

math NEWS

Volume 61 Number 3

February 12, 1993



MGC Speaks... Finally

In a Class of Our Own

You've all been waiting for an official report, so here it is. As you've seen, we've been very active this term. I mean we're everywhere. If you recall, our "First Night Out" was a great success at the Tien Hoa. It was a chance to get the 2 steams mixing and mingling since we haven't seen each other since 1A. We'd like to give a special thanks to Oliver Lee for making that possible.

Naturally, our little social bees were busy organizing the Brunswick House Road Trip after that. Between the bus ride, the people present and the "Grand Poo-bah" hats... it was definitely a good time. Wait until after the break to have another great grad get-together!! Thanks to anyone and everyone who has helped in any way from putting up signs, to selling tickets, to attending. Participation is what makes us a class.

You've seen all this in the fore-front, but there's tonnes happening in the background. The Yearbook still requires submissions of pictures. Get them in by Fri. March 5 since this will be just about the last time to get your face, or whatever else, in the Yearbook. If you want to help out, meetings are on Thursdays from 12:30 - 2:30 in MC 4067. If you are interested in helping the Math Grad Ball committee, come out on Tuesdays at 4:30 in MC 4039. If you want to find out what the Math Grad Committee is all about, come to our meetings on Thursdays at 2:30 in MC 4067.

Keep yourself informed and you too can make a difference. As you may have noticed, we, with the help of MathSoc, organized the Valentine's Day flower and balloon sale. It fun... especially when we had our very own Cupid running around delivering. A special thanks to the early riser team, the delivery team, and a bonus round of applause for Curtis... CLAP! CLAP! CLAP! Thanks for all your help.

One last word (I swear). I hope everyone got their nominations in for the J. Alan George Award... nominations close today at 2:00. Submit any outstanding forms to the MGC office in MC 3029. One more thing... nominations for the selection committee and for valedictorian will be opening after the break. Look for the posters.

Have a safe and fun Reading (Slack) Week... Don't do anything we wouldn't do...

Stella & Craig
MGC Chairs

Deep Thoughts

I wanted to call a truce, but they have an unlisted number.

MacGyver

ISSN 0705-0410

mathNEWS is normally a fortnightly 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. Produced with pLAtmN. Send your correspondence to: mathNEWS, MC3041, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, or to userid mathnews@descartes.uwaterloo.ca on Internet.

Editor: Christina Calderelli and Erich Jacoby

PMC&OC Weekend Update

T is for Titus who flew into bits.

Greetings all!!! Here's the latest news from the PMC&OC!

We've had two more talks since last we met. Colin Springer spoke on covering sets, and Prof. Stan Burris spoke about automated theorem proof. We would like to thank both speakers for their interesting and informative talks.

On Feb. 2, the PMC&OC had its FIRST ANNUAL MAMMOTHLY ENORMOUSLY HUMONGOUS BAKE SALE TO NOT ONLY END ALL BAKE SALES, BUT ALSO TO OBLITERATE THE MEMORY OF ALL OTHER BAKE SALES BECAUSE THIS ONE IS GOING TO BE JUST SO COOL!!! a.k.a. The PMC&OCFAMEHBSTNOEABSATOTMOAOSBTOIGTBJSC!!! And clearly, it was the coolest bake sale to EVER hit campus. We would like to thank everybody who partook of our baked goodies for their patronage. We would also like to thank all those who helped make the bake sale the success it was — whether it was staying up 'til all hours baking something, staffing the tables, helping with signs, ferrying people and stuff around, etc. etc. etc.

The new logo is finished (at last)!!! So, we're taking orders for shirts!!! Drop by the office (MC 3033) for further details!!!

On the sports front, we're still alive! Albeit more damaged than at the start of the term (injured legs, knees and just plain ill in general...), we're still holding our own, and having fun to boot! There are still some games left, so if you're interested, come on out!!! And don't forget about Feb. 26.

The Grudge Match!!!!
12 midnight
Broomball
Vs. the T.S.A.
It won't be pretty.

But once the dust settles, the first few rays of the rising sun will splay over the vanquished forms of Oh He Who Cannot Stop and his mighty minions, to find the PMC&OC machine victorious...

So, all in all, it's been a busy couple of weeks for the PMC&OC. Time to rest. Have a good Reading (Bleeding? Weeping?) Week, and we'll see you after the break.

Tak
PMC&OC Treasurer/Bullet Stopper, er, Goalie/Movie Buff

SocToc

Wanna be the Next Yokozuna?

Ever dream of being the next Sumo Grand Champion? Ever fantasize about watching sweaty, 500 pound men bouncing off one another? After reading week, on February 27, MathSoc will be holding its own 'Royal Rumble' at Fed Hall. There will be inflatable sumo suits, HOT TUBS, and plenty of fun.

The Monday after reading week will be our SECOND movie night. Our social director has assured us that 'A League of Their Own' will be playing...she hopes.

As you are reading this, MathSoc will be having a Mother of All Blowout Novelties Sale. The prices have been slashed and they are so low, you'll think we're crazy!!

The Execs

CSC Flash

Whew! After the past month and a half of classes mixed with the cold temperatures, it's about time for a break.

This term it looks like there will be a lot of talks scheduled by the CSC. Paul Prescod's talk on Object Oriented Programming was a success with about 75 people in attendance. Ellen Hsiang's Unix Basics also had a high attendance level, with a full lab of Unix beginners eagerly waiting to learn about such topics as vi, elm and rn. Looking ahead, there will be many more talks to come this term. If you are interested, stop by the CSC office to hear all about them. Just a few of note: **Recent Advances in Computer Vision**, DC 1304 on 23 February at 4:30; **The 1992 SigGRAPH Video**, DC 1302 on 26 February at 7:00; **Computer Music** on 4 March at 4:30, room TBA.

I hope everyone has a good Reading Week, as I will be in the Bahamas for my study break. Of course I will fit some time in to do some reading as I lie in the warm sun.

The members of the CSC would like to thank Watcom for their donation to support our ACM contest winners last term.

Calum T. Dalek
Chairbeing

mastHEAD

We're well on our way to finishing the third *mathNEWS* of the term, which is very good, because I have to go home and study (I have three midterms before you'll read this). I'd like to thank everyone who came out to help with Production Night. I'd also like to worship at the feet of everyone who showed up to write on Writers' Night. (I love you all! Get some rest on Reading Week!)

Here's a list of everyone who helped out, (along with their plans for Reading Week): Mike Hammond (Read, of course! (You mean you're allowed to do something else?)); Brian Spencer (Study, eat, sleep, masturbate); Phil Rittenhouse (I plan an extensive survey expedition of my navel); Chris Beauregard (Spend one day desperately trying to catch up on school before giving up completely); Joe Hewitt (Find a new pen name. Then engineer the fall of Western society as we now know it.); Betty-Jo Hill (Hide out in Sudbury.); Curtis Desjardins (What Betty-Jo said. Sounds like fun. Oodles and oodles.); Monica Rooney (I have a job so ... I guess ... nothing.); Peter Milley (Do my taxes and/or fight off a cold. Yippee!); Rob Del Mundo (The Questions isn't "What am I going to do," it's "What am I *not* going to do".); Bill McEachern (Vegetate in front of the T.V.); Pat Calitri (Absolutely Nothing (as if you didn't know)); Dale Wick (Wait for interviews); John-Paul Gignac (Interviews); and Ian Goldberg (Programming Contest in Indianapolis).

(Productionist's Note: Get the on-line layout for *pl4T4mN* up to speed)

Thanks to everyone who wrote or typed or brain-stormed or did production or proofread or just showed up and ate pizza. Thanks also to Marion at Graphic Services; we couldn't do this without you.

Christina Caldarelli (Rest, relax, de-stress and wish I could go to Sudbury)

Erich Jacoby (Play lots of neeto games on my new computer which I got for free)

Novelties Blowout Sale

Everything Must GO!

MATH SOCIETY NOVELTIES CLEARANCE!

This is it folks, the **LAST DAY** of MathSoc's **GIGANTIC** Novelties Sale! Not 10% off, not 25% off, but much, *much* more! Your savings will go through the roof! MathSoc is getting in some new stuff, but before we can sell it, we **MUST** get rid of our current stock!

SHIRTS, TURTLENECKS, RULERS, MUGS,
PINS, BUTTONS, FUNKY SHORTS!
and MORE! MORE! MORE!

Everything must GO! With prices so low, you'll think we're **INSANE!** (And if you come early enough, you may receive a free budgie!)

How can you beat that? You can't! And if that's not enough, we're taking orders for Math Baseball Jerseys and Hats. This is simply **incredible!**

This is not a joke; this is not a put-on. We're dead serious! **YES!** We are Crazy! After 2:30 today these prices will never be seen again! These make great Valentine's gifts (OK, maybe that's pushing it a bit), but if you come out, you won't be disappointed! There is something for everyone!

Our table will be in the 3rd floor hallway between 10:30 and 2:30 today **ONLY!** Make no mistake about it — these prices will **never** be seen again!

Monica Rooney
Curtis Desjardins
MathSoc Novelties Directors, W'93

GINO'S PIZZA

Try a little bite of Italy

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Waterloo

The Official Pizza of *math NEWS*

GINO'S VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL

**2 MEDIUM
PIZZAS**

with 3 items
pick-up or
delivery

\$1 1⁹⁹
PLUS TAX

Coupon offer only. No additions.
Expires Feb. 26, 1993

Tie = Die ?

There's been a discussion lately as to whether or not the Pink Tie is an appropriate mascot for Math students here at Waterloo. Personally, I don't know. It's true that the tie is a geeky symbol without very much marketing potential, and it's also true that the tie really doesn't have much significance anymore, but is that all we want from a mascot? (Unified chant: Yes! Yes!) Wait just a minute there — before you attack the tie, remember that things could be worse. Much worse.

In my personal search for a better mascot, I inevitably came across several ideas which are undoubtedly worse than that which they are meant to replace. Among the most horrible contenders to replace the Pink Tie are:

- Pink Underwear
- Pink *Lacy* Underwear
- Boffo the Unholy
- The Rigid Tool
- A Sixteen Ton Weight
- Flipper
- Madonna
- A gnome of ill repute
- Norway
- The Kama Sutra
- Fossilized Rhinoceros Dung

Brrr... As you can see, Waterloo is relatively lucky to even have the tie. Things could have been much grimmer (or sillier). But does that mean that we should necessarily keep it? I've talked to a few people who think we should, and the reason seems to be that the tie is something unusual. No other faculty would dare have a mascot like this. (Some people would call that evidence of their stuffy closed-mindedness; others would call it a rudimentary fashion sense. It takes all kinds, I guess.)

In my opinion, the problem here is bad marketing. Hey, if the New Kids on the Block can make millions of dollars, then Math-Soc should be able to get \$8.00 for a lousy pair of 'dancing tie' shorts. Yes, we'll start a huge public relations campaign! Billboard ads! Celebrity spokespersons! Late night infomercials!!! The pink tie will become the 'cool' faculty symbol... the 'now' faculty symbol... the 'mother of all' faculty symbols! I can see it now.

Or, then again, maybe not.

Guelph Erronious

I'm Here to Help

And It's Free!

Need help with your resume?
Want to find a job?
Curious about career-related info?

Whether this is your first year, your last, or any other, YOU can make use of the services your friendly FREE Student Career Advisor (SCA) has to offer you!

Come visit Anna in MC 3041 on Mondays anytime between noon and 3 p.m. (or call Career services to set up an appointment at your convenience).

...Coming soon: "Do's and Don'ts of Resume Writing"

CS Operations Manual for Your Amour 1000F and 1000M

Or how to please your girlfriend or boyfriend

It has come to my attention that computer science students have trouble understanding their partners. Therefore I have worded this guide in language that should make these ideas clear.

If you don't currently have either an Amour 1000M or Amour 1000F, clip and save this for later.

Warranty

Although your rights may vary from state to state, there is no explicit warranty. If you are happy with your Amour 1000x, then after several years, a lifetime warranty can be obtained from an agent of the MAKER. For more information call the toll free hotline 1(800)THE-MAKER.

Cautions

Note that periodic random behaviour is within operating parameters.

WARNING: improper care of your Amour 1000x may cause unpredictable results. Please read this manual completely before proceeding.

WARNING: never spill food or drink on your Amour 1000x.

Operating temperatures: For best results keep your Amour 1000x in 15°C - 30°C operating temperature and -40°C - 40°C storage temperature.

General Maintenance

Call or see your Amour 1000x at least once per day.

Downtime, such as a movie, should be scheduled at least once per week. Also, once per month, a complete systems diagnostic should be performed. See the diagnostics section for more information.

There are several annual maintenance dates which require special attention. These are the design date (birthday), the purchase date (anniversary), and the Amour Corp.'s founding date (Valentine's Day). On these dates, it is important to give tokens of appreciation like chocolates, flowers, or your Amour 1000x's favourite dinner. Especially for the Amour 1000F: jewelry and perfume; and for the Amour 1000M: cologne.

Diagnostics and Trouble Shooting

SYMPTOM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
nothing happens	- unplugged or needs recharging - rebooting sequence not complete - bad input	- big hug - give coffee - apologise - buy flowers - cook a dinner
slow response	- heavy load	- allow Amour 1000x to nap - massage
audible alarm sounding	- overheating - lack of input	- long walk - take on date (dancing, movie)
garbled output	- line noise (bad communication line)	- increase system priority and relisten more carefully

ñotasquare
Searching

Orientation News

or, Time to Get My Ass in Gear

Well, now that a new Orientation Director has been chosen, my first duty as Director is to get the fools who wish to do Orientation this fall. So, if you think you're up to a week of dealing with Hellish frosh and don't feel you need much sleep in the first week of school, then we want you! The application forms will have already been available, but if you haven't found any around, then go to the Math Society office and ask for them there. They will know where I've put them, as soon as I do, and well, Fridays are dull and boring for office workers, so go annoy them. As of right now, the plan is to have all the applications in by Friday, February 19th. This way I can go through them the following weekend and narrow the pile down to hopefully less than a hundred. The following week, being the week of the 22nd, there will be a meeting to talk to the number of you still in the running to be leaders. Hopefully (again), the leaders will be chosen by Friday the 26th. So, get your application in ASAFP and hand it in to an office worker in MC 3038. Be sure to fill in everything and to give all information you feel is relevant. Also, be sure to read the entire form; there may be something of interest (or conflict, actually) to most people. If you have any questions, I can be reached at mdmelvin@descartes or by my message board in MC 3038.

Michael Melvin
Orientation Director

Waterloo Center for Excellence

"Our intrepid mathNEWS reporter, Reginald Looksy, is on the scene of some startling new revelations from the Waterloo Center for Excellence in Groundwater research. Take it away Reg."

"Thanks Dennis. I'm here with groundwater researcher, Rowry Flake."

"Hi Ron."

"That's Reg. Tell us, Mr. Flake, about this amazing breakthrough of yours."

"Well, let me first say that the credit belongs to the many, many people in... well no they weren't really involved. But I certainly couldn't have done it without the support of the... no they laughed in my face. Well there were a few of us, sort of, a couple on and off. Well O.K. just me."

"And...?"

"Hmmm?"

"WHAT IS YOUR DISCOVERY!"

"Oh my discovery. Right that discovery, which is mine is mine. I have found that there is water... (You won't believe this...) Underground!"

"That's it, is it?"

"Well, we're still analyzing the data."

"(*sigh*) Back to you Dennis."

"It's an inexact science... it's also quite cold... here try some."

"Get away from me you geek. U of T gets laser research, materials research, and information technology Centres of Excellence and I'm stuck in a hole in the ground with this freak of nature..."

MacGyver

"2 minus 1 ... I can do that."

Haff, MATH 237

Music Review

Perverse
JESUS JONES

Food/EMI (0777 7 80647 2 5)

Don't believe any review other than this one. "Perverse" is everything you'd expect from Jesus Jones, and then some. It is NOT a withdrawal into wimpy techno hell. On the contrary, it is even louder than "Doubt". And, taking a little risk, Jesus Jones performs a couple slow songs - throbbing drums absent. This is, no doubt an excellent followup to their last album.

So, what is Jesus Jones? It's a hard action band with aggressive guitars, backed with rave-like dance rhythms and scratchy electronics. The vocals are clear, sometimes over-accentuated, yet shining with talent. If ever there was a good meld of hard rock and techno, this is it. Frontman Mike Edwards said, in all confidence, that his group "marks the end of rock and roll." Well, his group is good, but think of it as an addition to the world's musical spectrum rather than a replacement of another form.

Pilot in Hell

Unfrozen Artsie CS Tutor

<Music>

*He used to be an Artsie,
but now he's a CS Tutor.*

He's the Unfrozen Artsie CS Tutor!

The Unfrozen Artsie CS Tutor is standing in front of a large CS241½ class, helping them with their new assignment.

Student: What's the best data structure to use here?

Unfrozen Artsie CS Tutor: You know, I am just a humble artsie. I know little about the real world, because it frightens and confuses me. My primitive brain cannot comprehend these strange concepts. When I look up to the sky and see the sun, I think of it as a god. When the sun goes down at night, I believe that I have offended the god, and live in fear all night long that he will not come up the next morning. I do not know what the stars truly are: I believe that they are pinholes in the canopy of the sky, revealing a light beyond what we can see. I do not even know where on the sixth floor my office is. But there is one thing I do know: only the queue will allow you to utilize the proper open-ended storage required for this assignment!

Student: Why can't I get this code to work?

U.A.C.T.: I am just a humble artsie. Your CS world scares me. When I look at a computer screen, I am struck with awe at the detail of the GIFs in the background. I cannot use vi, and I think that the noises from my hard disk is the grunting of a very little man hard at work in that box. I do not even know where the color Xterms are. But there is one thing I do know: you cannot dereference NIL pointers!

That's it for this week's episode of Unfrozen Artsie CS Tutor. Be sure to tune in next week when he gives a CSC talk...

U.A.C.T.: I do not know who the little man inside the terminal is, or why he can write letters on the screen as fast as I can press those buttons. But there is one thing I do know: object-oriented programming will be the new paradigm!

Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer

Can't Do This Damned Assignment

With apologies to Bryan Adams...

Yeah-ah, baby!
I'm goin' to flunk it!

You might draw a 3-D graph,
And C&O might make you laugh.
You could help a dozen other guys,
But you can't help me, baby, don't even try.

You've shown me one way—your way.
Can't do it that way,
Won't do it, no way!

Now, baby,
Can't do this damned assignment,
You gotta know I'm lost,
What's the con-cept be-hind it?
Yeah-ah-ah!
The prof, he once defined it,
Then he went and underlined it.
Can't do this damned assignment—his way,
I don't see his way, yeah.

You might know how to solve question 3,
And find ap-prox-i-mates of e .
You know integrals, and you know π ,
But you can't help me, baby, don't even try.

I can't do your way—no way.
Forget the prof's way,
Can't do it that way!

Now, baby,
Can't do this damned assignment,
I don't know where to start.
Don't quite know where my mind went,
Yeah-ah-ah!
The answer? I can't find it.
This class? I think I've re-signed it.
Can't do this damned assignment—no way.
I don't know your way. (I dunno.)

Oh—why is it so?
I do not know.
Hey, I cannot solve these questions I got! Yeah!

<guitar solo>

Oh, yeah!
Can't do this damned assignment,
Yeah, but I can't drop the course!
For-get step-wise re-fine-ment,
Oh-hoh, yeah.
Don't know where all my time went,
(Can't be-lieve I'm a-ble to rhyme it.)
Can't solve it—I can't solve it!

Can't do this damned assignment!
You gotta know it's so hard!
No won-der some ma-ligned it.
Oh, yeah.

Hammer J. Simpson

Letter to the Math Society

Dear MathSoc:

I'm really unimpressed with the hours your office keeps. It seems like whenever I want to use the services of MathSoc, the office is closed (like now, 12:30 midday). I would suggest that if you are going to advertise and provide services and suck money from my tuition cheque, you at least make an effort to be open at noon hours and other *regular* times.

Anon

Dear Anon (if that is your real name :)

My first response to this message was: "Then why the hell don't you come in and do a fucking office hour just like myself and like all the other volunteers who help MathSoc provide all these services?" I heard a similar comment shortly thereafter from one of the MathSoc Council exec who was passing through. There is a sign-up sheet on the door, and if the office is closed when the schedule says it is open, then that means one of the volunteer workers didn't show up. I guess we'll have to dock his paycheck.

The senior editor made this offer on behalf of the office manager: if you come in and do an office hour, we will pay you triple the normal rate. Speaking as a person who has in the past held the position of office manager, I know how difficult it is to get enough people to sign up and show up to keep the office open. If you really want it to improve, convince a friend to sign up with you for just one hour, and you can be a part of the solution to the problem you have pointed out.

By the way, it still pisses me off that the Undergrad Office is closed from 12 until 1, which always seems to be the time I need to see someone there.

EdiFuzzy

ExeCommunicate

The article "The Zone" was definitely informative and we applaud the author for taking the time to write an article informing us of his opinion. However, he/she has left out a few details regarding the selection of the 2A class representative.

We had three candidates for this position, one of whom was already involved with the Society holding two positions on council. His withdrawal from "the race" allowed two new Mathies to get involved in MathSOC. This is wonderful, because we definitely need more people to get involved in MathSoc. The 'former senior councillor' was correct in saying that there is no demand for the positions available; in fact, all three of us on the MathSoc Exective were acclaimed to our present positions. Unfortunately we cannot force people to participate; all positions are voluntary and it's up to you to get involved!!!! And we do appreciate our current volunteers.

In any case, come down to MathSoc and use our services and get involved or just find out what is going on. Please feel free to drop into the Exec office (MC3039) to meet us, or to talk to us about any of your concerns academic, social or otherwise. We are here for the students; we represent your voice to the Faculty and the rest of the University, so let us know what you think!!!

Your friendly Exec
Elaine Ooi — President
Kathi Lai — Vice-President
Pat Calitri — Treasurer

Math, the Universe, and Everything

Most of the folks in the math faculty are co-op students. For some, it is a good way to earn money to pay for school. For others, it's a great way to gain plenty of work experience. And for a select few, it gives a chance to recover from severe alcohol poisoning brought on by a combination of not having sex (outside your family) for several years and failing calculus for the third term in a row.

Good Things About Being on a Work Term

You Get Paid: A little-known fact is that many co-op students actually get paid. Note that if you work for some volunteer organizations, you will not get paid. And if you work for any level of government, you will not be paid. You'll be overpaid.

You Have an Eight-Hour Day, Then That's It: No homework. No exams. No stress. Note that this benefit is actually a drawback to those of us who don't do homework during the academic terms.

Three-Hour, Six-Beer Lunches: If you play your cards right, you can actually get paid for going out and getting smashed. This will put you in the elite group of people who can use other people's money to get drunk, whose few members include my high school history teacher, major corporation vice-presidents, and the MathSoc executive of Winter 1992. You young folk out there can ask your big brothers or sisters about that last one. Hell, ask Kivi — he loves talking about government scandal. And then you can all go skiing.

All the Office Supplies You Can Steal: This one is self-explanatory, but just let me say that I've never stolen anything from my company, which shall remain nameless. In fact, it's just a Big Nameless Research company. Also, start small (pens, paper), then work up to something bigger (modems, PCs), and then go for the gold (helicopters, corporate jets, the boss' secretary).

You Don't Have to Put Up With U(W) Geeks: Or at least, not as many. We have a fair number of U(W) students here at Boner Nose Research, but not nearly enough to do such bizarre things as whine about the fact that the chairs in the CS labs are wired to the desks. A quick safety note to all of those geniuses who constantly trip over these wires: make sure you stay away from the four corners of MC, because some idiot went and put stairs there without any warning signs or *anything*. Don't say I didn't warn you.

If You Vote in an Election, No Fascists are Going to Keep Your Ballot in Order to Hunt You Down: I hope this one is self-explanatory.

Bad Things About Being on a Work Term

It's Too Much Like Real Life: If you're like me (and it's probably better for all involved if you're not), then you're only in school because you can't deal with the real world. A work term is like the real world, and after four months of actually having to produce something, you can understand why so many grads opt for going back to school and trying to become profs instead of accomplishing anything meaningful.

You Have to Go Every Day: Work isn't much like school, where 8:30 classes are only cruel jokes designed by the faculty in order to flex their administrative might. Most jobs require you to be in to work by the ungodly hour of 11 am, and sometimes

*Workterms: Easy Money
or a Punishment from the gods?*

you have to stay well past 2:30 in the afternoon. Even later if you take longer than the standard two-hour lunch.

Sometimes You Have to Live in Ottawa in the Winter: Ottawa in the winter is like Ottawa in the summer, but colder.

OSAP Hates You: You will never, ever qualify for OSAP. Of course, unless your parents are divorced alcoholics who live in a cardboard box, you wouldn't have got it anyway. But, since we make so much money, we have a hard time explaining to our parents why we've run out of money three weeks into the term. I told mine that I needed a kidney transplant and spent all my spare cash buying one.

You Have to Work: This is the one that took me off guard. There was one memorable summer where I didn't realize this until three and a half months into a workterm. I ended up spending almost six hours a day actually working in order to catch up.

Your Co-workers are Geeks: Don't forget that the people you work with are actually university grads. The engineers are usually pretty good, since you can go out and get hammered with them. It's the CS grads that you have to worry about - these are the kind of people who actually went to class during university, got their degree, and feel that they actually have to accomplish something to justify their pay. Look out for these types, because they might suck you in, too.

As always, all of you anal retentives out there should be sure to take this article too seriously. In fact, maybe you should go to the dean and complain. It will give you something to do while you're waiting for a life.

Flipper

SUBWAY

OPEN LATE 7 DAYS A WEEK!

Look For This Coupon
In Every Issue
of mathNEWS!

SUBWAY

Sandwiches & Salads

49¢ SUB

Buy any 6" submarine sandwich and a medium soda and receive the second 6" submarine (of equal or lesser value) for 49¢

Limit one coupon per purchase. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Supers. M

Offer Expires: May 31/93
Offer valid at 160 University Ave.
Waterloo

SUBWAY

Sandwiches & Salads

99¢ SUB

Buy any footlong submarine sandwich and a medium soda and receive the second footlong submarine (of equal or lesser value) for 99¢

Limit one coupon per purchase. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on Supers. M

Offer Expires: May 31/93
Offer valid at 160 University Ave.
Waterloo

160 University Plaza : 884-7821

Letter to the Editor

A note of seriousness in the midst of our joviality...

Dear Editor:

It was brought to my attention by a student that I had been quoted in "Prof Quotes" last week. (I haven't been quoted in several years and so have stopped looking for my name.) Your source got the quote slightly wrong: rather than dividing the whole class into two groups, I believe I said something about two groups of people that I was concerned about. The choice of this quote is somewhat embarrassing, since not only have I been using it for a few years, but it isn't even my invention. I stole the idea from Kurt Vonnegut. In the introduction to his collection "Wampeters, Foma, and Granfalloon", he says something like this (I am paraphrasing, since I no longer have a copy): "Upon being sent the transcript of my interview, it became evident that, like Joseph Conrad, English was my second language. Unlike Conrad, I had no first language."

Incidentally, Vonnegut was wrong about Conrad; the English in which he wrote works like *Lord Jim* and *Heart of Darkness* was not his second language, but his third language, after Polish and French.

Yours sincerely,
Prabhakar Ragde
(CS 134 lecturer)

1993 Student Writing Awards

*Co-sponsored by BOOK CITY bookstores and
BOOKS IN CANADA magazine*

To encourage and support future Canadian writers, BOOK CITY and BOOKS IN CANADA are awarding three prizes to both poetry and short fiction writing. They are: First prize: \$1000; Second prize: \$500; and Third prize: \$250.

Last year's first prize winners were Nikki Barrett, of Western University, and Carellin Brooks, of McGill University.

The entry requirements are as follows:

1. The entrant must be a full time undergraduate student at a Canadian university or community college; employees of BOOK CITY, BOOKS IN CANADA, or BEDFORD HOUSE and their families may not enter.
2. Include with entry: Name, address and phone number, university address and phone number, student ID number. Include a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage to return the entry. Because of volume of entries, individual entries will not be commented.
3. Each student may submit one entry per category. Short fiction should not exceed 2500 words; a poetry entry may contain up to two poems with a 2500 word maximum in total.
4. Winners agree to permit one-time publication in BOOKS IN CANADA's October 1993 issue.
5. The decision of the judges is final.
6. Entries must be postmarked no later than July 15, 1993, and should be addressed to: STUDENT WRITING AWARDS, BOOKS IN CANADA, 130 Spadina Avenue, Suite 603, Toronto, Ontario M5V 2M3.

Additional information can be obtained by calling BOOKS IN CANADA (416) 601-9880.

Not Another Damn Holiday

Groundhogs good, Valentines Bad

Look at your calendar, on February the fourteenth. What does it say? Valentine's day? I thought so. Now, take a gander at February second. Groundhog day, right? Good. I hear you asking, what do these two days have to do with one another? Read on...

If you're like me, February 14th isn't normally your favorite day of the year. If it is your favorite day, stop reading this article right now. I'm mad at you. Come back when I'm in a better mood. The problem is, it's not very fun to spend an entire day watching dozens of overly sappy couples showing off just how happy they are, especially when you're lonely, depressed, and seriously considering self-pity as an alternative lifestyle. Already, the halls are covered in advertisements for flowers and gifts, a prelude to the ghastly cuteness which is to follow. When the day itself arrives, as it inevitably will, we will have no choice but to put up with them all until the fifteenth. Chainsaws are not an option.

(pant... pant... calm down. I am not writing this article to be bitter. At least, not entirely.)

So, what about Groundhog Day? Well, it's one holiday that doesn't leave out anyone. Neither the young nor the old, the poor nor the rich, the higher primates nor the small burrowing rodents, are barred from the festivities. Secondly, it provides an invaluable service to society — just ask your local weather office. However, on the down side, it's not a day many people pay very much attention to. You never hear 'I can't wait until Groundhog day!', or 'What a time we had last Groundhog day!', or even 'Just 4 shopping days left before Groundhog day!'.

So, on February second we have a holiday which everyone ignores. Then, on February fourteenth, we have a holiday on which a certain percentage of the population gets to annoy the hell out of the rest of us. What can be done about this horrible problem? I have an idea, and in that idea we create a new holiday. Yes, a better holiday than February has ever known before, and a holiday which will divert attention away from the other annoying ones. That's why this year, on February 14th, I invite all of you to help me celebrate Ukranian Groundhog Day!

Yes, on the morning of the fourteenth, join me in a celebration of our little friend the groundhog. When you wake up and crawl out of bed, go to your window. If you don't see your shadow, that means it's still dark outside. Go back to bed for a few hours. All day we'll celebrate, telling stories and singing songs about living in a small hole in the ground (or a V1 basement residence room; they're about the same). It'll be great. Just super. Bucketfuls of fun for all.

Of course, if you or anyone you know is Ukranian, you may have figured out by now that there really isn't any such thing as Ukranian Groundhog Day. Let's just keep that little secret between the two of us, okay? Then, there's the worry that some of those lovesick melodramatic fans of a certain other holiday on the fourteenth will find out about this and ruin all the groundhog fun. Not to worry; they're all too busy staring deeply into each others' eyes to read mathNEWS.

And a good groundhog time will be had by all.

Guelph Erronious

"Did I do that without a numerical error? No, I didn't. Oh, Lord. Somebody knock me out."

Haff, MATH 237

The Deep Space 9 Drinking Game

Alcoholic Trekkers, take note

You've heard of ChugBoat, you've heard of the Smurf Game but you don't have a deathwish, and there's the legendary ST:The Next Generation game that everyone knows about but nobody knows all the parts. Well, I know most of the ST:TNG drinking game but I'm not about to type all 10 pages of it here. Instead, I recently wrote and tested (with the help of volunteers at the Phillip St. Co-op) the drinking game for Deep Space 9.

Before the show:

Get enough beer/batch/wine/formaldehyde for everyone to drink during the course of the show; a six-pack is good for each person. You may want to have some harder stuff around for one of the actions mentioned below. Everyone playing should pick a regular character on the show (any promotional shot will give you the eight main characters). Whenever the character you picked gets into an confrontation/conflict/fight, you take a drink.

Take a drink whenever and everytime:

- something isn't working properly on the station
- anyone says DS9 as the name of the space station
- violence happens on the promenade
- the wormhole is shown (this includes the opening credits)
- the station is shown from the outside
- the 'cog' airlocks are used/operated
- any door is seen opened manually (if it's a cog, take two)
- somebody mentions Bjor (but only one drink per line; many during the scene)
- Cmdr. Sisko threatens somebody
- anyone hits on/makes a pass at Dax
- Odo is puzzled/annoyed by humanoid behaviour
- Dr. Bashir suggests something patently stupid

Take a drink and do an action for:

- someone riding the elevator to/from the control room (*say 'going up?' or 'going down?'*)
- a shuttlecraft is shown (*guess the name of it out loud*)
- Odo shape-shifts (*say 'Jell-O!'*)
- O'Brien uses the transporters (*nostalgic sigh*)
- Jake gets in trouble (*say 'kids these days!'*)
- Kira has a case of divided loyalties (*put a drink in each hand and drink from each hand*)
- Quark is seen behind the bar (*have a shot of something strong, or take a second drink*)

Chug a whole beer when and IF:

- someone from Star Trek: The Next Generation makes an appearance. Members of the O'Brien family don't count, but secondary characters like the Klingon sisters or Q count, and extras *IF* you can identify them.
- Cmdr. Sisko backs down or knuckles under to someone else.
- Odo does something intentionally funny.
- Dr. Bashir does something clever not related to medicine.
- Dax gets into an romantic or sexual encounter.
- O'Brien is asked to jury-rig something to save the day and it doesn't work.
- Quark does something selfless.

And now the disclaimer

So far I'm the only author of this drinking game, but I'm sure that as the season goes on and fans learn the patterns of the show, there will be drinks for things as specific as 'Capt. Picard wears chest-revealing bedclothes', but now this game will give a pretty good buzz. I recommend that you use beer shots for drinks, to reduce the spew factor. If you blow chunks, it's your fault. *mathNEWS* and I will not be responsible if you pull a Jimi Hendrix. If you're looking for other ways to make getting drunk more fun, then try the Drinking Games archive, maintained by Tim Golobic (TGOLOBIC@ucs.indiana.edu), available via ftp at 130.233.192.1 : /pub/drinking-games (where my game got accepted!).

Moses

Answering the Food Chain

As chairperson of the C&D committee, I'm very happy to see someone express an opinion on the food found in our beloved C&D. I'm very pleased to say that this term our C&D has tried to please everyone (to a certain extent). We have decided, due to popular demand, to return to our previous brand of brownies. As you can see we do act upon the recommendations put forth by the students. The sugar rush which can be obtained from eating the chocolate demon should get you through at least one of your math classes.

It has come to my attention that the C&D resorts to throwing away, on a consistent basis, a few (minimum of two) vegetarian subs every day. We do have more than one vegetarian soup also. We carry vegetable soup, broccoli and cheese and cream of mushroom soup. Along with your soup you may buy a bun for less than a quarter. I do agree that some of the veggie sandwiches and bagels may lack some sort of sustenance but I am willing to discuss the matter with you. We are willing to accommodate people as long as they are willing to commit to their specific order requests. Of course, it must be possible for one of our current tenders to provide your creation.

Patrizio Calitri (Chairperson)

Graduate School, Anyone?

The Faculty of Mathematics is holding an Information Meeting on graduate work in the mathematical sciences:

Tuesday, March 2, 1993
3:30 p.m. — DC 1302

- Why undertake a graduate program?
- How do you know if you are suited for graduate work?
- Where can you obtain information on programs?
- What financial assistance is available?

Departmental representatives from Applied Mathematics, Combinatorics and Optimization, Computer Science, Pure Mathematics, and Statistics & Actuarial Science will be available with specific information about their programs.

All students welcome
Refreshments available

profQUOTES

- "Shakespeare ... ah, what a jerk. "
Logan, Engl 306b
- "Language works horizontally. Lie down, I want to talk to you."
Logan, Engl 306b
- "Boolean Formulas are boring ... I expect to see that in math-NEWS in 3 weeks."
J. Buss, CS 464
- "If we look at it right up from the bottom, if that's not an impolite thing to do ..."
Eastman, SCI 205
- "People accuse me of being intimidating ... you in the white hat ... you're the type of person that fails the midterm!"
Hewitt, MATH 138
- "A mathematician is a machine for turning coffee into theorems."
J. Baker, PMATH 353
- "Copyright laws? Who cares? Do I look like a person who cares about copyright laws?"
Ravi, ACTSC 441/STAT 466
- "There's even noise from your collective heartbeats; I'll get you to stop those."
Eastman, SCI 205

mathNEWS Top 10 "Use these and you'll die a virgin" Pickup Lines

10. Is that a pubic hair in your coke?
9. We could make beautiful equations together.
8. Want to come back to my place and watch some GIFs?
7. You're a gerbil, I'm into bestiality, what a coincidence!
6. I'm looking for meaningless sex. How about you?
5. You're an artsy. I'm a mathy. It would be a financially logical move for you to beg to be my mate.
4. Can I buy you a Molson Excel?
3. I am no longer infected.
2. You're gorgeous. How would you like to be the mathNEWS centerfold?
(Ed. note: Hey! It always works for me! Fz.)
1. I'm a NICE GUY(tm)!

Ahmoras the Dragon

VapidFire

mathNEWS has learned that UW's very own Food Services department is offering catering services on campus. "We are proud of our excellent service, exquisite cuisine, and staff of professionals ..." After interviewing several Village I residents, the general consensus is "Yeah, right!"

Rampant speculation on whether Brian Mulroney would resign as PC leader ended recently when the Prime Minister made it clear that he was determined to run again. Sources inside the cabinet say "We believe that even Free Trade, Meech Lake, and the GST will not deter voters from not voting for the NDP or Liberals." We at mathNEWS also believe in our fairy godmothers.

North American sales of Earl Grey tea reached record levels this week mainly due to the influence of Star Trek: The Next Generation. Said one slightly caffinated Trekkie, "I j-just can't get enough of the s-stuff now that I can watch trek th-three hours each day." Sound advice to people like this is "Get a life! Get some Jolt!"

EvilCoop

gridCOMMENTS

Wanted: One gridMASTER

Solutions have come pouring in for the last grid, and now the secret can be told: it was the other reprint I hinted at in the mastHEAD! In other words, an issue of mathNEWS printed in October 1986, by some strange coincidence, contains the exact solutions to the grid we published last issue! Who would have believed it? Unfortunately, we once again find ourselves without a new grid(aspiring new gridmasters out there, take note).

As I said, many solutions for the last grid, which, incidentally, was the first grid ever to have both cryptic and conventional solutions. The conventional was solved by (and because; and commented with): Phage & Ariel (3, 6, For All Exploitation; Foo? He has a belly button you could sharpen pencils in!), Chuckles, Billy Goat 'n' Slim Tim (Blame it on the Rain), Magdalene M. Furukawa (Why not?; How do you do a cryptic?), 18 Centimetres (When you're this big, they call you average; Tasty, but lacking essential confusion), The Magnificent Orb, Alphonse + Orono (Because Jean needs a haircut (+ should swear off the sheep and pumpkins); Why is everybody still sitting down?), Me and Munn (Weer da bara coo-el guys; Buck has not been participating well in group activities so far this year. He has failed to clean up the sandbox after each use, and does not make adequate use of naptime. Overall, Buck is not working to his full potential and improvement is deemed necessary), The 'Untouchables' (Because; None), with an incorrect solution from Desmond & Stumpy ('Limberger Stinks') who spelled Limburger wrong and a winning solution from Shita and Pazu (Que sera sera!!!; BIG Y little y A yawning yellow yak. Your Yolanda Yorgerson is yelling on his book). Cryptic had three submissions: A winner from 3 men in an office (It's Friday), an also-ran from Cruella, Phage, 2, + Ariel (43 hours of sleep deprivation; I have a jock strap you can all toboggan on ... if you WANT to ...), and an incorrect solution from Super Cheese and Noodle Boy (Because it's the cheesiest). In response to Magdalene's comment, we may reprint our guide to solving cryptic grids, if we find it lying around.

Fuzzy

mathNEWSquiz #3

An error was found in the solutions to quiz #1! We asked for the age in which Ender defeated the Bugger home... Our answer? 16. *WRONG*. The correct answer is 11. At the age of 16, Ender was governor on an ex-Bugger colony. We apologize for this mistake. Thank-you, T. Kilbreath, for the correction.

Answers to quiz #2 are (or so we like to believe): 1) Wonder Woman; 2) 1955 and 1956; 3) only one: *Hanna and Her Sisters*; 4) four (incl. the Star Wars Musical, issue #203, Dec. 1975); 5) 1966 (although 1965 will be accepted), 1978, and 1990; 6) Texas Redneck Nagasaki Nightmare (made famous by Feds a few years ago); 7) Colorado Bulldog (tastes like a tootsie roll); 8) egg whites; 9) a shot of Peppermint Schnapps into a glass of chocolate milk; 10) Galiano; 11) Dee Vint & Sharon Fournier; 12) Brenda Wilson; 13) three; 14) x2324, x6515; 15) Neil Murray; 16) Kuala Lumpur; 17) Thailand, Singapore, and Indonesia; 18) Moslem; 19) Elaine; 20) Dr. Mahathir; 21) Blazing Saddles; 22) Fast Times at Ridgemont High; 23) Wayne's World; 24) Real Genius; 25) Sixteen Candles; 26) 132ft; 27) Oona O'Neil; 28) Rudger Boscovic; 29) Kasimir Malevich; and, 30) Charlie Chaplin.

There were only four submissions this time. The participants are (including their respective scores), in no particular order: 18 centimetres (6); Chuckles, Billy Goat 'n' Slim Tim (1); Magdalene M. Furukawa (4); Super Cheese and Noodle Boy (2). And the winner is (this wasn't a hard decision)... 18 centimetres! Collect your squizprize in MathSoc.

Movie Quotes

1. "I'm tired. I've been with thousands of men, again and again. They always promise the moon. They're always coming and going, and going and coming... and always too soon."
2. "We are but eight score blondes and brunettes, all between 16 and 19 and a half, cut off in this castle with no one to protect us. Oh, it is a lonely life: bathing, dressing, undressing, knitting exciting underwear..."
3. "Noids don't do it with Doodles."
4. "Oh good. I was afraid I wasn't going to be able to use the 'Liar, liar, pants on fire' defence."
5. "In space, no one can hear a wedgie."

The Far Side

1. According to the dictionary the Lone Ranger looks it up in, what does "kemosabe" mean?
2. What word was in the "Primitive Spelling Bee"?
3. What do kangaroos use when they have a broken leg?
4. Who *didn't* get the job of painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel?
5. Which of the following was never depicted in The Far Side: cat with peg legs, snake with peg body, elephant with peg trunk, pirate with peg head?

Sequential Picto-Literature

1. Art Spiegelman wrote a series of stories about his father, who was a Jew in Nazi Germany, and who survived Auschwitz. What was the general title of all the stories and in what magazine did they originally appear?
2. The leader of the Brotherhood of Dada from Grant Morrison's Doom Patrol was Mr. Nobody. What happens if you look directly at him?
3. In Moonshadow, from Epic, there is a transdimensional zoo from which only 4 beings have ever left. Name them.

4. What is the often-heard battle cry of the Nigh-Invulnerable defender of Justice, The Tick?
5. What is Mulch?

Guest Performers

1. Around the same time as her debut in 1988, this popular Canadian singer provided vocals for Manufacture's "As the End Draws Near".
2. Name the Celtic band whose video was seen on a TV in Patriot Games.
3. Although many artists were featured on the "Until the End of the World" soundtrack, only one group had their video shown in the movie. What group was it?
4. This Tackhead percussionist has worked with Annie Lennox, Nine Inch Nails, R.E.M., and Seal. Who is he?
5. Name the two people who portrayed Mick Jagger and Keith Richards on Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update.

MathSoc

1. What was MathSoc's first movie shown in the Comfy Lounge?
2. How much do laser copies cost in MathSoc?
3. Besides the Pink Tie, what is MathSoc's other mascot?
4. How much do photocopies cost in MathSoc?
5. Where and when are MathSoc meetings held?

Pot Pourri

1. What state has the most countries?
2. How hot is Cone 10 (in Celcius)?
3. Who was nominated twice for an Academy Award in the same role in two different movies (not sequels), and lost both times?
4. How many messages did the designers of Usenet anticipate per day? (Answer within a factor of 10)
5. What is the only car that out-sold the Ford Model T?

I expect this squiz should be easy compared to the last one! So, EVERYONE participate! Good luck!!! Place your answers in the BLACK BOX, across the hall from the Comfy Lounge, or e-mail them to mathnews@descartes, by sundown of the next mathNEWS production night (see Look Ahead).

Token Artsie, Guelph Erronious, Love Child, EC,
and your host, Pilot in Hell

Ultra Classifieds

To IBM:

GET IT IN GEAR!!! It's two days before Want Ads come out and I don't know if I'm returning...

Enraged Co-op

With Valentine's Day upon us, I have but one question: Where are my Valentines? ****Sniff Sniff**** Wahhhhhhh!

a person concerned with Valentine's Day getting more and more depressing each year

Nympha the Gorgeous Maid:

You missed the Strike, and I missed your phone number. Call me at the number on the back of your Valentine?

Stephen's friend Stephen

The Puzzle Page

Each letter in the multiplication represents a unique number from 0 to 9. Solve the puzzle and substitute the letters below. You will be asked an awesome question.

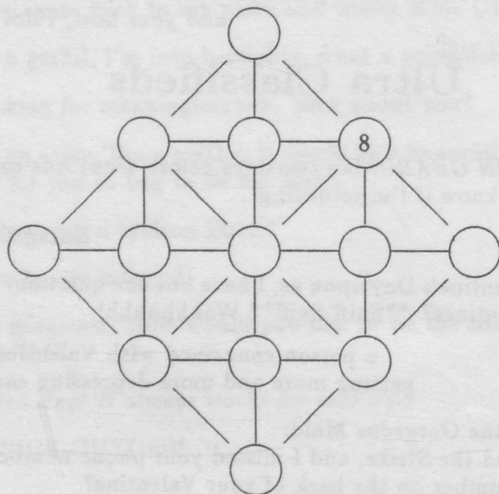
$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{H A R P} \\
 \times \text{R A P} \\
 \hline
 \text{G G M G E} \\
 \text{G C H A I} \\
 \text{G T A A M} \\
 \hline
 \text{G R I M A C E}
 \end{array}$$

Are you a $\frac{15673}{92804}$?

After that multiplication puzzle, this division puzzle should be easy.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{T W O} \\
 \hline
 \text{O N E} / \text{T H R E E} \\
 \hline
 \text{T S T} \\
 \hline
 \text{W W E} \\
 \hline
 \text{O O M} \\
 \hline
 \text{O O E} \\
 \hline
 \text{O N E} \\
 \hline
 \text{O N}
 \end{array}$$

Using only the numbers 0 to 9, fill in the bubbles so that the total along each row, column, and diagonal is 14. Some numbers may be used more than once; others not at all.



What comes next?

Easy:

1 3 5 6 7 __
1 27 125 __

Medium:

O T T F F __
F S W F S W F __
13 1 20 8 12 5 22 __
B F G H J M __

Hard:

8 41 72 125 192 __
A E F H I __
5183 5184 5185 5187 5189 __

droG's Unscramble

Unscramble the letters on the left to form genuine English words. Then, unscramble the boxed letters to solve the deep mystery.

URSEEM _ [] _ _ []
VIORSAD _ _ _ [] _ _
OSTIEDU _ [] [] _ _ _
GNISSLIT [] _ _ _ [] _ _

A Co-op's pain in the butt: _ _ _ _ _

Logic Puzzle

"C'mon Charlie" I said as I walked into the Comfy Lounge. "Deal the cards."

"I can't play now," Charlie said, "I have a quiz in an hour. Matrix Algebra is such a drag."

"You don't need to study. You've passed them all so far, haven't you?"

"Well, yes, but we've only had 3, and my marks on those have been linearly decreasing. If this keeps up, I'll fail the next one."

"So how's the studying going?"

"Not so good. Mostly I've just found some interesting patterns in my marks. For example, the average of all my quiz marks so far is equal to half of the reverse of the course number. Also, one tenth of the square of my highest mark is the same as the time of the class plus half of my mark on the first quiz."

"Gee, Charlie," I said, "that's really interesting." I looked at my watch. "Holy, it's 2:30 already. I have to get going!" I quickly left the Comfy Lounge.

What course is Charlie studying?

People with too much time on their hands.

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