

# math NEWS

Volume 63, Issue 2

Friday, October 8, 1993

THANKSGIVING JOINT-FACULTY PROGRAM





## What's up with mathNEWS?

Well, it seems my last editorial has created quite a stir, or so the grapevine tells me. I guess I accomplished what I wanted. Most people I talked with got the point (or points, plural, as there were a couple) that I was trying to make. The first point, secondary though it may be, was to see how many people would actually come to me with any 'complaints' they had. There were many who said it was good. Only three people said to my face that they had a problem with it. To those people, I thank you. You're probably the first people in three years to express your concerns to us without going to Someone-in-Authority first. Again, thank you. I'd also like to thank those of you (says Chewbacca, his voice dripping with heavy sarcasm) who gabbed and complained through the grapevine behind our backs. You are the people that disgust me so much! Try bringing your concerns and "suggestions" to us next time, you bunch of backstabbing whiners!

Ahem. As I was saying, there were a couple points that I wanted to make with that article. The second, and most important one in my estimation, is that I wanted to give mathNEWS the boost it needed. No, I don't want to change mathNEWS into another Enginews, but mathNEWS has been far too complacent in recent years. I think people were shocked by the dreaded 'f' word just by the plain fact that they were so used to the fluff and crap that we usually put out.

Yes, you heard me. I am fully admitting that the mathNEWS of recent years was questionably of low quality (but not *too* questionable). Oh, sure, we would have the occasional gem within the articles we printed, or a certain writer gets a cult following (Steve "Flipper" Shaw and Joeb "Guelph Erroneous" Hewitt readily come to mind), but that's about it.

I've been a mathNEWS staffer since 1987, so I'm fully qualified to admit to the declining quality of mathNEWS. I'll even admit that my first sojourn as Editor in W'92 wasn't the greatest term in mathNEWS History. Just as the subsequent terms were not. I've even heard staffers say that mathNEWS is crap. That's not exactly confidence-inspiring for an editor to hear. Hell, even the profQUOTES have sucked (which inspired me to compile "The Best of Prof Quotes, Volume 2" - coming soon to a MathSoc Office near you!).

Was last issue's editorial representative of the direction mathNEWS will be now taking? No, but it *must* go in a direction other than the rut it's been in. It has to if it is to survive. Did I use the 'f' word? Yes. Gratuitously? Admittedly, yes. Controversial? Yes, but controversy breeds change, and mathNEWS has been far too complacent, becoming stagnant, mediocre, and sugar-coated. Whether people like it or not, whether you agree with my methods or not, that one article has changed people's attitudes towards mathNEWS.

I'm not saying that all subsequent issues will be a vulgarity hoe-down, but people have to realize the lengths to which we can print stuff, how close we can come to crossing that line. If there was no market for the abrasive, cross-the-line style, mathBOOZE would never have started. They were sick of the crap we put out, and they did something about it. I'll admit that I like mathBOOZE, and admittedly, I would probably have published 90% + of their material in mathNEWS had they submitted the articles to us. Sure, they crossed the line of good judgement once or twice, but being totally anonymous has its 'advantages'. The mathNEWS of the future must know when to cross the boundaries, and when to sit back, and because we rely on the written contributions of staffers and non-staffers alike, they must know what we will be willing to print, and what will not - we won't print anything racist, homophobic, sexist (we hope), slanderous, and other such areas that will get us into legal hot water. Other

than that, anything goes.

Change was (and is) needed for this publication to survive - I just got tired of people, and editors, waiting for it to happen by Divine Intervention. It can happen, but not without some work. Some people applauded me for finally giving mathNEWS the kick in the pants that it needed, and some scolded me for my abrasiveness. mathNEWS should always challenge its limits, and like it or loathe it, mathNEWS (hopefully) won't be the same Friday fluff again.

Curtis "Chewbacca" Desjardins  
Co-Editor

## PMC&OC speaks!

Not much happening this week. Our second talk of the term was held on Thursday; Professor Bill Cunningham spoke on "Can the Blue Jays win the Pennant?", a discussion of how C&O relates to the pennant race. This article's actually being written on Monday, so I can't really tell you how it was, but hey, I plan to be there!

Seminars also started this week on Wiles' Proof and Fermat's Last Theorem. These seminars, organized by the Kolster-Murty-Snaith-Weiss group, are held every Tuesday at 4:30 in the Fields Institute. Check it out if you want all of the gory details about how Fermat's Last Theorem was finally proven!

And on the sports front, even as I type this article our valiant PMC&OC Flag Football team is (hopefully) winning another match. Our basketball team also had a match on Wednesday. Check out the door of the PMC&OC club for further details.

Well, I'm off. . . I'm going to a Putnam training session. If you want to write the Putnam but haven't signed up yet, talk to Dorothy Chapman in MC 5107 *real soon now*. Bye for now!

Peter Milley  
probably-never-ex-president-for-life

## MGC '94 News

Well grads, the first nite out has come and gone with no major casualties. Everything was a great success at the Tien Hoa Chinese Buffet. The beer was cold and the egg rolls were, um, well, eggrolls. I know everyone made at least two trips to the buffet and I heard the record was around seven platefuls. The photographs taken should prove interesting (potentially black-mailing as well). From group photos to unusual feeding habits we covered it all. Other interesting notes include: 4 monkeys picture in tree; Steve T. getting two kisses in the same night; Vern posing on the piano (Hollywood bound); the table of failures (8 guys, 37 failed courses); meeting the executives; and livening up Fed Hall afterward. QUOTE OF THE NIGHT BY ROB D. "How many beers do I have to drink before I can drive."

Yearbook update: bring in photos and fill out grad blurbs. Those who do not fill out their blurbs will have crazy people like me fill them out for you. Claude says NO BLANK BLURBS (do not get on the bad side of her [trust me]).

Next Social event: Rock'N'Bowl some Sunday night in October (stay tuned). Grad Rings on sale beginning Oct 18. Pizza day is every Wednesday not every day. Buy lots of pizza but more importantly get everyone else to buy it as well.

Blue Jay Ticket Winner will be announced today at noon (don't worry we will call you if you win).

Last but not least, anyone wishing to give input can see me or leave a message at the MGC office for next issue.

Trevor Dietrich





Computer  
Science  
Club

A Student Chapter of the ACM

## CSC Flash

Here comes this term's second CSC Flash, with even more enlightening information than its predecessor. Read this text carefully, for it may determine the course of history as you know it. The CSC is bringing you an endless array of mind-expanding activities (struct activity Endless[∞]), so read on...

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, this year's second computer programming contest was held, the top scorers of which will round out UW's two teams at the upcoming ACM programming contest. The contestants solving two or more problems were:

Ka-Ping Yee	4	289
Ian Goldberg	4	353
Seiji Ando	4	420
Peter Hallam	3	311
Stephen White	3	317
John-Paul Gignac	2	120
Andrew Becker	2	122
Steven Arden	2	160
Sam Coulombe	2	191
Kevin Greer	2	216
Brad Bart	2	227
Alex Brodsky	2	248
Trent Gray-Donald	2	264
Paul Rechsteiner	2	305
Zygo Blaxell	2	383

Since you last heard from me, the CSC (under my leadership, of course), has, in addition to the immensely successful programming contest, held a number of tutorials for students interested in using their accounts to their fullest abilities.

Our own SysAdmin, Dale Wick, hosted the Introduction to X talk. Even more people attended this remarkable event than the incredibly popular Introduction to Unix talk (first round). This latter event was so incredibly popular, in fact, that we had another incredibly popular iteration, again hosted by our President, Ian Goldberg, for those who had missed it the first time.

Expand your horizons and make computers work for you on these three more exciting events for your consumption:

### October 14 Introduction to X Programming hosted by Samid Hoda

You too can create shiny (and GUI) apps in X. Samid will show you how to get started!

### October 21 How Do Computers Prove Theorems? hosted by Stan Burris

See how computers are being used to prove mathematical theorems!

### October 28 The Internet hosted by Stephen White

The Internet is the most powerful way to find out, well, anything. It's also an incredible time-sink. Stephen will demonstrate the myriad ways of navigating this most infinite source of information so you can make the most of your wasted time!

Also coming up: the **CSC Annual International Open Computer Othello Competition**. This international competition draws the best Othello-playing programs from all over the world to compete here at UW. Come to the CSC *soon* to get the rules and registration form.

Another possible event is an outing to Stratford to see some play or other. Yes that's right — a CSC event outside a computer lab!

If you haven't noticed yet, the CSC has really amazing-looking T-shirts in all sorts of wonderful colours for sale in our office (MC 3036/3037) as well as pens with our wonderful logo (sample above) printed on them. Come by, take a look, and buy some! Remember that my CSC is the largest club in Math, and we're more fun than downloading from a modum service!

Finally, don't forget to read `uw.csc` for the latest info from the CSC, and me, the illustrious (as usual)

Calum T. Dalek  
Chairbeing

## Pascal Haiku

*And Moses said it couldn't be done...*

```
program Haiku (output, file);
const ha = 'haiku';
begin writeln(ha, ha); end.
```

Dale "notasquare" Wick



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## Now THAT's What I Call Frosh Week!!

It's been 4 weeks since frosh week, and it still is with me. I have never had such an incredible time in 7 days in my entire life. Never have I been so proud to wear a pink tie. Never did I think I would see this much spirit out of the Math Faculty. More than one person came up to me and offered to exchange frosh. We were the envy of the rest of campus.

Little did you know that nothing was really going smoothly as the week went on, and more than once did we panic thinking that the world was going to collapse. But with a little magic, and a lot of dumb luck you guys didn't notice most of it, and you all had (as far as I know) a good time. Thanks for putting up with a few of the hassles, the mis-timing of events and the weather. Really, it was supposed to be warmer than that.

Thanks to the leaders that gave it their all for the whole week, not stopping for something as irrelevant as sleep. You collectively did a better job than some committee's twice our size.

As for the Bonfire, I guess we are going to try it again sometime soon, before it gets too cold. The weather has not been kind to us as yet, but we will pull this off.

So, raise your glass to Frosh Week. May we soak the frosh for years to come!

Eric Sutherland

As Eric said, it has been a while, and well, between school, trying to catch up on sleep and, well, sheer laziness, I am finally getting around to doing things. Like this article.

First, I want to thank all of the frosh leaders. I really can't thank you guys enough. You did a great job and I think for the most part, everyone worked well together. I would especially like to thank Eric, Curtis, Elaine and Monica for all their help last fall when I decided to try to pull this thing off. Well, it worked (I think...). Thanks also go to Dawn at the Gift Shop for her miraculous last minute order, the Faculty for the work they put in to Faculty Day (and for putting up with me), to Dave McDougall for a great attitude and for being a big help (I want to join the Faculty of Dave!) and finally to Karsuh Activewear for the delays and fuck-ups that kept Curtis and me on our toes.

But, enough of this snivelling, grateful bullshit. I had a GREAT time! I know that a lot of the frosh did too, but that really wasn't because of what was planned. If it was, we would've had a shitty week, since plans blew up every damn time! The spirit that the frosh had was what made the week a success. I hope some of you consider being frosh leaders next year, because we need the spirit to continue. We are usually considered to be the most apathetic faculty on campus. NOT THIS TIME!

Stressful highlights? Yeah, there were a few. Cold pizza and power failures at the Theme Pub. The lack of a van waiting for me at Thrifty's. Being two hours late for the MMT, but somehow making it from Bingeman's to Waterloo Park in ten minutes. Shit weather on Friday. Not making it to the Toga (Hi Sonia! No hard feelings!)

However, if there is anyone who wants to do this job next year, let me give you some advice. First, be prepared to deal with people who don't particularly like you (there's always a few). Second, don't plan on having holidays. At all. Third, expect to be disappointed, 'cuz nothing ever runs perfectly smooth. And hey, if you're a stress junkie, this job's a blast! (I do need sleep though)

Needless to say, I am pleased with how things turned out. Breakfast with the Dean in my pyjamas was fun. I think everyone should do it. Every day.

I do have a few things to say to people:

Sherrie, I plan on losing the tan lines. Sandra, I plan on getting you back (evil grin). Jenn, you do have the cutest buns. Everyone, look forward to a frosh reunion and possibly another bonfire. And Eric, fuck it, you only live once.

By the way, anyone who wants to know about the RCMP thing, I don't have a clue. But I like it that way. Stupid is a good way to go through life. [And believe me, Mike's good at it! - Wookie Ed.]

Michael "Pudge" Melvin

## Help out MathSoc by bringing in your old exams for the exam bank

## Get YOUR Voice Heard!!

*Money for Sale!!*

The cry rings out across campus. It can be heard from faculty to faculty from the shores of Laurel Creek to the bleak structures of Phillip Street. What this voice is saying is that there is a need for money. In Engineering, they were in need for more computing power. In Science, they needed more lab equipment. As time went by, it became more and more apparent that current revenues could not meet the increasing expenditures. Some of the other areas of this university realized this several years ago, and instituted programs to try and help ease some of the problems that were arising.

And now the time has come for the Math Faculty. As much as it may not be apparent yet, our faculty will have to start cutting back the creation of new services to students because of a lack of funding. It may end up that there is not enough money to keep the existing programs. Something has to be done.

At a recent meeting of the Math Society, discussion to the possibility of forming a Math Endowment Foundation, that would be run jointly by the students and faculty. This is the solution that was found for both Engineering and Science, and it seems to be the road that the Math Faculty will take now.

But nothing is yet set in stone. Many questions are still on everyone's minds. Is it really necessary? What will be the structure? What type of items will be paid for by the fund? These questions must be resolved before any further action is taken. The only way to get this type of input is to ask YOU, the student body. I am looking for you to give direction to this project. How can you do this? I am going to be establishing a committee of around 10-15 people to investigate this course of action. If anyone is interested in being on this committee, please leave me a note on my board in the MathSoc office (MC 3038). You can find me under "EC". Even if you are not interested, but have some ideas, please leave me a note as every bit of information counts.

WEEF (The Waterloo Engineering Endowment Foundation) has now topped \$1.1 million in its account, after only 3 years of operation. They have \$65 000 a year to apportion to the groups and projects that need it. We can do this too. But we need to do it together.

Eric Sutherland



## Friendly Advice

Hey you! Yeah, you the frosh. Are you thinking of taking six courses next term, or maybe trying to get the mysterious double honours degree?

Well, *don't!* It's Monday morning, I'm exhausted from staying up 'till midnight last night doing analysis homework, and I'm probably going to up until three o'clock tomorrow morning marking first year algebra papers!! I did three assignments this weekend, I still have three assignments on the go, and my first midterm is this Wednesday! And, for reasons only Vishnu could possibly understand, I've committed myself to either Putnam training or *mathNEWS* production from seven until midnight tonight! This is what I get for taking six courses just to see if I could do it; so if you see me walking past the Comfy Lounge sometime around eleven tonight carrying a sharp object, please seek shelter and cover your head.

Now, you may know some people who seem to revel in this kind of stress (they know who they are). Don't be fooled; these people are actually automatons infiltrated into our society by cruel aliens who want to drive the human population of earth insane to facilitate global domination. If you're a mortal like myself, heed my words: stress is bad. Save the schedules from hell for the engineers.

Sigh...had to get that off my chest. We now return you to your regularly scheduled drivell.

Peter Milley  
once known as the Not-Wizard,  
not that anyone cared.

## ultraCLASSIFIEDS

B.N.  
I.F.A.I.R.D.W.T.G.U!

N.M.

Monkey face:  
Thanks for the beginnings of a dream come true.

Pudge

To Whom It May Concern:  
Dammit, WHO replaced my brain with a steam engine??

That Is Hill

My GUI LO  
Happy 21st! Remember: 12 ways to say I LOVE YOU that we have to try

Your little froshie

Katrina of Imp'tint and German Traveller:  
Where are you? I call and call but your father always says you're not home. The Phillip Street Co-op has my phone number and I still want to meet you all over again.

The Sandman

A word to the keener in CS 134:  
Shut up.

Nabil Rehman

## The Dreaded Grad Photo

*Has this ever happened to you?*

I really don't like getting my picture taken. Even when I am around friends. Last week, I had a nightmare of an experience with the photographer from hell. I know she was just doing her job, but really!

Picture One: Point your legs towards me. Sit up straight. Tilt your head a bit. OK. Now put your right hand on your waist, and your left hand on your left knee. No problem.

Picture Two: Now, put your left hand on your right knee. Lean over a bit more. Your right hand behind your right ear. Remember to tilt your head. It makes you look more intelligent! And Smile!

Picture Three: You're doing great. Put your left hand behind your neck, and your left leg over your right. Stick your tongue out of your mouth. Try to drool a little. Tilt your head! Beautiful!

Picture Four: Swing your body over this way. Great! Now, cross your legs. Touch your right elbow to your left knee, and your left elbow to your right knee. Put your head in your hands. Cross your eyes and screw up your nose. Please try to tilt your head!! Perfect!

Picture Five: Put your right leg behind your head, and your left leg behind your back. Hold this diploma like a baby. Oh! and here are some flowers. Don't forget the cap. Stick your Right ring finger in your mouth. Pull the tongue forward. Cross your eyes. TILT YOUR HEAD!!! Fine. You're done. NEXT!!

Ace Reporter EC Sutherland

## GINO'S PIZZA

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## Math, the Universe and Everything

*Toronto: Land of the strange, Home of the stupid*

There are a lot of people who don't like Toronto. I'm one of them. My reasons for hating Toronto are fairly obvious: it's too big, cold and impersonal; there are always crowds of people pushing and shoving; and there are a whole bunch of people in suits running around, not producing any visible results. I don't like Toronto because it reminds me of Needles Hall.

Country folk like me are always repulsed by the big cities. Not only is it more crowded and hugely more expensive than the country, but what was known as 'a little harmless fun' in the country is called 'bestiality' in the city, and you have to pay quite a bit for it. So, live from my workterm in beautiful downtown Toronto, I present the essential co-op guide to living in the big smoke. Use it, live it, love it (not necessarily in that order).

*Well, at least there are plenty of bars*

Toronto is fairly well-stocked, bar-wise. Not only are there plenty of dives where beer is relatively cheap, but there are also bars with extra luxuries, like chairs. It goes without saying that you're not going to get both at the same place.

However, whoever is marketing these bars is an idiot. There's a bar in town whose radio ads brag that they have a line-up every night. Whee - let's go stand in line for two hours. Come on, I have a hard enough time standing in line for the Bombshelter, the Best Bar in the Entire World. I'm not about to stand in line to get into a bar where they play dance music and charge five bucks for a beer unless the people dancing are naked.

However, after a couple of weeks here, I can recommend both the Amsterdam and the Rotherdam highly on Flipper's Scale of Inebriation. The house beers are truly excellent - be sure to try the Nut Brown Ale. What makes them both great is the atmosphere. There's no goofy dance music playing, the TVs are subdued, and the patrons are all sitting around drinking, just as God intended us to drink. Truly excellent bars.

*The fun & friendly people of Toronto*

One of the truly great things about Toronto is how friendly people are. You can't walk down the street without at least two or three Torontonians coming up to you and inquiring if you have any spare change. If you find an especially friendly resident, he'll ask you for any change you may have, as well as cigarettes or maybe any spare food or liquor you may be carrying. Since no one in their right mind would give any of these people money, they end up getting ignored. Hey, these guys are people too - most of them are co-op students that Needles Hall couldn't place. Don't ignore him, amuse him. Do one of these funny things:

- say "sure, bud, here's some change. Ha! Just kidding!" and run away
- say "get a job"-an oldie but a goodie
- say "hey, I was just going to ask you for change! Small world isn't it?"
- ask "didn't I see you in *Derelicts Monthly* last issue?"
- hold out a handful of change, and "accidentally" drop them

Another group of interesting people you're bound to meet on the streets is even more friendly. These lovely young ladies hand around outside my building, and nice men drive up and take these women on dates that last anywhere from 15 minutes to a couple of hours. Here's a tip for those of you unlucky enough

to find yourselves in my neighbourhood after dark: run away. If you can't run away, for God's sake *don't talk to the hookers!* These are not the hookers with hearts of gold that populate Tom Cruise movies, but are more like women you see in movies like *Reform School Girls*. Don't look at them, don't smile at them, and don't give them \$75 and pull them into an alley. Trust me - it's not worth it. Or so I heard.

*Taxi drivers, walking freaks and other psychotics*

In most large cities, you have to have a special license to be a cab driver. Toronto is unique in that not only do you *not* need a special license, you don't even need a driver's licence!

In fact, I don't think you're allowed to drive in Toronto unless you've had a frontal lobotomy. Who else would pay \$400 a month, or more, for parking? Not me, young Mathling. Where else would the city planners set up a five-lane street with the direction of traffic in the middle lane changing hourly? What kind of moron doesn't like being groped on the subway?

Even people walking in this city are weird. Some are of your normal variety of weird - people who talk to themselves, yell at people for no reason, and run for the NDP. Others, though, have been watching the drivers too long: they always go through the wrong door, get stuck in revolving doors, walk on the wrong side of the street, and are apt to jump a couple of feet in any direction without warning. I don't know about your home planet, folks, but we don't do that sort of thing around here.

Don't even talk to me about cell-phone users - I hope you *all* get brain cancer, you capitalist pigs.

*To sum up...*

Hell, it's only four months. My last herpes outbreak lasted six - this should be a piece of cake.

Steve "Flipper" Shaw

## Thoughts on Frosh Week

*An Addendum*

I'm sure that most of you frosh out there saw "The Scuntmaster's" article about Frosh Week in the last issue of *mathNEWS*. After that, I think this sappy, touching, heart warming (*SOB*) article is called for.

Chris mentioned something about Team 8 members being able to come talk to their leaders at any time they need help and/or advice. Well, I think that that goes for ALL of the leaders. Just because you weren't in Group #8 doesn't mean that you can't come talk to us. Let's just say that if you need advice, comfort, or the like, we're still here!

I think most (if not all) of us feel like we're still your "Big Brothers and Sisters". Hey, (here it comes) We care! (You can now break down in heart warming tears).

On behalf of all the leaders,

Dr. Seuss  
a.k.a. Neil Murray



## FASS Needs Writers!

What's that? You don't know what FASS is? Why, FASS is the local amateur theatre group based right on campus, and every year in February, we put on a musical comedy extravaganza that chases away those mid-winter blues and provides a source of mirthful memories for months afterwards. We are a "happening".

We've been doing this for so many years, we outdate the Feds. In fact, we're UW's oldest tradition after tuition.

FASS stands for Faculty, Alumni(ae), Staff and Students. Which is another way of saying that anyone who's had anything to do with this campus is invited to participate as actors, techies, writers, singers, dancers, musicians or whatever! (And we like to party with *lots* of people. Often. Call it a weakness.)

We guarantee lots of people for our parties by giving a part in the play to everyone for shows up for auditions in January. Needless to say, musical comedy scripts involving 60 to 150 characters quipping about UW are rather scarce. We have to (*gasp*) write the script ourselves!

Every year, a theme for the next year is chosen. For FASS 1994, the theme is "University Life." And every year, the poor fool who gets to be the Chief ScriptWriter holds meetings every Wednesday and Sunday with anyone who wants to write, edit or kibbitz, in an attempt to finish the script before Christmas.

I am that poor fool. Please, please, PLEASE. I invite you. I implore you. I beg you. Visit me on any Wednesday or Sunday in Hagey Hall, Room 124 at 7:30pm. Help me write the script for FASS 1994. Continual attendance isn't necessary; I'm the only one who has to be there each and every week. It doesn't matter if you've ever written before. Bring a pen. I'll show you how it's done. Okay?

Here's a practice writing drill. Write in your datebook: "FASS Writers' Meetings. Wednesdays and Sundays. HH 124. 7:30pm." I'll see you there.

David Welbourn  
Chief ScriptWriter, FASS 1994

## mastHEAD

Thanks for all the people who wandered in for typing, griping, writing, biting, fixing, mixing, nixing and one more word that ends in -ixing. And now doing their impression of the Rockettes, with their favourite breakfast food are the staff for this ish: Mike Hammond (Oreo Cookies (with a Classic Coke chaser)), Mala Krishnan (cereal with waffles topped with syrup, icing sugar, half-a-dozen doughnuts and a heaping pile of toast...I'm full!), Peter Milley (Crunchy Frog), Alex Wilson (Deep Fried Crack Babies [*sounds like Village food - Wookie Ed.*]), Dale Wick (The-instant-just-add-water- and-stir-microwavable-nourishment-with-fiber-added (porridge)), Michael Melvin (Breakfast? What's that?), Moses Moore (Peanut butter and toothpaste sandwich), Joeb Hewitt (Psycho Turniphead Squash the Nasty Things Sugar Toasties), Stephen Mills (Froot Loops with sugar added ( $\frac{14}{30}g = \text{sugar}$ )), and Ian Goldberg (Who has time for breakfast (see Peter's article)?).

Special thanx and apologies to Marion (we really have to cut our budget, but if things go wrong, please take us back)

Erich "Fuzzy" Jacoby  
(Sawdust (with table syrup, of course))  
Curtis "Chewbacca" Desjardins  
(Cookie Dough Haagen Dazs topped with chocolate sauce - Mmmm, calories! How I love them so!)

## Top Ten Reasons to Keep Pseudonyms

or "Give Me Pseudonyms or Give Me Death"

10. The pseudonyms were funnier than the articles.
9. mathNEWS writers get a kick out of being in the prestigious company of the likes of Anne Landers and Dear Abby
8. mathNEWS is not, nor has it ever been a reputable, respectable, or responsible paper. They get away with more on prime time T.V. for GOSH\* sakes. (\*- Not my words)
7. Really cool, rebellious, "devil may care", "damn the torpedoes" attitude.
6. If your article stinks, no one will point at you and laugh. At least no more than usual.
5. When you are quoted by the Gazette, it sounds much more mysterious. It also gives you time to leave the country.
4. Get to speak out against the system and NOT have your transcript or resumes mysteriously vanish. [*Or have your files pulled even though you're not even in Co-op, not mentioning any names, or anything - Wookie Ed.*]
2. You can write top ten lists with no third item.
1. MacGyver is a DAMN fine pseudonym.

MacGyver  
It's not just a pseudonym  
It's a way of life  
Phil Rittenhouse

a little  ITALY  
in every BITE 

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## profQUOTES

"Variance is a 4 letter word"

Mathews, STAT 231

"If government could tax narcotics the way they tax cigarettes, we would have no national debt. We'd be sailing, in more ways than one."

Carvalho, ECON 102

"I need some pain killers. I'll just hit my head against the board"

Bennett, MATH 245

"A Liberal is somebody who can find a problem and solve it with your money."

Lawrence, MTHL 100

"Coupling is interaction between modules, how can you remember that?... (silence)... exactly, now..."

A. Pidduck, CS 430

"The first prime numbers are 2, 3, 5, 7, if you're in Engineering-9, 11, 13..."

Gilbert, MATH 135

"Men who get divorced have more heart attacks. Men who get married also have more heart attacks."

Smith, ECON 220

"This is what I call the Quebec principle. The <intercept  $B_0$ > enjoys special status and it must be treated differently."

Welch, STAT 331

"If you get this question, I will have a heart attack, and that's better than bonus marks..."

Sivaloganathan, MATH 137

"I never think of these things. I just copy them out of books."

Bartols, CS 788

"Now, suppose that after handing out assignment 7, I'm found dead in my office..."

Davidson, MATH 135

"(Cantor) died in a mental institution, which tells you that if you mess with this stuff too long, you go crazy."

Hudson, PMATH 351

"...back in the 1800's when everyone was stupid."

Hudson, PMATH, 351

"Therefore, by the Cute Theorem, ..."

Hudson, PMATH, 351

"So you kinda slap those people out of the way."

Hudson, PMATH, 351

"...and long is usually synonymous with hard."

Hudson, PMATH, 351

"As of Monday, don't miss any classes because the fun starts."

Tenti, AM 261

"Things that are true in pure math are not necessarily true in applied math because, in mechanics, a thing like that is not called a triangle."

Tenti, AM 261

"Write the new theory of mechanics and submit it for publishing."

Tenti, AM 261

"The first axiom should be: 'There is stuff.' The second axiom should be a statement that says: 'There are stuff movers.'"

Tenti, AM 261

"You can't just sit at your desk and say, 'Let there be stuff.'"

Tenti, AM 261

"I don't believe I told you my Office Hours. That tells you how anxious and eager I am to meet with you."

Naus, PSYCH 236

"Penis size is the axis around which the world turns."

Naus, PSYCH 236

"You people who are going to leave early, please sit in the back row, tip toe, and close the door quietly... give a wave, if you want."

Lefcourt, PSYCH 355

"... You try to find one counter example, then everybody knows you don't have a theorem."

Kerr-Lawson MATH 135

"You guys want to calm down. I can't hear on the bottom; so that's a problem."

Labahn CS 134

"Let's do another algorithm. We have time; we have 6 minutes."

Labahn CS 134

"It's inconvenient running around with your pants full of turds..."

Lefcourt, PSYCH 355

"For students, sex is not an accident."

Campbell, PHIL 200J

"If I find you illegally in this class, I'm getting really mad. I'll report you to... I don't know where."

Brzozowski, CS 360



## The Oracle Speaks

The answers are here

How do you split a CS assignment between two people when they disagree on how to do it?

Gimmie That Stapler

*If you're working on an object oriented language, plan it out using a top-down method, and delegate who works on what objects by flipping a coin. If you're not, then the two of you should agree on what would make a better program: smaller code size, smaller resources needed, faster execution, depends on what turns on your prof. For comments, use the expectations of whoever wants the most. In all cases, make sure the other person goes over the code s/he didn't write to see if it can be better.*

Given any topic, one person knows more about it and has the most knowledge on that topic. What's the point on the rest of us having an opinion on it at all?

"X"

*Philosophy for Mathies 101: Although there will always be a person who has the most knowledge on a topic, no person will have all the knowledge on any topic that another person might aspire to have an opinion on. In a Taylor polynomial, you can take more and more derivatives to get a more accurate approximation of a function; in human society you can assimilate more and more viewpoints to get a better abstraction or concept of a real thing.*

Is that all there is?

No.

Why do we need all these other languages?

Death before Cobol

*The artsies had to get one more requirement for their program, so the idea of different languages was thought up by the University Directors one night over a bottle of Jack Daniels. Anyone you hear that isn't speaking English is being paid by the University to utter gobbledygook to keep up the deception. Some people have taken it too seriously and actually made up languages to learn and use for fun (like Klingon, Pig Latin and French). Ha, no, really. The Judeo-Christian story: People wanted to build a freeway to heaven, but God didn't want to have tourists walking around heaven, knocking on God's door for autographs, with tour buses, etc. So God made the first go at bureaucracy — making everyone speak different languages and fill things out in triplicate. Nobody could agree on what angle to use on the tower or what color it should be, so it collapsed under it's own weight with a love-tap from God. The Evolutionist story: None of the Homo Erectii had their shit together to ask other tribes of Homo Erectii to agree on which grunts ment "wristwatch" or "mastadon". Natural selection is responsible for Python's Hungarian sketch.*

Why is Pascal so easy to learn, but Japanese so hard?

Lum Fan Club

*Because the Japanese compiler was written by MicroFocus. Sure, the Haiku features are good, and there's a lot of entertainment software out there (they're contemplating Orange Road for Windows), but it's such a high level programming language it's like writing in raw postscript. Sure, Ian does it, but I'd like to see him try programming in raw Japanese.*

Remember, if you have any "burning questions", drop them off in the BLACK BOX for anonymity, or email mathnews if you can trust us to withhold your identity.

Oracle

## Get Off Your Ass!

October 25<sup>th</sup> is the next, and possibly final, Federal Election. DON'T STOP READING THIS ARTICLE!!!! We know that if voting could change the system, it would be illegal (if 'not voting' could change the system, it would also be illegal). However, with your vote, or lack thereof, you can still influence this nation's political system. The political Parties are all bunk, but it's yet possible to influence the way our government works. If you don't wish to vote for any of the Parties (and we don't blame you), be sure to follow one of the following strategies:

- Enumerate yourself, and show up to the polling station, and spoil your ballot
- Same, except eat your ballot (or just take it with you as you leave)
- Vote for a write-in candidate (Snufflupagus is my personal favourite. Snuff for PM! Snuff for PM!)
- Enumerate, show up, and refuse your ballot. (This is a legitimate option)
- Enumerate, leave with your ballot, photocopy it at Topley's (Kinko's doesn't do that sort of thing), and have your friend stuff them in the ballot box when s/he goes to vote. (Vote early and often!)
- Enumerate your dead grandmother, and cast her vote
- Vote in the advance polls here, vote in the advance polls where your parents live, and vote at the Canadian Embassy in the Bahamas on Election Day
- Petition the Queen to dissolve Parliament

Even if you don't follow any of the above suggestions, don't sit on your ass and do nothing! That will just tell those morons in Ottawa that you like what they're doing (they still think "Silence == Consent").

If none of these options suits you, drop by our office and we'll teach you how to make an explosive device from household items. Or buy the Anarchists Cookbook, which is just chock full o'good stuff (available in your friendly neighborhood Campus Bookstore).

But DON'T sit at home pickin' yer nose watching another dorky episode of DS9!! Do something to show them your dissatisfaction with their representational phlegm-ocracy. If more people spoil their votes than vote for the NDP, maybe someone will wake up.

The Editors, and other Anarchists who happened to be in the office, but we don't know who they are except for Ron Roberts, and we take full responsibility anyway!

**Please don't take the exam folders out of the MathSoc Office. Other people would like to use them, too.**



## SMURF – A Next Generation Programming Language

As associate advisor to the Undergrad Computer Science Course-Based Computer Language Assignment Committee – the people who decided “Hey, why should anyone in first or second year CS learn a useful programming language?” – I am privy to lots and lots of neat information. Unfortunately, I have been forbidden to share this information with the math undergraduate student body. Fortunately, I don’t care. Nyah nyah nyah nyah nyah! Thbbppptt!

When I first took CS246, I was disappointed to find that I’d be programming in Modula-3. I’d hoped that, being enrolled in CS, I’d have a chance to learn a language which would have more value on my resume than my 7-11 cashier experience. Moving up to CS241 I discovered I’d be working in Modula-3 again. It was for this reason that I joined UCSCBCLAC (see above), with the hopes of encouraging them to introduce C or C++ at the second year CS level.

After lengthy meetings, during which several donut-fights broke out, an agreement was reached. As of the 1994 fall school term, Modula-3 would be replaced in CS246 and CS241 with the SMURF programming languages. SMURF is a recently developed object-oriented modular programming language, described as “having the power of Modula-3 with the programming-ease of C”. While SMURF has not yet reached the popularity of C, it is expected that within two years it will have taken over 40% of the computer programming industry.

### What the heck is SMURF?

SMURF stands for Short Modular Un-Recursive Function. It was designed by MicroSMURF, a division of Microsoft. One benefit of this association is that WinSMURF should be on the store shelves in July of ’94. The UW Computer Store has apparently only ordered in 80 copies of WinSMURF for Sep ’94. All I can say, is better get in there quick – it’ll sell FAST!

Borland has also announced the release of Borland SMURF++. Since SMURF is already object-oriented, I asked SMURF dept. head Paul “Ziggy” Wienberg what the “++” stand for. “Leave me alone,” was Paul’s reply.

The simple beauty behind SMURF is that it is a simple and beautiful programming language. What, you want me to elaborate?

### SMURF is Short

SMURF programs are, by necessity, very short. An individual SMURF program can’t contain more than four function-calls. For example, a SMURF module might contain one variable assignment, one function which acts on this variable, one call to another SMURF, and a return function which passes the modified variable to the previous SMURF. Each smurf module can access only one variable, called SMURF.

### SMURF is Modular

SMURF programs may only contain four function calls, but you can have thousands of the little fuckers working together. Picture your CPU, swarming with SMURFs, each perform its own little job without giving a shit about what the other SMURFs are doing, how much CPU time its taking up, or who actually owns that file you told it to erase.

### SMURF is Un-Recursive

As Bill Gates so eloquently said in his ’91 interview in BYTE magazine, “Recursive programming sucks!” To combat this archaic programming style, a SMURF function can not call itself. Complex function-tree-structure analysis built into the SMURF compiler makes sure that sneaky programmers can’t trick the SMURFs.

### SMURF has (duh) functions

Function: If you don’t know what these are, you must be very confused by now.

### SMURF Modules

A programmer writing in SMURF must quickly learn the 100 or so different kinds of SMURF modules. Rather than have libraries which link different kinds of functions into a module, each library has its own kind of SMURF module which it automatically links to. The downside of this is that you can’t use functions from two different libraries in the same module. When you’re dealing with a maximum of four function calls per module, this usually isn’t much of a problem. Several kinds of SMURF modules are described below.

- **PapaSMURF:** This is the main module, the progenitor of all other SMURFs. It does nothing but execute other SMURF modules. In other words, it bosses the other SMURFs around. There can only be one PapaSMURF.
- **SMURFette:** This module has no function libraries linked to it. It accepts no parameters. It returns no values. It is incapable of input or output. In other words, it performs no useful function in a SMURF program. It can, however, link to any other SMURF module. SMURF project-chief Yohan claims “it keeps the other SMURFs happy, and hard working”. There is only one SMURFette, and in large SMURF programs especially, she gets linked constantly. The SMURFette module must be linked to the PapaSMURF module, and in multitasking SMURF programs, PapaSMURF’s call to SMURFette have priority over all other calls.
- **BrainySMURF:** This module performs all the input and output functions available in SMURF. In other words, whenever you want user input, or wish to output information to the screen, you have to call BrainySMURF. The BrainySMURF library is one of the most criticized parts of SMURF. The input routines work fine, but the output routines are slow and tend to include extraneous information. You can have as many BrainySMURF modules as you want, but you’ll wish you had less.
- **ClumsySMURF:** Whenever you define your SMURF variable in a module, you’ll use some memory. SMURF doesn’t reclaim this memory when the module is exited, you have to destroy the variable using ClumsySMURF if you want that. If you ever have more than one ClumsySMURF module running simultaneously, chances are they’ll get confused, and start randomly destroying memory.

continued on page 11



continued from page 10

- **HeftySMURF**: This module moves information from one memory location to another. Whenever you want to assign a variable or copy a list, you've gotta call HeftySMURF.

There are hundreds more, but I can't describe them all here. See the upcoming CSC (computer smurf club) discussion "SMURF - a Next Generation Programming Language" for more information.

### Hello SMURF!

For those of you who are confused, I'll show you an example SMURF program. Note, each of these is a separate module-file, the name of which is given.

```
Papa.SMURF
SMURF!
{
  Link Smurfette.SMURF;
  Call Brainy.SMURF.Smurf-them-hello-Brainy;
}
ENDSMURF.

Smurfette.SMURF
SMURF!
{}
ENDSMURF.

Brainy.SMURF.Smurf-them-hello-Brainy
SMURF!
{
  SMURF = Call Hefty.SMURF.What-is-their-name-Hefty;
  OutSmurf("Hello "SMURF);
  Call
    Clumsy.Destroy-this-name-for-us-Clumsy(SMURF);
  ReSMURF();
  % Poor Brainy didn't get to SMURF with SMURFette
}
ENDSMURF.

Hefty.SMURF.What-is-their-name-Hefty
SMURF!
{
  CreateSmurfString(SMURF);
  Call
    Brainy.SMURF.Ask-them-their-name-Brainy(SMURF);
  Link Smurfette.SMURF;
  ReSMURF(SMURF);
}
ENDSMURF.

Brainy.SMURF.Ask-them-their-name-Brainy(SMURF);
SMURF!
{
  SMURF =
    GetStringSMURF("What the smurf is your name?")
  % Ha, this time I will SMURF her good!
  Link Smurfette.SMURF;
  ReSMURF(SMURF);
}
ENDSMURF.

Clumsy.SMURF.Destroy-this-name-for-us-Clumsy(SMURF);
SMURF!
{
  SmurfWithAHammer(SMURF);
  Link Smurfette.SMURF;
  ReSMURF();
}
ENDSMURF.
```

Of course, this is a very simple program, which is why so little code was needed. The 420 megabyte example source code for CalcuSMURF (a non smurfentic...er...scientific calculator), which comes on CD-Rom with WinSMURF, gives a much better demonstration of the power of SMURF.

Chris "Strunoph" Norman  
aka Ahmoras the Dragon  
aka the guy with the aliases that make no sense

## So I Sold My Soul For Co-op

### A Letter Home

Dear Mom, Dad and Dog,

You'll be very happy to know the extra tuition money for the Co-op program was well spent. Why today alone I spent over two hours in Needles Hall trying to figure where my high school marks could have gone. I certainly am getting my money's worth, why most of my classes aren't even that long and I pay a lot more for them.

The staff are very friendly. They even tried to let me get to know all the people in the building better by letting me visit all of them in one day. The team effort is outstanding as not one person can help me alone. I guess everyone likes to chip in.

One lady was very nice. I asked her if I couldn't get a job and if I had to work on the pig farm again would I get Co-op credit. You won't believe this but she said yes, and she seemed most excited by the idea of me working on a pig farm. These people are so open to new ideas.

You know what else, the people have really helped me get my priorities straight. One lady said that if I get an interview that I should skip my class because Co-op's more important. You were right when you said that money's more important than an education, Dad. You know what else, Dad? You're not a pig farmer anymore. That's right, a nice lady I waited over two hours to see (she's very smart and sought after I guess), told me that pig farmer was wrong and that my resume should say Agricultural Technician (pretty cool eh!).

Only one problem Dad, I hate to bring it up but I've joined four clubs and five charities since coming here and I need some money for the dues. I don't really know what clubs I'm in but the nice Co-op lady put them on my resume and said being in them was more important than actually helping them. Great system, eh? I should get a job for sure now, and they promised they would find my high school marks this week (where could they have gone?). I might be lucky enough to get a job with the government, I hear they are REALLY nice there.

I'd love to tell you about my classes but I really haven't gone yet. What with writing, revising and photocopying resumes all day who has time, but don't worry, if I get a good job it will all be worth it.

Say hi to the neighbours, I'll be home Thanksgiving (if I don't have an interview) and all my love!

Your drowning in bureaucratic bullshit son  
Jerry McGrath, Econ 2nd year

## Blatant Filler

$\alpha$  Q B Cos(U) R Sec(C)  
But: B4  $\alpha$  Q, QT  $\pi$ ,  $\frac{RU}{18}$ ?

Nabil Rehman



## Dawn of the Human Age

### part 1

Al never will get used to being called "The Father of the Human Age." The term will never feel right. It is, of course, better than being called "The Avatar of the Next World," which is what a few rather nutty people choose to call him, but that doesn't make "The Father of the Human Age" any less unsettling. Being called the Father of anything in big capital letters meant he couldn't walk around in public in peace anymore. Just goes to show how risky getting up in the morning is nowadays.

That's all Al did at the start—get up early. For the past year he had been getting up at five in the morning every day to jog, and most of those days Fate chose not to punish him for it. But on that particular day, just as the Dawn of the Human Age broke, Al saw a light in the office of his friend George, the University's top computer engineer. George had frequently pulled all-niters in his office lately, and tended to fall asleep at his desk, so Al decided to pay him a visit and wake him up if need be.

Sure enough, George was facedown on his desk. He woke up easily enough when Al kicked him in the shin.

"C'mon, George, go sleep on a bed somewhere. Your neck will thank you, trust me."

"Alr'ght, yeah, gimmeaminute," George mumbled. "Jus'gotta shut this Beast down." Bleary-eyed, George began to run shutdown commands on his computer terminal.

"This that new 'artificial brain' you've been working on?"

"Yep. Was doing a test run with it last night, making sure it won't explode before we do the big test tomorrow." George grinned feebly. "That's when it's *supposed* to explode. Five hours to rewrite its own programs, and then it if we're lucky it'll do something we didn't predict. That's the goal." By now the shutdown programs had stopped, and George started to flick the bank of power switches on his desk. The 'Beast', Al remembered, was in another room, along with its own secure power supply which George was now shutting down.

"Sounds cool," Al said. "What do you do with it if it works?" he asked.

But George never got a chance to reply. When he turned around, Al was falling to the ground with his eyes rolled up into his head. The Beast chose that moment to finish the shutdown sequence, and there was silence as the generators one floor below died.

The nurse who looked at Al decided it was a perfectly normal fainting spell, probably brought on by a lack of glucose. Al solemnly swore to increase his sugar intake before he jogged in the future, and that was that. He didn't doubt the nurse's word for an instant. He had had fainting spells before, when he started jogging, and this has been exactly the same: the same brief wobbliness in the legs followed by a total loss of energy. This spell had been awfully sudden, but Al didn't see that as significant.

So nothing else unusual happened until the next day, when Al decide to watch the 'Beast' get put through its paces. Unlike the quick test two days ago, this test was taking place in the main computer room itself. Al was suitably impressed; the ten state-of-the-art mainframes which made up the Beast, along with the customized bank of processors George had designed himself, took up enough of the room to tower over the handful of spectators present and make them feel like they were in the presence of a Serious Computing Machine. The very room said, "Be reverent. You are in the presence of the most powerful analytic devices you will see this week."

While his assistants scurried around testing the hardware, George explained that the Beast also had special time-sharing access to several dozen desktop workstations throughout the building. "Initially, they won't be in use. But when the Beast's software stops changing chaotically and starts to actually improve a little—that should happen after about two hours—the workstations may be brought on-line to speed up the process. Or they may not; we literally can't predict that."

"So you won't be modifying the programs yourself as they run?" someone in the back asked (who actually seemed to understand what was going on).

"Not after the first two hours," George replied. "But some intervention will be needed initially to prevent the Beast from committing itself to an unproductive path of development..."

George's explanation was cut short by a signal from his acolytes that the computer was ready to run. George excused himself and Al took a seat as George began to load the Beast's starting set of software into his specialized processors. One final quick check-up was performed on the mainframes, and then George quietly ran the start-up command. His assistants hovered over his shoulders like worried relatives, blocking Al's view. After half an hour, Al decided they intended to remain there until George's two-hour limit had passed, presumably so they would be in a good position to worry if something went wrong, so he went to lunch.

When he came back, the Beast had been running for three and a half hours. Now everyone was deliberately not interfering, so George had the time to explain some of what was happening. It still didn't make much sense—you would have to have some understanding of George's processors to make heads or tails of it—but it seemed the Beast's programs were mutating nicely. At one point one of the remaining assistants (most of them had gone to lunch themselves) declared "The workstations are on line!", and George hurried over to see what the Beast was doing. Al noticed that the Beast had now been running for four and a half hours.

At the fifth hour of the test, George stopped the Beast briefly to examine its software. He seemed disappointed. "Nothing funny happening yet. We'll give it another half-hour and see how much it's changed."

And at five hours, twenty minutes into the test, Al suddenly got an inkling as to the cause of his fainting spell yesterday. For at that point the Beast underwent what would later be described as an awakening... which only Al was able to notice... because, as later studies would indicate, the Beast was somehow communicating directly with Al's mind...

And although Al would not realize it until much later, the Human Age, in which computers became more than human, had well and truly begun...

*To be continued...*

Peter Milley

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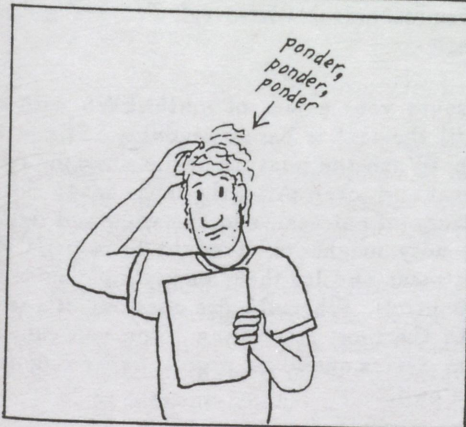
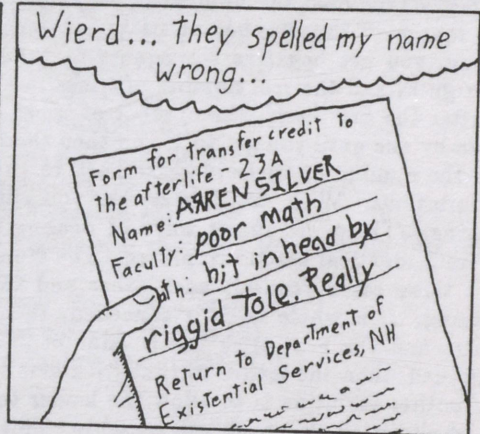
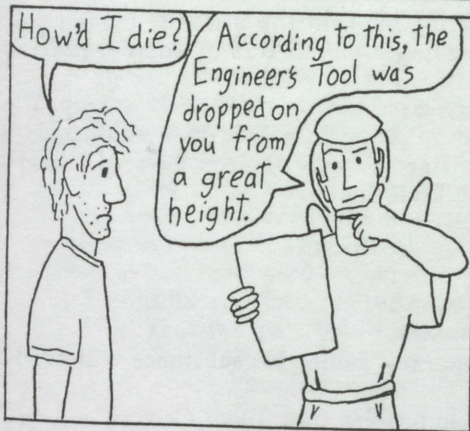
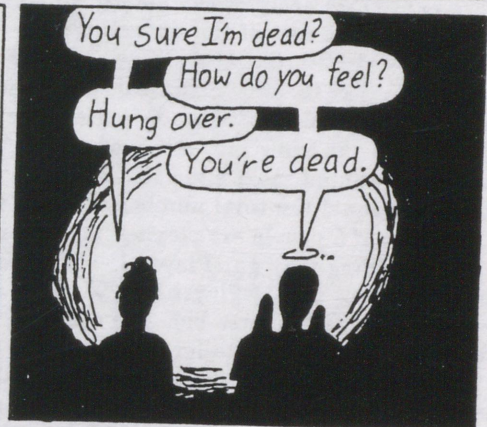
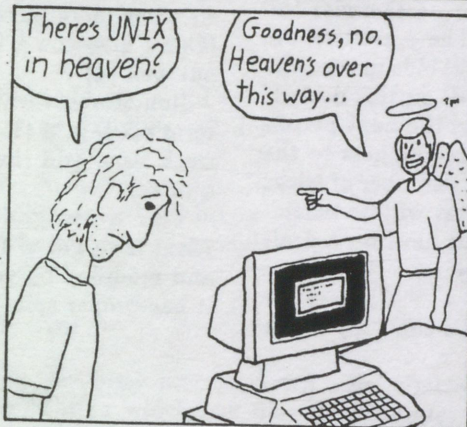
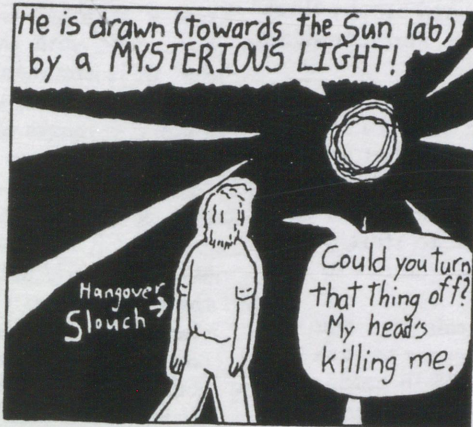
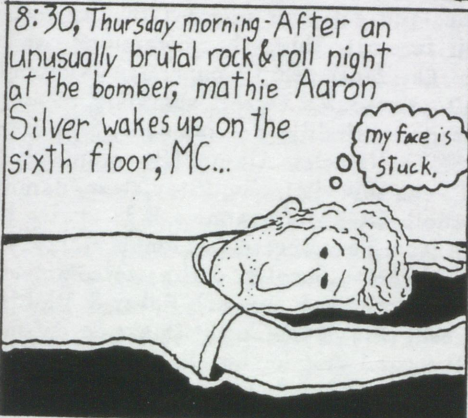
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Editor: Curtis "Chewbacca" Desjardins, Erich "Fuzzy" Jacoby



# Aaron Silver is GONE...

by  
Joel Hewitt



To Be Continued...



## Comfy Lounge Card Club

### *Screw Your Neighbour*

Well, here we are again in the middle of another exciting term. The Comfy Lounge has been packed as always, and usually there are at least 2 games of Euchre, 2 games of Bridge, and something else being played all the time.

What I'd like to talk about is this other game. Often there are many different versions of the same game. What I want to set out here are the standard Comfy Lounge rules that were set down many years ago at the birth of the universe.

Screw Your Neighbour is a popular game for 3 to tons of players. As you add more players, you may want to start adding more decks (see variations). The object of the game is to have the highest score at the end of the game.

At the beginning of the game, someone deals (the one who owns the cards) a pre-determined number of cards to each person. Usually in the first round, everyone gets 10 cards each. After all the cards are dealt, the top card is turned over. If it is a face card (K, Q or J), then there is no trump. Otherwise the trump suit is the suit of the upturned card. The person to the left of the dealer starts the bidding. Each person bids in turn the number of tricks that they think they can make on this deal. If two of an identical bid are made consecutively, the next person cannot make the same bid. Also, when the bidding gets to the dealer, they cannot make a bid so that the total number of tricks bid for will equal the total number of tricks that will be taken.

Example: If 5 people are playing, and 4 cards have been dealt out, the bidding may go: Player 1 - "1"; Player 2 - "1"; (Note Player 3 cannot say 1) Player 3 - "0"; Player 4 - "0"; Here the Dealer cannot say 0 (three bids in a row) and he can't say 2 (the total would then be 4) Dealer - "1".

The lead is made by the person to the Dealer's left. After the hand has been played out, the scores are tabulated. If you correctly predicted the number of tricks you get 10 points plus the square of the number of tricks you guessed. If you were wrong, you get negative the square of the difference between your guess and the real number of tricks.

After the first hand, the number of tricks on each hand goes down by one until you get to 1, and then there is another 1 hand and the number of tricks increase back to 10.

Variations: With multiple decks, you can get more people playing. There are many ways of dealing with the situation where 2 identical cards are played. The standard way is to say that these cards "cancel" each other and they have a value of nothing. If a whole trick is cancelled, then it remains in the centre and the next trick has a value of 2. If the last trick is cancelled, then the leader to that trick gets it.

Another variation is to allow the leader to every trick decide which direction this trick will travel in. This adds another level of skill to the game.

An interesting way to play the 1-card hands is to have everyone receive their card face down, and then place it against their forehead **WITHOUT LOOKING AT IT** so that it faces out. Then they can see everyone's card but their own, and have to make their bid based on that info.

Also, another name for this game is Progressive Whist, but I'm sure you didn't want to know that.

Screw Your Neighbour is really a great game, especially when you're playing with a good group of friends and chugging back the brewskis.

EC "Ace Upmysleeve" Sutherland  
with some additions from Fuzzy, who has taken a solemn vow  
not to play cards

## gridCOMMENTS

Lots and lots of solutions this time! Either it was way too easy or we have many enthusiastic new griders. Here are the results. The winner is: The Games Master. Come around to the MathSoc Office and get your prize. Other correct entries were, with their favourite thing that computers can't do and their comment: The Mothership Connection (Computers at Needles Hall can't print out a correct summary of my job history & marks after four tries!!!) (no comment) Sam Dan & Alex (It gets worse: SEX), Nameless Alumni (Be completely bug free) (It's too easy if I can solve it!), Kivi (Stay clean, dammit!) (hey, a cryptic I can do!), GGTW (give me a B.J... batch job), Jeff Hart (Computers can't wear lingerie fashionably), Live from Waterloo...HAMMER! (Mathtoons) (I decline to comment on the grounds that I may incriminate myself), Pokey & Phil (Lick stamps!) (What the hell, eh?), Aunt Tracks (make decent music (sorry Utah Saints!)) (good grid for once), Pudge & 'Too (A computer can't get mad no matter how much you yell at it and hit it) (Ada sucks!), Phage and 2 (Find our 3d solutions!) (And we want more puzzles) and one incorrect from Janine & Tanya (Can't give you a locker in MC) (this leisurely puzzle was laid out well (4)).

Honourable mentions go to The Trio for their solution to last term's 3-D grid (too late for a prize) and to Scott Gusba for the frosh issue grid (bug the orientation director (Mike Melvin) for a prize)

This weeks grid (sorry, cryptic only again) was created by Alex "I've got a fucking bio mid-term" Wilson (thanx, Alex) and modified by yours Fuzzy. Is it easy? I dunno, but at least it has proper spin  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

gridFUZZY

## Cooking Instructions

*mathNEWS's way of helping the student on a budget  
to get their money's worth out of each issue!*

Chop issue into bite-sized portions. Place in saucepan, and add four cups of water. Bring to a boil, then simmer until it starts to smell appetizing. Serve with mint-flavored toothpicks or as a side dish with kraft dinner.

### *Recipe idea!*

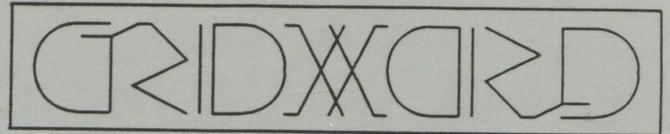
1-2 fresh copies of mathNEWS,  
1/4 cup greasy substance,  
1/2 cup cooking wine (any flammable substance will do; I use listerine),  
10-12 packets of ketchup stolen from Davis Center,  
1 tupperware dish of unrecognizable leftovers,  
salt and pepper to taste.

In a frying pan, saute your copies of mathNEWS with the greasy substance until the text is barely readable. Stir in the leftovers and ketchup. When the mixture begins smoking fairly badly, remove from heat and cover. After the sauce has thickened to about the consistency of oatmeal, add the wine and light it on fire (If you have nosy neighbors, it might be a good idea to call the fire department and let them know that you've got the situation under control). When the fire goes out, it's ready to eat. Garnish with the most interesting thing you can find growing on your lawn. Serves one to six people, depending upon how many plates you own.

Joeb Hewitt



# mathNEWSquiz



Greetings from the squizguelph. I only received six submissions for the squiz this week, which means that although my feelings have been slightly hurt at least I don't have to do much paperwork. These submissions came from Jeff Hart, The Games Master, and G.G.T.W, with one correct answer each, Aunt Tracks, and Pokey & Phil Collins, with two correct answers each, and with a whopping four correct answers, this week's champions are Sam, Dan, & Alex. You can pick up your squizprize at the usual place.

The correct answers for last week's squiz are: Cult Heroes- 1) Number Six, 2) Buckaroo Banzai, 3) Omaha, 4) Dr Frankfurter, 5) Rorschack; Song Lyrics- 1) Alec Eiffel by the Pixies, 2) In the Heart of a Woman by Billy Ray Cyrus ("the antichrist" would also have been accepted), 3) Say You Will by Gogh Van Go, 4) Hey Jealousy by The Gin Blossoms, and 5) Enid by The Barenaked Ladies.

So, without further ado, here is this week's squiz. Hope you enjoy it better than last week...

### Who's the greek?

- 1) We all know that Bruno Gerussi's boat on the old CBC series "The Beachcombers" was named "The Persephonie", but what was the name of his character?
- 2) Following Pericles's death, this man became the most influential political speaker in classical Athens as well as becoming the number one source of jokes for the comedic playwright Aristophanes.

### Incredibly Bad Japanese Cinema

- 1) Gamera was the world-famous giant, fire-breathing space turtle and friend to children everywhere, but in which one of his eight movies was the head of a young boy shaven bald by brain-sucking alien invaders?
- 2) Fugitive Alien wasn't really a movie, but instead a series of television shows strung together along a loose narrative. In it, one of the marauding Wolf Raider aliens defected to the side of Earth after defending the life of a human child. What was his name? (hint: *This was the name most often used for the male lead in badly translated Japanese films*)
- 3) In addition to all of the leaping about in silly rubber costumes on cardboard skyscrapers, the movie *Godzilla vs Mechagodzilla* also featured a love story. Why did the female not think that the male would want her?

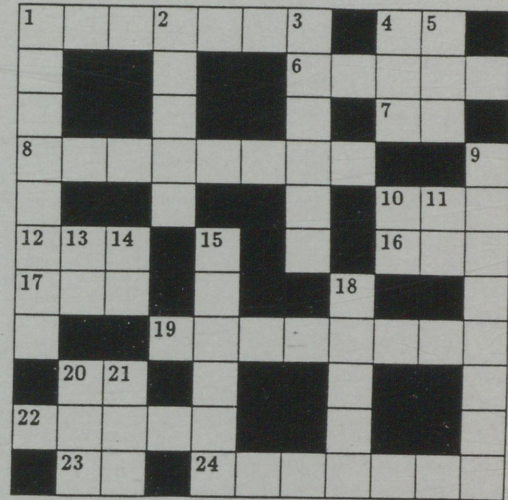
### You Name the Professor!

- 1) Math 145.
- 2) Latin 492.

### Playing Doctor...

- 1) Persons suffering from this malady are prone to falling asleep or unconscious anytime and anywhere. Often accompanied by daymares or vivid hallucinations.
- 2) Chronic pain in the chest. Can be treated with high explosives.
- 3) Described as a belt of roses from hell, this painful affliction is caused by a virus from the herpes family.
- 4) Even more common than urinary tract infection, this psychological disorder is often the result of a thyroid condition or chronic mononucleosis.

Joeb Hewitt



## Grid Clues (Cryptic)

### Across

1. 8 students lift (7)
4. Sound of a happy person (2)
6. A shallow thing can be permitted (5)
7. The french and the English ethyl (2)
8. Theft of a tardy sex act (8)
10. A desire to be knighted (3)
12. The bur was massaged in (3)
16. Do a commotion (3)
17. Fiery wrath centred (3)
19. The fake money was shredded to itty bitty bits (8)
20. That is where it is (2)
22. Knock down! No dock! Capiche? (5)
23. It's odd the work isn't done (2)
24. The easier foolers keep toying (7)

### Down

1. A powerful voted ploy (8)
2. You'll save more than it's worth (5)
3. 90° re: The end of lent (6)
4. A sale of fine beer (3)
5. Shot in the heat of the moment (3)
9. Object to the single-celled (8)
10. Her South American style French (2)
11. The psyche said it wished pleasure (2)
13. You are up the 44<sup>TH</sup> (2)
14. It's best if it simply exists (2)
15. A mountain can add up to much (6)
18. If long fish could only empathise (5)
20. Dan plus anyone (3)
21. An excess is the only option (3)





## The Weak

Our research suggests that you are much more likely to read this if your attention is drawn by big words in bold. Since we want to tell you about various boring campus events, we do things like:

**Sex**, which is one of those words that grab your attention. Once we have that attention, we can tell you about any boring campus event we want.

**Beer** is another such word.

**Seriously**, though, here is the real "news" for the week:

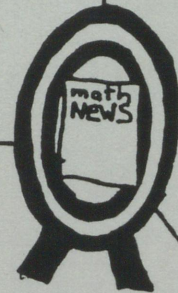
**Attractive** paperweights, shaped just like Hurlitt-Backward computer terminals, have been placed in certain MC computer labs. These paperweights were donated by the HB corporation, and have fooled many students into thinking that they were real computers. Said a HB spokesperson, "Waterlogged has given us so many co-op students that look good but are really something else, we thought we'd return the favor."

**Engineers** and Artsies are reminded that *mathNEWS*, under its current editorial policies, will continue to target them. Just so they don't go and start feeling secure.

**Tunnel** passes are now able to be purchased in MathSic, according to a source in the MathSic office. As well, this source claimed that the DoNot Porter Library is sinking under the weight of all its books, and that the Ribbed Tool really exists.

**Flaurel Creek** ducks have decided to move on, now that the creek has totally engulfed the Pillage Green. Said a spokesduck, "Sure, we like wetlands, but Waterlogged has become too wet, even for us." The Pillage Office could not be reached for comment.

**The weather** forecast for the Waterlogged region for the next week, not surprisingly, calls for rain. If this rain lasts for the next 7 days, we will have had nonstop rain for a total of 41 days, breaking the old mark set by Noah.



**Authorities take aim at *mathNEWS*** When asked for comment on *mathNEWS*'s policy of printing objectionable material, Dean (last name withheld upon request) said, "This freedom of press thing has gone too far. People shouldn't be allowed to read anything with the word 'fuck' in it. After we're done with *mathNEWS*, we're targeting *Imp'inti*." When asked for comment, Fizzy Tobaccy, *mathNEWS* co-editor, replied, "Fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck. Now let's see if he shoots his wad at the *GetzWet*."

## The *GetzWet* publishes a news article that the average Waterlogged student finds interesting and informative!

In a very surprising move, the *GetzWet* staff voted 2-1 this week to print a news article found to be both interesting and informative to every Waterlogged student surveyed. While this article was later cut in order to make room for an in-depth piece on the flossing habits of Pillage One students, the staff decision was both shocking and unprecedented.

"I was totally amazed that this article made it past its initial reading," said *GetzWet* staff member Lenda Howdy. "It was obvious right away that the article was interesting, but we approved it anyway. To the best of my knowledge, we've never printed anything even remotely interesting to anyone before."

Although not certain how such a piece made it to the *GetzWet*'s editorial doorstep, Howdy believes it was because they had somebody from outside the university write the article. "We fielded this article to a guy from the *Kitchenette-Waterlogged Wrecker*, and you know, I was so astonished to find how much better a professional reporter can write! We (the staff) have thought of taking writing lessons before, but we decided that the *GetzWet* would lose the very

qualities that make it so widely read across the Waterlogged campus. At last count, we had a distribution of 45,000, only 44,950 of which remained undisturbed! We're a growing paper, and we don't want to disrupt such a happy status quo, do we?"

We wanted to find out how the students felt about this, so we asked random students outside MC, Needless Hall, and the William G. ShaveUs Computing Centre. Typical responses included: "The *GetzWet*? What the hell is the *GetzWet*?"; "Are you saying that the *GetzWet* is a newspaper? I thought it was a weekly Engineering hoax!"; and from one particularly rushed-looking individual, "Can't talk! Gotta get my resumes in before 11!"

We finally did find a student, however, who knew what we were talking about. When we asked this student, who preferred to remain anonymous to avoid being discovered to be one of the *Imp'inti*'s non-apatetic students, what he thought when told of the article, said "It's about time! I've read the *GetzWet* for almost four years now, and I have yet to see a single interesting article! Hell, *mathNEWS* has more informative news

than anything I've ever read in the *GetzWet*!"

When reminded that he was talking to a reporter from the *GetzWet* right then, he responded, "So what? I bet this article isn't very interesting or informative, either."

Howdy agrees. "I believe that article is an anomaly. None of the staff have ever intended to deliberately write an interesting article, and I don't believe that we ever will. It just wouldn't be the *GetzWet* if we were to provide the Waterlogged campus with interesting articles. It's just too bad that the only entertaining Waterlogged paper happens to be *mathNEWS*!"

Now there isn't really much else to tell you, since this is a typical *GetzWet* article. But since we have to fill the rest of this column to make the front page look good, we have to print whatever gibberish and filler comes to mind. If we can't think of anything, then we just lapse into this "stream-of-consciousness" style that seems to pervade *Imp'inti* so much. In fact, we'll lapse into anything that will fill the last few empty rows of a page, much like we're doing here. These last lines are here only to fill in the rest of the whitespace appearing in this column. There. Done.