

Volume 58 Number 1

math **NEWS**

Friday January 17, 1992



OH!! THIS IS GOING TO BE HARD!!

Look Ahead

mathNEWS	
January 27	Issue #2 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
January 31	Issue #2 hits the stands
February 27	Issue #3 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
February 31	Issue #3 hits the stands
Math Faculty	
January 17	Course add deadline
January 31	Course drop deadline
MathSoc	
February 16-21	Ski Trip to Killington
Co-op	
February 5	Interviews start
February 29	Interviews end

Captain's Log

Welcome back! Many things have happened over the Fall term that returning students should be made aware of-so here goes... The MGC and Orientation offices are now located in the clubs hallway and the Mac Lab is up and running where the MGC/Orientation office was previously located. Times can be booked for the Mac Lab in the Society office. We have two new photocopiers and the furniture in the office has been rearranged. As you may have noticed we are now using the door to the left of the old door. If any of these changes have inspired questions or comments (or ulcers) please let us know.

I would like to extend my congratulations to Lori Boomgaardt and Lisa Yeo who were acclaimed to the positions of Vice-President and Treasurer respectively. They were ratified at the council meeting on January 7th. I would also like to wish good luck (in alphabetical order) to Markus Baumann and Kivi Shapiro who are running in the Presidential election being held yesterday and today. So if you didn't vote, vote right away! (Unless it's after 2:30 pm in which case the democratic process has passed you by).

At the council meeting held on January 7th council also appointed John Tucker, Pete Fitton, Penny Watt, Mark Brockington, Jason Fournier, Dean Chan, Poesy Chen, and Eric Sutherland to the respective interim positions of Recycling Director, Athletics Director, Chief Returning Officer, Speaker, Director of External Affairs, Computing Director, Director of Social Affairs, and Office Management Director.

As this is my final log as President, I would like to thank the Society for such an enjoyable term of office. I wish you all the best in 1992.

Harish Pawagi, President

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Editor: Curtis Desjardins

Welcome Back Grads

This is it guys - our last term together before THE REAL WORLD !!!! and it's also your last chance to get involved. Thanks to everyone who attended the organizational meeting for volunteers this past Thursday. If you couldn't attend and still want to have a say in YOUR grad events, just drop us a note in the MGC office MC3029. (if you've been away in the Fall, we've moved to the next hallway over.)

I know there's tons of things you're just dying to find out about:

- YEARBOOK BLURBS are due Monday, January 20th at the MGC office. REMEMBER: This is the absolute deadline!!!!
- GRAD RINGS will be on sale Wednesday, January, 22nd in front of the 3rd floor display case.
- GRAD CLASS SHIRTS we need designs for a "Math Class of '92" shirt. A prize will be awarded for the winning design. Please submit designs to the MGC office. Any suggestions and ideas are welcome - OR ELSE WE WILL DESIGN THE SHIRT!!!!!!!
- PIZZA DAY is next Wednesday!!

If you have any ideas, suggestions or question about events or anything else, please feel free to drop by!!!

ANGIE and TRACY
MGC CO-CHAIRS

MathSoc Presidential Elections

Today is the last day of elections
SO
Make sure you make your vote before
2:30

Soc Toc

Welcome to a brand new term of fun and excitement. Don't forget to go out and vote in the presidential election today. The polls are open from 8:30 to 2:30.

We still need lots of volunteers. Everything from office workers to class reps to appointed executive. Anyone interested in any position should drop by the office for more details.

MathSoc is sponsoring a trip to Killington, Vermont, for Reading Week. See Markus in the MathSoc office for more details (or drop by the next MathSoc meeting, Tuesdays at 4:30 in MC4067).

If you have any ideas about what YOU think we should do this term please feel free to tell us about it.

Your New Executive
Lori Boomgaardt, Vice President
Lisa Yeo, Treasurer



ActSci Club

By the time people read this article, almost everybody who wrote actuarial exams in November will have received their exam results. If you listen carefully, you can still hear a faint chorus of voices echoing through the hall, "Damn! Well, if I start studying now, I'm certain that I will pass that exam in May..." Sure.

Well, we're already two weeks into school and it's time once again to kick the Actuarial Science Club into action. For those people who are wondering why the ASC even exists, it is there to enrich our lives and to guide us to a lifetime of happiness and fulfillment. Recently, I received a testimony from one of the many past members of our illustrious club. It goes "Mr Sperling, if it wasn't for your club, my life would be meaningless. I was headed down a path of what would become eventual shame. I can't believe that I even thought of becoming an accountant. But ever since I joined the ASC and saw the light about Actuarial Science, I have become just too awesomely cool for words. And thanks to your pamphlet outlining the pros and cons of monoxidyl, hair transplants and weaves, I will never have to worry about my thinning hair again."

As a center for resource material and information regarding Actuarial Science, those who use the ASC are at a definite advantage over those who don't. And to continually keep our resources up to date and current, the ASC tries to obtain the latest in study materials and old exams. However, in these cash strapped times, even us at the ASC are having difficulty making ends meet. (A number of corporate sponsors have recently pulled out due to their own financial cutbacks.) Therefore, the ASC will be providing for a limited time a special offer where any person who donates any sort of relevant, up to date study material (ie. ACTEX or study notes) to the ASC will receive a free ASC membership, good for one or more terms, depending on the generosity of the donation. This membership entitles the member to full access of all other study materials provided by the ASC as well as exclusive privileges to the many outstanding events put on by the ASC every term.

Due to severe time restrictions among the staff, the ASC also requires people to help maintain resources in the ASC office as well as help organize various events. Popular events from previous terms including the Brick (don't pay until June) Brewery and Yuk Yuk's are expected to be highly popular events once again this term. Other events in the works include an examination results party, a (not to be missed if it actually does occur) seminar featuring various actuarial governing body bigwigs (ie. presidents and/or vice-presidents of the SOA, CAS and CIA) and a student squash ladder.

Interdepart(MENTAL) Club

I know that all you Interdepartmental Mathies have been waiting for this club for a long time. I am pleased to announce that the club will now meet sporadically on Tuesday or Thursday nights (whichever fits everyone's schedule!) I have managed to even get us a room to use for our meetings. Regular meetings will transpire in MC3094 or MC3083 (oscillating between 1 and 6) as per regular room bookings (depending on demand). I also am welcoming other disciplines and their clubs to join the Interdepart(MENTAL) Club as everyone in Math has been mental at some point in their life.

Safety Disclaimer: Anyone that dislikes roller-coaster rides or the specific motion of roller-coaster rides may feel that they would be better suited in a different room. A vote will be taken at the beginning of the first meeting January 21, 1992 to decide on the suitability of the room(s). Please note that the meeting may be cut short if the cleaning staff need the elevator for their equipment.

ihatethissong

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RECYCLE** 

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Expiry Date Jan. 31 1992

Gino's welcomes everyone back and
wishes the best of luck to all.

See you at Gino's!

Prof Quotes

The Best of the Best of Last Term

Here you go. Yes, the dumbest things your profs said last term. You say your prof is omnipotent and all-knowing, and would never say stupid things like these? We at mathNEWS say you haven't been paying close enough attention in class.

"Oh, you're not copying this crap down, are you?"

Roberts, Earth 121

"Why are we interested? If the air rises we get clouds, if we get clouds we get rain, if we get rain, we get wheat, if we get wheat, we get barley, and if we get barley, we get whiskey."

G. McBoyle, C&O 230

"So you actually have met engineers then, have you?"

Jackson, Math 245

"You can say n instructors, kill r of them, I don't care."

Ravi, Stat 230

"The final is to be determined after all the good airplane flights leave."

Limber, Math 235

"If you have any questions you should ask me, not your friends. Your friends lie."

Ravi, Stat 230

"Let's say Hanna here has 4 children, wait ... can I make it 5?"

Reynolds, Act Sci 305A

"I guess that now that you're in second year, you know how to cheat intelligently. Besides, that's how we get our Ph.D.'s"

T.A. substituting for P. Chen, Stats 230

"This calculation might seem brutally obvious to you, but I'm going to prove that it isn't obvious."

Zorzitto, Math 147

"This isn't an engineering class - you've got to explain things."

Zorzitto, Math 147

"I don't remember if I used MS-DOS. If I really did, it was probably such a traumatic experience that I blocked it out."

Ragde, CS 131 M2

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

Limber, Math 235

"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

"This is the way I expect you to do it. I don't expect you to like it."

Springer, Act Sci 231



"When a child first begins to form sentences, he sometimes gets the words wrong. For example, 'Me eat'. Now occasionally he'll reverse the word order ... I didn't mean to say that."

Corning, Psych 312

"The midterm will cover chapters one through seven. For those of you in Arts, that's chapters one, two, three, four, five, six and seven."

P. Eastman, Sci 205

"Being an intellectual and only having recently joined this planet, I forgot to leave a place for your names on the midterm."

D. Jackson, C&O 230

"If you saw someone of the opposite sex, you would get off. At least I would."

Ravi, Stat 230

"His? Her? No reason for God to have sex organs, it would be awfully frustrating giving that there's only on of them."

Abbot, Phil 116

"I apologize for being late this morning. I was in bed and my wife put her arms around me and said, 'Make me late for work this morning.' You wouldn't believe how long it takes to make bacon and eggs."

Morrison, Phys 121

"I'm going to assume you can all do this, but as often occurs in math, one can assume things without believing them..."

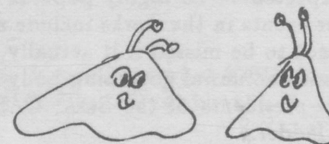
Springer, Stat 230

"If there are 32 weddings on one day, but the night before two of the grooms are killed, is it possible to have 31 weddings from the remaining people? Only in California."

Varey, Psych 207

"This is not a proof by intimidation, rather one by persuasion."

Eastman, Sci 205



Are You a 3rd Year Math, Science or Engineering Student?

Procter & Gamble Inc.
Employer Information Session

Work Terms in: - Manufacturing
- Systems Design
- Engineering
- Product Supply
- Product Development
- Buying and Distribution

Wednesday, January 22, 1992

Information Session
Davis Centre 5:30 pm Room 1302

Refreshments to follow

**Top 10 Things Heard in the
MathSoc Office Last Term**

11. "How do you get this to go all the way in?" (Mike R.)
10. "Mike, can you finger me?" (Eric S.)
9. "Way to go, you pulled it all the way out!" (Curtis D.)
8. "Give me a big long thing." (Dee V.)
7. "Do you want it? It's long and flexible." (Mike M.)
6. "Pull on that - Santa gets really happy." (Jill A.)
5. "I don't know what large is. I don't have much experience with these things." (Christina C.)
4. "Remind me when I remember." (Elaine O.)
3. "It looks like a big penis ... I'm not saying that's bad ..."
(Barb T.)
2. "So I looked at it and I thought, 'That's not twelve inches.' " (Ellen H.)
1. "I thought of something today that made me happy. But I forget, and now I feel shitty." (Brent M.)

Mouse #2

[Ed- Yes, I know there are more than 10 items in the list. Hey, if we could count, we wouldn't be in math.]

Stomach rumbling?

**Math Society C+D
now open:**

**Mon. - Thu.
8:00 am - 10:00 pm**

**Fri.
8:00 am - 4:30 pm**

You know prof quotes, now get ready for...

CS 131 Final Exam Quotes

The following are taken directly from Fall 91 students' exam papers...

Q. Briefly describe the fetch-execute cycle.

A. Dogs are absolutely tireless.

Once they have found a stick, they will bring it to their master and wait for him/her to throw it for them...

A. 1) The frisbee is thrown.

2) The dog (or other domesticated animal (such as younger siblings)) is told to "fetch."

3) If dog (or whatever) fails in this regard, it is executed.

4) If 3), then new dog/brother/sister/hamster is produced.

5) Cycle is repeated.

A. Fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, Fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, Fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute, fetch, execute... You get the idea!

A. It is a cycle to fetch and execute another cycle. [We have an example of recursion here]

Q. An operating system often contains the following components. For each one, describe in a sentence or two its main purpose.

i) the scheduler

A. It tells the computer where to go and what to do.

A. ...for example, Jack Rehder. [the lab coordinator]

ii) the swapper

A. It swaps.

A. It turns your TV on and off.

Oops, that's the clapper...

iii) device drivers

A. They make the hardware go. [We look for things...]

A. What? (Is it something edible?)

Q. Give two reasons why one might wish to use invariant assertions.

A. Invariant assertions are better than variant assertions because they don't vary as much.

A. It makes the T.A. very happy resulting in high marks.

A. Because they work better than variant assertions. They feel like it.

They may not have anything else.

They don't know what it is (like me) and want to try it out.

Their mommy told them to.

A. Why not?

Oops! Sorry, I thought it was a psych exam.

CS 131 Tutors, F91

The New Breed of Warrior . . .

Name:

"Harry Organs" (Stuart Pollock)

Position in mathNEWS: Writer.

Favorite place of birth:

Highlands of Scotland

Craziest Hobbies:

Formatting my hard drive.

Jumping rabbits by surprise.

Life's Greatest Ambition:

Dictator of Banana Republic.

Favorite Weapon:

2-Handed Lochaber axe.

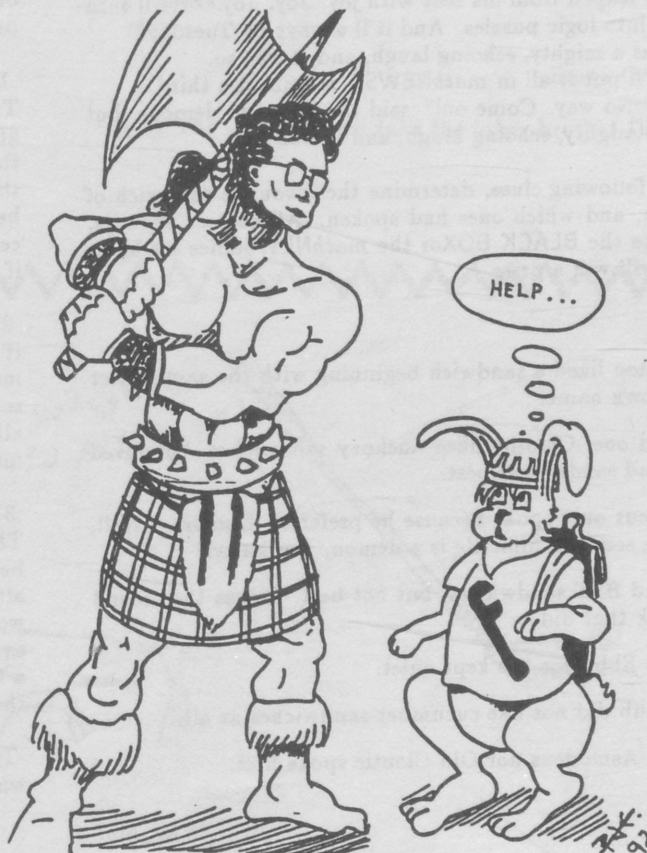
Pet Peeves:

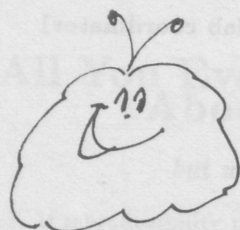
People who say 12:00 PM and mean 12:00 AM.

NORWIHE*:

Because they can't decide whether they want to be in Math or Science

* (NORWIHE - Number One Reason Why I Hate Engineers).





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READING WEEK -- FEBRUARY 16 - 21

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Logic Puzzle the First

It was Tuesday, 9:00. Five demons were chatting about what their favourite sandwiches were, when one had an idea.

"We'll turn the entire human race male," he cried gleefully.

There was a mighty, echoing laugh, and it was so.

A second leaped from his seat with joy. Joy. Joy. "We'll turn everything into logic puzzles. And it'll always be Tuesday!"

There was a mighty, echoing laugh, and it was so.

"And we'll put it all in *mathNEWS*," mumbled a third.

"Aw, no. No way. Come on!" said the first two demons, but there was a mighty, echoing laugh, and it was so.

Given the following clues, determine the favourite sandwich of each demon, and which ones had spoken. All correct answers, submitted to the BLACK BOX or the *mathNEWS* office by Monday week, will win a prize.

- No demon liked a sandwich beginning with the same letter as his own name.
- The old one, Clotie, liked anchovy sandwiches, but loved egg salad sandwiches best.
- Asmodeus only spoke because he preferred Donairs. (Well, it made sense to him. He is a demon, you know.)
- Dis liked BLT sandwiches, but not best. It was the second to speak that did.
- Neither Eblis nor Dis kept quiet.
- Beelzebub did not like cucumber sandwiches at all.
- Neither Asmodeus nor Old Clotie spoke first.

Who, Me?

Locked in the Math Building

When you find yourself Locked in the Math Building late at night, as many of you will during midterms, please consider some of the recreational experiments that you can perform for fun (and profit!!).

1) The 3rd floor can toss.

This one is really simple. Just take a can of pop (preferably some gross diet drink that you accidentally got from the machine), and throw it with all of your might straight down. Before you do this, though, please do take some precautions. First of all, be on the balcony so that you will get maximum effect, and secondly be certain that there are no innocent by-standers around. However, if that schmuck who sits beside you in Algebra is there....

2) The song switch.

If for some reason, the MathSoc office is open, then go in intermittently during the course of the evening and request random songs that you KNOW that they won't have. This will be really annoying for whoever is awake, and you will be amazed how much time you will waste by doing this seemingly simple task.

3) The Computer Countdown.

This is for all those poor programmers who are stuck at 5am because the load average on Orchid is some huge number, an alternative activity to hanging themselves for not getting their work done sooner. They can take occasional readings on the load average and work out when they can start to work again. It's a time waster, and it makes you actually look forward to seeing the next load average report.

These are but a few of the late-night ideas. Improvise, and see what fun you can have in the middle of complete frustration.

Someone with too much time on his hands

mathNEWSquiz #1

*Song Lyrics**Name the artist and song*

1. Two hearts can lose the fire, and you left my soul to bleed
I see you now, a vague deception of a dying creed
2. She's gonna put him down easy
Gonna put a bullet in his brain
3. A mulatto, an albino
A mosquito, my libido
4. Outside the door
She took four more

Movie Quotes
Name the movie

1. "Rodents of unusual size."
2. "If I were human, I believe I would say 'Go to Hell' "
3. "Second star to the right, and straight on 'til morning"
(please name the ORIGINAL movie this was said in)
4. "I wouldn't be caught dead, red. I'd rather be seen, green."

*Monty Python**Name the skit and the production it was produced in*

1. "I thought you were so butch!"
2. "A shroe! A shroe! My dingkom for a shroe! ... Ring
Richard the Thrid"
3. "And the people feasted on the lambs, and sloths, and carp,
and anchovies, and orangutans, and breakfast cereals, and
fruitbats, and ..."
4. "Eet's just waffer theen"

Bloom County

1. Name Milo Bloom's schoolteacher
2. Opus nearly gets married to whom?
3. Who is Opus' dream date?
4. How was Bill resurrected?

*High Points**Name the highest points on each of the following continents:*

1. Asia
2. North America
3. South America
4. Antarctica

Fantasy Stories

1. Name the best-selling author who wrote about the adventures of Fafhrd and the Gray Mouser
2. Who is Humfrey's first wife (Magic of Xanth)?
3. When Ragnarok, from Norse mythology, is to occur who will devour Odin?
4. What is the name of the magician in Robert Aspen's "Myth" books?

Harry Organs
major

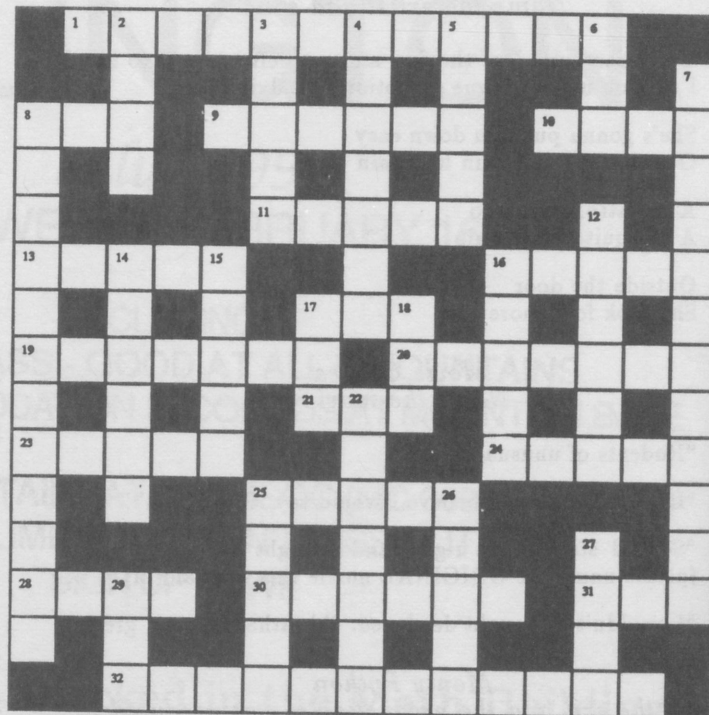
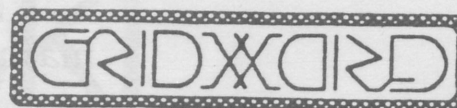
The Quixotic Jedi (aka the other brother Daryl)

iii) device drivers

Grid Clues (Cryptic)

Across

1. A Byzantine company doctor's enterprising first gracious order? (12)
8. Idiot has nothing with the Air Force (3)
9. Throat condition sounds beastly (6)
10. Mixed nuts may disorient (4)
11. Tax a shirt and one article (5)
13. Leader of British officer (5)
16. One thousand erroneously rise for Scrooge (5)
17. One hundred point to very cold water (3)
19. Attacker who brazenly ran dive (7)
20. Take back about a hundred junk mail (7)
21. An expert in cards (3)
23. Happy point of forest (5)
24. 31 points to man (5)
25. A game which moves quickly (5)
28. Taunts with food (4)
30. Be in evil razes of animals (6)
31. Every man near fifty (3)
32. How Dr. Frankenstein stays in shape? (12)



Down

2. Magazine in wrong file (4)
3. Face which reverses soldiers? (5)
4. To be mistaken over a spasm is irrational (7)
5. Woman with one Frenchman (5)
6. Biblical figure with a plot of land (3)
7. Necessary, especially for an orchestra (12)
8. G.I.'s comely map upset famous competition (7,5)
12. A lass I wrongly attack (6)
14. Happy woman with bottle (6)
15. Relieve General Electric of crest (5)
16. There were a hundred with the wrong mace in the holy city (5)
17. A Gershwin in despair atones (3)
18. Before, in false reality (3)
19. An animal in a car I bought (7)
25. Disoriented jazz man (5)
26. Delay in accomodation for horse (5)
27. Show a man on squares (4)
29. In talking about talking (3)

NAME: _____
 FAVOURITE FAKE ASTROLOGICAL
 SIGN: _____
 COMMENT: _____

