramczuk (ginsu); Ian Goldberg (anyone from whom I'm extorting money); Barb Torner (the person who took Queasy!); and Craig Hughes (the person reading this).

Thanks also to Gino's Pizza (even though Mike ordered olives on one of the pizzas again), Marion from Graphics Services, and whatever radio station we subjected ourselves too (97.7, but we had complaints). Til next time...

Betty-Jo Hill (people, except myself, who cut things with a machete)

Mike Reade (Macinti)

The Continuing Adventures of Major Booboo, Agent of CSIS

This episode: Booboo really gets killed for sure

"I don't think this is going to work," Booboo said for the fortieth time. "Undercover operations always work," answered WATCSC. "Now put your costume back on, get in the creek and remember to talk in quacks."

"Well, alright..." Booboo went back into the creek. "Quack," he said half-heartedly. Ever since he had run that crime-solving software on WATCSC

Program: *sherlock*

Syntax: *sherlock* [options] [crime-type]

Options:

- w Refers to user as "Watson"
- n Narrates as the case progresses
- p unused
- v Causes the program to have violent tendencies towards suspects
- f Causes periodic (iteratively implemented) flashbacks to 'Nam

Bugs: If no crime has been committed, Sherlock often commits one and then proceeds to frame someone (usually the user) for it.

To Sherlock, the phrase "user friendly" is meaningless.

A mallard approached Booboo. "Quack quack quaaaak!" it said. "What's it saying?" Booboo asked the computer, which was nestled in his pocket. "A literal translation is, 'Hey baby, are you free tonight?'" the computer answered. At this point, Booboo suddenly noticed that it was in fact a Daisy Duck costume that he was wearing. "Quaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaack!" he exclaimed and frantically paddled away.

(Aside: The discriminating reader (at least the one who hasn't yet turned the page) will at this point be wondering how Booboo can carry an Amiga computer around in his pocket without making a noticeable bulge. To explain how, here is Dr. Ima Fraud, professor of Vague Calculus at the University of Kitcherloo:

Let $f(x)$ represent the amount of volume remaining in Booboo's pocket and $g(x)$ represent the amount of computer not in the pocket, where x is the distance of the edge of the computer's case from the bottom of the pocket.

Then:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0} = 1$$

To verify that the division is accurate, we multiply back:

$$1 * 0 = 0$$

) There was the sound of loud splashing, and suddenly the biggest duck Booboo had ever seen entered the creek. It had a little tooth-brush moustache under the bill and swastikas on each wing.

"My fellow ducks," It began (in duck, of course.) "Often, we have been mistreated by these so-called higher life forms." The speech continued, building to a frenzy of hatred.

Suddenly, Booboo recognized the voice. "Of course!" he said to the computer. "That's Ducktor Death, the Maniacal Mallard from Memphis, one of my arch-villains. He told me he'd reformed. That lying duck!"

"Apparently, Watson, he's trying to cause a revolt among the ducks."

"We have to do something," Booboo said. Quickly, he tried to think of something. Fifteen minutes later, he was still trying. After another half-hour of deep thought, a conclusion came to him. "I've got it!" he exclaimed. "WATCSC. Flame him."

"OK," said the computer. A cloud of fire came out of the computer's serial port and roasted Ducktor Death in seconds.

"Well, I guess that's it," the computer said as it began listing ways of framing Booboo for some crime.

"Not quite," Booboo said. "Look." He pointed to the engineering building.

There was a big banner hanging from the wall. It read, "Third annual villains convention."

"Curses! Foiled again," said WATCSC.

Dances with Mind
Agent Fuzzy

More Than A Passing

Sung to 'More Than A Feeling' by Boston

(Dedicated to all of you midterm-writers out there.)

I looked out this morning, and the sun was gone
Chugged down some caffeine to start my day
'Cause I lost my sleep from the night before
I learned those proofs, then they slipped away...

Chorus:

It's more than a passing (more than a passing)
That I need, so I'll pray and pray (more than a passing)
Cramming and screaming (more than a passing)
Then I see all my marks slip away
I see my average slipping away...

So much material has come and gone
My memory fades as the days go by
And I can't recall a damn thing at all
What's a 'square root' and how much is 'pi'?

(repeat Chorus)

When they're all done, I drink a beer
Hide in the 'Shelter, forget the day
And dream of the marks I could have had
I close my eyes and they slip away...

They slip awaaaaaaay...

(repeat Chorus, then fail... er, fade)

The Medieval Gladiator

Rhetoric

Ben Johnson ... given a conditional discharge for assault on Cheryl Thibideau ... Oh well, if he runs and jumps bail, he'll be easy to catch ... How many sports fans who scoffed (and are still scoffing) at Atlanta's successful bid for the Olympics are now showing a "generous" amount of support for the world series Braves? ... speaking of which, does anyone else out there find that "Tomahawk Chop" a tad bit annoying, like a little more that a power drill penetrating your skull? ...

Top three things that I learned about the Clarence Thomas/Anita Hill fiasco were:

1. Saturday Night Live never misses a beat.
2. The traffic on rec.humor always goes up in the heat of these things.
3. A new way to pronounce "harassment" in the 90's ... apparently you stress the first syllable.

The Medieval Gladiator

Blues in CS Major (to the tune of Suitcase Blues)

It's four in the morning, there's not a soul around
This CS assignment has really got me down
A Waterloo student, I'm majoring in Math
Been in the lab so long I can't remember my last bath
I'm in a double-major program, and I've got the CS blues real bad
I'm guess I'm getting value for tuition that I paid
Sometimes I think I'm crazy for the choices that I made
Halfway through compiling, and then the system crashed
My Artsie friends are all down at the Bomber getting smashed
Ah, but me and my professor, and the questions that he writes
I look across the campus and I don't see any lights
I'm in a double-major program, and I've got the CS blues real bad.
I got the blues and I got 'em really bad
These CS blues are the worst I ever had
All by lonesome and I'm halfway through the course
I thought it would be easy but each day it's getting worse
Oh, me and my professor, and the questions that he writes
I look across the campus and I don't see any lights
I'm in a double-major program, and I've got the CS blues real bad
I'm in a double-major program, and I've got the CS blues real bad

Erich the Fuzzy Orchestra Leader
Rhys

mathNEWS truth alert: Every word, every sentence, every paragraph of the following article contains only genuine, 100%-certified error-free truth. Honest!

Elvis Spotted in Saskatoon!

This reporter was somewhat sceptical when, in the 'coming soon' section on the marquee of a local bar, the work 'ELVIS' appeared one day. I mean, you and I both have known that the King of Rock 'n' Roll has been dead for, well, a good long time now. Or so we all thought...

But sure enough, two weeks later our reporter received a message from an anonymous caller: "Like, I work at a gas bar, see, and then one day comes in this guy, see, and he shows me his ID and it said ELVIS! So like I had a hard time believing that, but he came back the next week and did the zack¹ same thing, so like I thought I should tell the news." He had no comment when I asked him why he got in touch with me then.

The attendant, who has asked that his name not be revealed, invited me to monitor the station the next Saturday on the graveyard shift, which is when Elvis usually showed up. For the next two Saturday mornings, I camped out in a cramped booth in the front of a gas bar, hoping to catch a glimpse of Elvis, but he didn't show up. Then on the third week, at about 3 A.M., in comes this guy, picks up a bag of chips, strolls casually up to the cash desk, and out of his mouth came a powerful, melodious voice: "And a pack of Du Maurier Kings. No PST."

(Aside to the 1,999 of you reading this paper who do not reside in Saskatchewan: treaty Indians in the province do not pay provincial sales tax.)

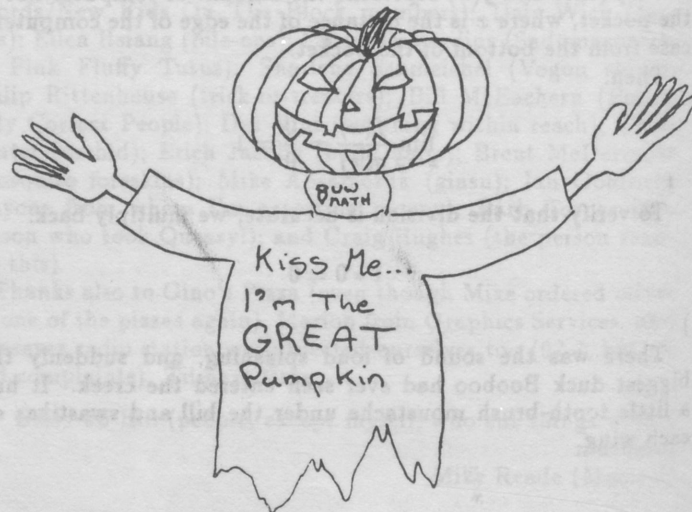
I knew then and there that this was Elvis, but as if to confirm my suspicions, the attendant asked Elvis, "May I see your treaty card?" Elvis opened his wallet and casually laid his card on the counter, with his name plainly typed on the face.² So I can tell you honestly and with a straight face: I saw Elvis last week!

Okay, so he's changed a bit. I mean, if everybody thinks you're dead, you have to go undercover. Now maybe taking on the disguise of a 25-year-old treaty Indian in Saskatoon may seem extreme to you, but then you're not *him*. I'm sure other people in Saskatoon have seen him as well, but no doubt they're the kind of people that write to the Weekly World News or some such trashy paper instead of coming to a bastion of free speech and truth in reporting like mathNEWS. Well, phooey on them.

Mr. Death

¹ Saskatchewan English for 'very'

² No, I won't tell you his last name. It'd spoil the whole story, idiot!



mathNEWSquiz # 3

Greetings all. After last week's deluge of responses, I was saddened to see only 2 solutions submitted this week (were the questions really *that* hard?) Oh, well. We'll see how this week goes. Last week's answers are as follows: 1-Shirley Valentine; 2-Ski School; 3- Body Heat; 4- City Slickers; 5- \$ 847.63; 6- 5:00 to 5:30 pm; 7- 1955 and 1989 (*major* typo here - the question was supposed to be 'What year were Homer and Marge married?', which by the way was 1979); 8- Simpsons Illustrated; 9- the local chapter of SCA (the Society for Creative Anachronism); 10- Pass of the Blue Moon; 11- George C. Scott (for Patton) and Marlon Brando (for The Godfather); 12- Elm St (although Houston St is a debatable answer); 13- Escape Across the Cosmos by Gardner Fox published in 1964 was also published as Titans of the Universe by James Harvey and as Star Chase by Brian James Royal (Royal and Harvey were even rumoured to be the same person); 14- Nightfall by Asimov (part of more than 120 anthologies); 15- All have won *both* the Nebula and Hugo awards for SF literature; 16- All were first novels for the respective authors.

The absolute *horde* of people who submitted answers are as follows: the Waterloo People's Front (5) [we're the People's Front of Waterloo! Splitters! - *ed.*], and our winner with a most respectable 9 plus 1 bonus giving him an astounding 10... drum roll please... The Skankmeisters! Way to go you skanks! Come on up to MathSoc and claim your coveted prize. I'll see if I can take it easy on you guys and restore some audience participation. Hang on to your hats, here we go:

Movie Quotes
(*Yep, name the movie*)

1. "You know, I'm a voter. Aren't you supposed to lie to me and kiss my butt?"
2. "Are you going to stay out there all night, Miss Poopy-Face?"
3. "What's wrong with your breasts? They feel strange."
"They're real."
4. "I've come here to chew bubble gum and kick some ass... and I'm all outta gum."

Mis-Spent Youth
(*oops, I meant 'Kiddie TV'*)

1. Who always rescued Sweet Polly Purebred?
2. Which city was protected by Blue Falcon and Dyno-Mutt?
3. Deidre Hall (Marlene on "Days of Our Lives" - Shwing!) was once a superheroine on the Kroft Supershow. What was her name? (Bonus if you can name her sidekick)
4. What did Fred, Daphne, and Thelma call their vehicle?

Twin Peaks
(*this should be easy*)

1. At the beginning of the series, how many people lived in Twin Peaks?
2. Where was Twin Peaks filmed?
3. How did Nadine lose her eye?
4. What is the Log Lady's real name?

Music
(*name the songs*)

1. You're not shy
You get around
2. So I'm back in the Velvet Underground
3. I can wait another day until I call you
4. What song killed the killer tomatoes in "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes"?

Well, folks, that just about wraps it up this week. Don't bother listening to your prof today - since when does he ever say anything worthwhile anyway? Use your time wisely by filling out the answers to the above questions and submitting them to the BLACK BOX before 6:00 pm on Monday November 4th. Till then, I'm...

Fluffy the Wonder Bunny

GridComments and Other Stories

We had loads of comments for the cryptic, 19 all told of which 13 were right and 6 wrong. But no-one submitted a solution for the Conventional. So no-one gets to win the fabulous prize that we were going to award for it this week. Good luck with this week's grids, they aren't as bad as last week's, but do make certain not to lose your direction.

Correct cryptic solutions were produced by: Skankmeister; the Decadent 1; 3 men from the Arcade (1 missing); Brent Wannabe; The Inebriated Psychief[Toto. I don't think we're in Kansas anymore]; The Demented Slinky of Frobozz; Pcecil; Calista; First World War Noises; Digital Door; Weazle; Seeahs Wunther Teewan-Ehmtu; Gary's Micro Wang. Manifestations of the spelling of 'Fettucine' and 'Ersatz' were produced by: Nameless Grad Student (tm); Jah Wanker Mon; Axel Denkney; Those Frog Guys; Long Distance Pup & the Hammerette.

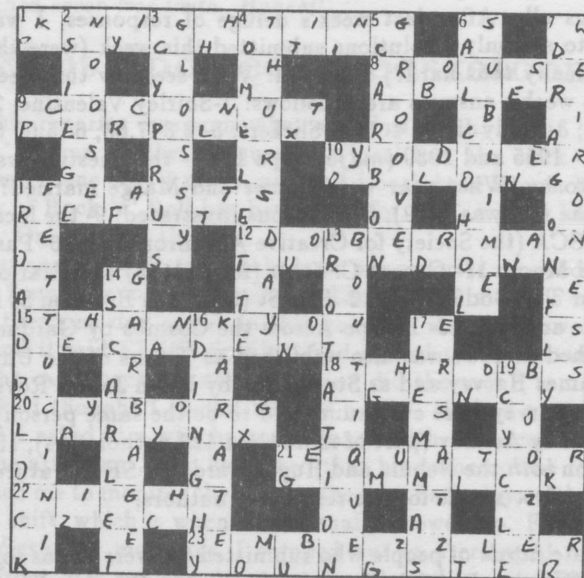
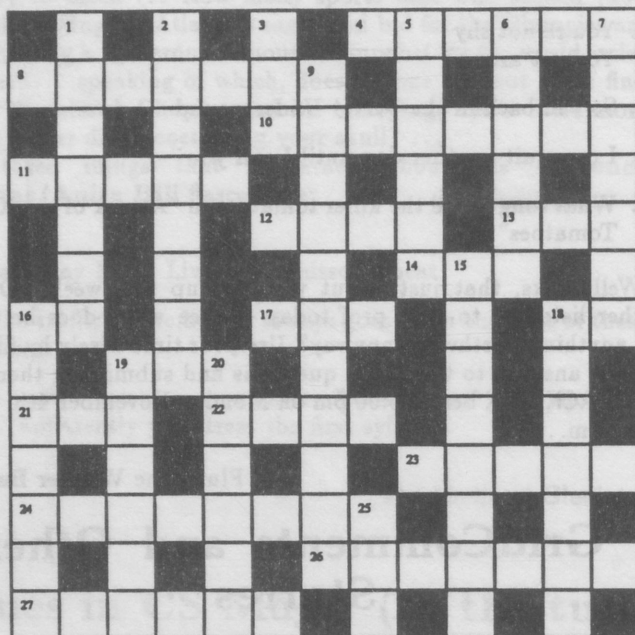
The favourite PseudoFoods of the Math faculty: mathNEWS; Coke with pubic hair; Aqua Velva; Chicken Chocolate Cheesecake; Slimy-Pseudo-Chinese Food; Snankmeat; The Planet Marz; Edible oil products; Red River Cereal; Veiny, Pulsating, throbbing, viscous, potato salad; four 'n twenty blackbirds (baked in a pie); V1 cafeteria cheesecake; rat pudding; McDonald's; Kraft "Cheese & Macaroni"; Villiage Food (see also Guelph); Tuna Taco.

Comments: OPT 261 is useless!; Remember when sex was safe and rock climbing was dangerous?; Save the Lemmings; Too easy again! Maybe if we erase the numbers...; There's something wrong with Mr. Pasloe.; B.S. you little traitor!; Burn, baby, burn...disco inferno; How 'bout those Blue Jays?; The Hurricane Howl lives!!!!; You are Q-le; Everyone Skank one tonight; Only in the DC; Nice alliteration; #4, Trouser gallery; Adrian! Adrian!; What does it take to get in GridComments, eh?

The victors in the battle of the cryptic are the 3 men from the arcade (1 missing). They may pick up their ever-so-heavy prizes from the MathSoc office. Submissions for this week are to be slipped into the BLACK BOX, or the mathNEWS office by 6:30 on November the 4th. Have fun as much fun with the grids, as I had making them for you.

Forever EC

CRIDXCIRD



Conventional

Across

- 4. Second
- 8. Library
- 10. Place in peril
- 11. Christmas Song
- 12. Agreement
- 13. Born
- 14. What you did in the chair
- 16. Either
- 17. Frozen water
- 18. Writing credit
- 19. See ya
- 21. Not an amateur
- 22. Everyone has one.
- 23. Smile
- 24. Hard worker
- 26. Spoil silver
- 27. Everyday

Down

- 1. God for some
- 2. Thinking philosophy
- 3. Tonight
- 5. Hails
- 6. Immediate
- 7. Stealing
- 9. Make better
- 15. Atomic metal
- 16. An inhabitant of a town
- 18. Rustic
- 19. Steamer
- 20. Question
- 25. Dance technique

Cryptic

Across

- 4. He implies, not I, that this is easy
- 8. The sounds we don't hear
- 10. Not odd shaken alcohols at night
- 11. An evil crass mark
- 12. Cats. Go away!
- 13. A long time to wait is the only problem
- 14. Devine
- 16. Exist inside
- 17. Exclamation aged without direction
- 18. The second
- 19. A certificate finds the one
- 21. Make a mess without salt and pepper. SICK!
- 22. Either rusty or hammered
- 23. The witch, found by Phil Dalton
- 24. Moves in directions to move me
- 26. A seeming that I didn't do, but intelligent guys did
- 27. Instructed the girl?

Down

- 1. Scratch in directions for hallowe'en flyer
- 2. Wonderful! Eric flirts without sly beginning
- 3. Cold, not beginning to be kind
- 5. It will explode without eight in, but not hydrogen
- 6. Dee is prone to think
- 7. Don't cue the sequence, to find the core
- 9. Vacation Sue, because we have to get away
- 15. See, drive in a direction for a while and get something
- 16. Questioning leaving
- 18. Gee, Brides are mixed up playing cards
- 19. No more, you're leaving
- 20. Alcohol for underagers, don't end if off, to power vehicles
- 25. Pass up a trip to Florida, for maple blood

Name: _____
 Favourite Jason Movie: _____
 Comments: _____