

math NEWS

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A Letter to Editors, Past, Present and Future

You can be the Captain, and I will plot a chart

mathNEWS is a many-splendoured thing. Debates in this and prior terms have said that mathNEWS is this, and isn't that, or that it can be this, but cannot be that. I would like to share with you the vision that I have for mathNEWS, built as a reader, a writer, and now, an editor. It is my hope that this term, Curtis and I have established some precedents, and demonstrated to some extent, what mathNEWS can be.

the Ghost of mathNEWS Past

In it's origin (over 20 years ago!), mathNEWS was just a simple, weekly news sheet containing information on what was happening in the Faculty of Math. As time passed, it grew and evolved (and became bi-weekly) through many forms and stages. Volumes were produced that contained profound political or philosophical articles, which you would have thought more at home in the Imp'tint. Someone submitted something funny that a prof said, and the profQUOTES's were born. Humour, a relatively new concept for mathNEWS, blossomed and grew. Somewhere along the line the idea came to have cover illustrations. Features, serials, and columns came into existence, faded away, or found a lasting niche. Formats, fonts, and content shifted this way and that. As we looked over the 20 year history of mathNEWS last winter when we were making the 20th anniversary issue, we discovered old issues that were drier than an issue of the Gazette in the Kalahari desert, or contained discussions far more mature and thoughtful than those gracing this term's Imp'tint Forum, or silly and offensive jokes that brought to mind the worst of mathBOOZE. And we realized that mathNEWS has been and done many things which we had not seen in our mere 3-4 years here.

the Ghost of mathNEWS Present

When I began reading and writing for mathNEWS in '89-'90, it was just passing out of a phase where it resembled a watered-down version of the old, banned Enginews. That is, it was quite silly, sexist, and immature. Over the ensuing years, editorial sensitivity improved but at the same time it became over-sensitive. The desire to avoid facile humour offensive to particular ethnic/social/gender groups also brought a fear of offending anyone, whether it was deserved or not. As well came a fear of being controversial or questioning authority. I have written articles which were rejected solely on the grounds that they were too explicit, or critical of someone "important" like Co-op, the Dean, the Administration, etc. The desire was to be a "nice," "clean," or "respectable" paper, and the means was editorial and self-censorship. Pressure came from the Dean's office, MathSoc exec, and others, and the Editors usually bowed under.

In this past Spring term, there was an incident where a person employed at the university felt personally offended by what was intended to be a joke. Fine. But this person then went on to intimidate the writer and editor and to use threats of both (untenable) legal action and illegal (and unethical) academic repercussions, and in the face of these threats the editor and writer surrendered and printed a public apology in the pages of this magazine. This incident was the final straw that convinced me that things here had to change, for the better and for ever. That is the change that Curtis and I have attempted to begin this term.

the Ghost of mathNEWS Future

Here is what I think mathNEWS not only can be, but should be. The students of this faculty deserve no less. mathNEWS must remain:

1. a main channel of information from MathSoc and the Faculty to math students
2. independent of and critical of MathSoc
3. independant of and critical of the Math Faculty
4. flexible
5. fair, yet fearless.

Although the main funding for mathNEWS comes from the Math Society, the basic amount they give is pre-determined in the constitution, and is not subject to suspension by tempermental Exec. They do not control our content. It is the duty of mathNEWS to carry the messages and announcements of MathSoc to the students, but also to provide a medium for criticisms of and commentary on the MathSoc Council. Editors must never be afraid to print such criticisms, as long as they feel that they are factually based or valid opinions, and not just personal attacks or malicious slander. Most of these comments apply equally to the Faculty, the U(W) administration, Co-op, etc.

Flexibility is also important. Some feel that at times, mathNEWS falls into a rut, and almost writes itself. Being an editor, I am very familiar with the patterns we use, and the lure of letting the default do all of the work. Having the cover, then the club stuff, then the sillier stuff, and finishing with the squiz and grid on the back pages works well and makes things easier for both us, who have to think less about how to structure things, and for the readers, who know what to expect (and where). This is not always a bad thing, and has served us well. But we should never think of these habits as being carved in stone, and must always be prepared to alter them to permit new ideas or presentations. We have been experimenting with this, (eg. our back cover parodies of Iron Warrior, Imp'tint, and mathBOOZE) and will continue to do so. However, we feel that the general format that works well for one issue also works well for the next for the same reasons, and don't need change for change's sake.

As to content, I cannot emphasize enough that we must not be afraid to be critical of the system we are in, either in a serious or humorous fashion. At the same time, we must be reasonably fair, and not just attack those in authority because they are in authority. If we can walk that fine line, we will be doing a service to both the students and the people they must interact with, be they profs, co-ordinators, or the third-receptionist-from-the-left-who-was-rude-for-no-reason.

In conclusion, I feel that mathNEWS can simultaneously fulfill the functions of a Math Gazette (administration information verbatim), a Math Imp'tint (uncensored student viewpoints) and a Math Humour magazine. To do any less, in any of these three aspects, is to betray our mandate and do a disservice to our readers and all the students of this faculty.

Erich "Fuzzy" Jacoby

The C+D is open for business
until Dec. 15th



A Student Chapter of the ACM

CSC Flash

It is the beginning of the end of term for you humans, and I am here once again to review the recent history of the CSC. Many, many more enthralling events will be taking place next term, but just to add to your exam-time stress, I have decided not to reveal what these events will be.

Don't Lose Your Quota!

In case you hadn't noticed, the CSC is offering quota for rent for the Winter term. If you have a bunch of stuff on your account that you want to keep, or if you'll be here, but not taking as many CS courses as this term, or if you just like using ftp, drop by the office and ask for some quota! Winter memberships are also on sale now.

In light of the approaching holiday season, you might want to drop by the CSC and pick up some wonderful gift items. Your family and friends will hate you if you don't at least get them a CSC pen or two.

The CSC office will, of course, be open far more often than MathSoc over the course of exams and the winter break. Be sure to drop by!

From me, like Santa but a little more on the evil-guy-housed-in-a-tin-can side,

Calum T. Dalek
Chairbeing

Act Sci Club

Sex, Party, and Alcohol!... are things that affect your mortality. But hey, you only live once.

Hope everybody enjoyed the volleyball games, Info Session, Movie/Pizza night, House Party, Australian Speaker, and the study material. Thanks to all those who made this term such a great one! (We had a record breaking number of members!)

Upcoming events include the Act Sci Convention (ANEA / ASNA) in Waterloo on January 14, 15, and 16 '94. Buy your ticket now! They're going fast. (We have already sold over 150 tickets in Quebec!)

Merry Christmas! And good luck in finals!

The Act Sci Club

MGC '94 News

Most important! **INTENT TO GRADUATE FORMS** must be filled out for those who wish to convocate in the Spring.

Thanks to all for Pizza Day support; Pizza Days will continue next term also so keep the buttons.

We need submissions for the 'Deep Thoughts' page in the year book. So anyone wishing to add something to this please submit it to the MGC office. Next term events include Math Grad Ball, Lulu's roadtrip, skating/ toboggan/sleigh ride and possibly another pool tourney.

Good luck on exams! And see you next term.

Trevor Dietrich

PMC&OC Speaks!

Last column of the term... sigh

Yeah, that's right, the term's over. (Kinda scary how they keep going by faster and faster, isn't it?) As a result, there isn't a lot of news to report. Our last talk of the term was last week: the much-ballyhooed talk by Professor Gilbert on arithmetic in complex bases and fractals. Thanks to Professor Gilbert for the interesting talk and neat Lego props!

And that's it! My best wishes go to the readers, and I hope you all survive finals and have a great holiday. Special thanks to everyone else in the PMC&OC for not wanting to write this column (insert smiley here). Watch the uw.pmc newsgroup for any last-minute events and notices, such our club's final co-rec sports results which I didn't have at press time, so to speak. I'll be back in the summer; see you then!

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

GINO'S PIZZA

Try a little bite of Italy

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The official pizza of mathNEWS

Large Pepperoni Pizza

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Expires Dec. 17/93

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and a Pop on Mon & Tues only

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Exec Says

Thanks for the Memories

Well it's that time of the year again where we say good bye and good luck. It's also time for us Exec to hand over the reins to new blood. Congratulations to the all male executive for the Summer '94 term... Mike Arsenau (Prez), Ron Servant (VPAS) and Andrew Goodin (VPF) (we wish you luck... you'll need it!!).

Here is a recap of the year... psychologists say that if you give bad news before good it leaves a better overall effect... so we'll mix it up

Winter 1993

Unfortunately to begin our reign, we (Elaine and Kathi) were acclaimed. This led to some dissent among the mathies who doubted our abilities and authority. The term also started out with us having to look for a treasurer... Fortunately we were able to find a willing and able person, Pat Calitri. We would like to thank him especially because through good times and bad, and through sickness and in health he was there for us.

Unfortunately the Math Society received a bad reputation through the Pink Tie Zone articles that were printed in math-NEWS. Fortunately we as your executive were able to benefit from these exaggerated reports. We often wished however that people would listen to both sides of the story and were more willing to come and talk to us personally.

Unfortunately the Math Society office was accused of being closed often. Fortunately we had close to 50 volunteers who were still willing to help out and try to keep the office open as much as possible. If only people would remember that we are a volunteer organization.

Unfortunately Betty-Jo Hill graduated and we lost an extremely valuable Math Society Volunteer and all around great person... Fortunately through her contributions to the Society she will always be remembered.

A special thanks to all the Volunteers from Winter 1993. We know it's a little late... but better late than never.

Fall 1993

Unfortunately our trusty treasurer Pat went off-stream and we were once again without a VP Finance (they changed the names on us while we were gone). Fortunately we were lucky enough to have an elected energetic and enthusiastic VP Finance for this term, Andrea McPhee (the one with the hat). And thus the first all female exec was established!!! (Thanks Andrea you're the best.)

Unfortunately certain courses were cut and there was an increased demand for the Mac Labs. Fortunately, Eric Sutherland, Christine Dewhurst, Nathalie St. Maurice, Ron Servant and others (sorry) came to our rescue with the proposed Math Endowment Fund. Stay tuned for more news and look for a referendum in the Winter.

Unfortunately we lost a lot of grads (we'll miss you all). Fortunately a great group of new faces were introduced to the Math Faculty. Team numbers 1-12 you were all great!!!! Keep up that spirit!!!

Unfortunately no one wanted to become a Math Conference Director, and the previous conference director left us no records. Fortunately we had great ideas and were able to set up a Mathematics - Expanding Your Horizons day for 63 local grade 11 students. Special thanks to Gord Schmidt and Jenn Dickson and all the volunteers for their help.

Unfortunately we didn't get to hold all the social events we would have liked (especially the road trip to Maple Leaf Gardens). Fortunately we did have a trip to the Cinesphere to watch Jurassic Park. A special thanks to the social board.

Unfortunately this term we were accused of being a "clique." Fortunately this isn't true. Though we may seem to be a "clique" because you often see the same faces, the new group of volunteers this term contained a lot of new faces, and the "clique" theory was no longer.

On this note, we would like to thank all our volunteers: Xavier Aburto, Gloria Au, Lisa Ballinger, Mario Carrieri, Raphael Cocucci, Karin Cronhielm, Sean Denoney, Curtis Desjardins, James Friesen, Ian Goldberg, Jennie Hoang, Ian Hosien, Erich Jacoby, Chris Justus, Paul Klose, Rick Knowles, Kevin Kreuzweiser, Mala Krishnan, Murray Kucherawy, Remanna Lau, Clement Ma, Kevin McCall, Shelley McLennan, Sara Manning, Mike Melvin, Peter Milley, Tara Mulder, Neil Murray, Nathalie Nasr, Rachel Nieuwland, Rachel Nickie, David Ramsay, Harvey Rook, Kivi Shapiro (congrats HLM member), Molly Sweet, Lisa Toth, Steve Vandereems, Andrew Walduck, Kim Yeoh, Jeff Yeung, Jon Litchfield, Anna B. (Team 8), Thomas Jackson, Yvette Murdock, Janis C., Mike Gaasenbeek, Norma F., Chris Norman, Barb Torner (keep up the spirit), L. Amber O'Hearn, Chris Davies, Mishelle Ducedre, Ammie Klein, Janny, Laura, Mark Visser and anyone else we forgot (sorry).

And a very special thank you to Brenda Wilson for holding the C+D together, (what would we do without you) and Shirley Thompson our best friend on the 5th floor.

(On a personal note, I would like to thank Elaine on behalf of Math Students everywhere. I know that we will all have fond memories of her 3.75 years here. We will all miss you :(Kathi)

Have a great Christmas and pig out!!!

Your happy and relieved executives

Elaine Ooi, President
Kathi Lai, VPAS
Andrea McPhee, VPF

Mathematics - Expanding Your Horizons.

On Friday, November 26 1993, at 8:30am, 63 grade 11 students from local schools were hovering in MC 5158. They were here for Mathematics - Expanding Your Horizons. With funding from the Math Society and the Math Faculty, we were able to host a day of math activities for the students. The students paid \$15, to receive a T-shirt, lunch and snacks and admission to 6 sessions run by the clubs of the Math Society. The ActSci Club predicted the students' life expectancy, the AM Club discussed optimality, Club Stat made them "fish" for statistics, the CSC showed them that computers can play games, PMC&O showed them mathematical oddities and the TSA had a problem solving workshop.

On behalf of my co-conference organizers, Gord Schimdt and Jenn Dickson, I would like to thank the clubs (especially, Sebastien and Walter, Blair, Eric, Ian, Leon, Barb and Paul) for organizing the sessions. The students loved them and you guys did an awesome job! I would also like to thank the Team Leaders for sacrificing their entire Friday to accompany the students to all the sessions. A big THANK YOU to Xavier, Mishelle, Rachel, David, Neil and Shelley.

And to Gord and Jenn, hey it's over! Thanks a lot for all your help.

Elaine Ooi

Why we Should be Well-Endowed

MEFCom - Yes!

For the past few months, there has been a movement afoot within the math faculty to start up a student organized endowment fund. The reason for this was a Pro-Active initiative to get students involved in their own education. As it stands, we don't really have any control over where our tuition is being spent, and we should take a more positive role in our own learning process. Further, with impending cutbacks from the government to the universities, and hence to our faculty, a new source of income must come to light to keep the quality of education in future years at the same level or higher than it is now. We believe that with the establishment of an endowment fund within our faculty for educational purposes will meet this need.

What is an endowment fund? It is a source of money on which interest is earned and spent. *The main capital is never touched.* It is anticipated that within 3 years of the establishment of an endowment fund, the interest would be near \$20000 annually, and keep increasing. Over time, this amount would grow and the student body would certainly have a larger voice in the direction of the faculty. The integrity of where the money is spent would be ensured every year with a full audit. Any administrative expenditures (up to a maximum of 5% of the interest for that given term) would have to be approved by a Board of Directors (at least 2/3 students), and any projects would have to be approved by a Funding Council (also at least 2/3 students). The Funding Council would have positions available to 24 students, which should give a very representative student opinion.

The interest would be directed toward many projects. Expanding the current tutorial centres and making them more accessible is a priority. Having a course for TA's is also a possibility, to try and make the marking of assignments more consistent, and the help given in tutorials a little more useful. (I say this as a TA that wish he had had such a course)

Computing resources are another obvious place for expenditures. The first year MacLab has had line-ups all term, and it is often a big pain in the upper year labs when the load shoots through the roof. Some people have also suggested getting some more applications that we can use through our undergrad accounts, and that could be a project a couple of years down the road. The upgrading and upkeep of computer equipment would be an on-going project that would keep Waterloo's place at the top of the undergrad computing environment for years to come.

Some of the endowment could also be used in other departmental labs, such as for Stat 231, and some applied math courses, or projects. Several of the student-organized clubs could also get involved with expanding their libraries for their members, or participating in conferences that are elsewhere (ASNA, ACM, AMA, the list goes on).

Further, if there is sufficient demand for a course that is not currently being offered by the faculty, but there is a visiting professor that is willing to teach such a course, then the endowment fund might assist in the fees for this course. It would have to be one that had wide-spread appeal, and the enrollment should be at least 50 or 60 students. Examples that have been suggested are "Fractals and Chaos theory" and "Object Oriented Design", among others.

Finally, if there are some other student or faculty projects that will benefit the faculty as a whole these could also receive some funding from the Endowment Fund.

As you can see, there are a ton of worthwhile ideas that simply cannot be afforded at present. They will be able to become a reality with this endowment fund.

We are not alone in our initiative. Engineering and Science

have been running successful endowment funds for a couple of years now. Environmental Studies just had a student referendum, and preliminary numbers show 90% in favour of the idea. Applied Health Studies, like ourselves, are also in the preliminary stages of organizing a fund. The first step has already been taken, and we should take this chance to move ahead as well.

What the Math Endowment Fund Committee is asking for is an endorsement of the idea of a student organized endowment fund within the Faculty of Mathematics. If voted in by YOU, and a constitution is later approved by the Board of Governors, then you will be asked for an voluntary tax-deductible contribution of \$31.42. If you choose to not participate in the Endowment Fund, then you can get a refund through Needles Hall. What is \$31.42? Two hours of work on a work term; 2% of your term fees; not much to give to get back all the opportunities listed above, and have an active part in your future.

It really is an active part in your future too, because the money you donate to the Endowment Fund would keep on growing in perpetuity, and the reputation of your degree from the University of Waterloo will always go up, with the quality of education increasing year after year.

For those of you who will not be here next term, you will be receiving a letter near the end of January from the Federation of Students. Inside will be ballots for the Fed election, and for this referendum. If you are here next term, then the election will be near the beginning of February. Make the choice that will solidify the future of this faculty and your degree. Vote Yes in the Math Endowment Referendum.

The Math Endowment Fund Committee
written by Eric Sutherland

Coffee and Doh-nuts

It started two years ago in Village. Slowly, insidiously, it spread. DOH! Now the entire university echoes with this cry of the television generation. When you do something stupid, like locking yourself out, DOH! When you do something painful, like spilling hot soup on your hand, DOH! When you see someone else do something stupid or painful, DOH! Yes, this expression has replaced things like Ow, Darn, Damn, and even Curtis's favourite, Fuck [Actually, it's "Goddammit!" (spelled as one word). Lots of people say "Fuck", but it doesn't mean it's their favourite - Curtis] [Their favourite what? - Fuzzy]. It is also incredibly contagious. If one person says "DOH!" then at least two other people will say "DOH!" It's amazing how it resembles another expression that was used for a while....DUH! I have just been told that it is properly spelled "D'OH" - D'OH!! Until later,

D'OH! nuts will be served.

Stephen Mills

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Editor: Curtis "Chewbacca" Desjardins, Erich "Fuzzy" Jacoby, and Special Guest Editor - R. Dimwitter

Indeed why NOT!!

No to the Endowment Fund

Wherever you look someone is after your money, whether it's the beggars you meet at every corner of a large city, the TV save-a-child organizations or junk mail pleading for donations. The people flogging these causes firmly believe that they are the only way to help their particular cause, and press upon you that if you don't give them money today the world will surely end tomorrow. Yet somehow tomorrow always comes.

Here we have another of these worthy-looking causes, and the question arises is this the only way to deal with the problems; I say no! While no-one disagrees that there will be no trouble spending whatever money we come up with, the question is do we REALLY need that money? Just look at some of the 'worth-while' projects that the Fed endowment fund is being spent on: A TV for the comfy lounge? What's next, a pool table? Satellite TV? Entertaining for sure, but should we all have to pay for it? What guarantee do we have that the money from this fund won't be wasted in the same way? Similarly what guarantee do we have that the money will be fairly distributed between departments?

However the main problem with the whole concept is not that the money is not needed, probably almost everyone will agree that there are some worthy projects out there. The real problem with throwing money at university problems is that everyone is trying to do it. Next year tuition is going up some 20-30%, and there is a student group lobbying that it go up 300-500%! So the question arises what will the endowment fund be for then? If raising tuition several hundred percent won't solve the faculty's problems how could a \$31.41 endowment fund?? Maybe the real problem is not in the amount of funding but in how the money is spent. Perhaps rather than throwing more money at the problem, students should be demanding more accountability in how their money is spent—what they pay now, and the thousands they will pay in the future.

An endowment fund will just discourage the faculty from spending money on student projects. Why should they? They can always count on the endowment to finance projects that will benefit students, why should they then spend money on it out of their own coffers?

Another problem I see with the fund is that the contribution amount was chosen so arbitrarily. The committee did not look at how much was required, they tried to figure out how much they could get away with asking for!! If there really are so many worthy projects out there as they'd like you to believe maybe \$31.41 endowment won't come anywhere near covering it. Or maybe the reality is that a \$10 endowment would be adequate. The endowment committee probably spent more time figuring out how many zeros they would have in their bank account after how many years than they did thinking how much money is REALLY required.

The bottom line is that no matter what you do you'll be paying more for university in a year or two. So why endorse yet another effective tuition increase? Instead students should have a greater say and control in how their money is spent.

On referendum day Just Say NO!!!

Victor Wiewiorowski
(The NO side, 'cos no-one else showed up)

The C+D is open for business
until Dec. 15th

Um ...excuse me, but I think you're in my Seat

*25th Anniversary Seat Sale
Theatre of the Arts*

For the astoundingly low price of \$100, you can have your own seat in the Theatre of the Arts. You even get a brass plaque with a message that is up to 60 characters.

For more information contact the Department of Drama and Speech Communication, 885-4556.

Old mastHEAD

OK, so we didn't have space for this last time, so here it is now, with special thanx to Marion and Graphix Services, and all our volunteers. Here are all of the people who helped out with the *last* issue, and the reason they'd smack somebody: Brian Spencer (Writing for Imp'tint); Mike Hammond (when Fuzzy alters an entry in your 'Top 12' list in order to deliberately offend someone, but doesn't acknowledge the change! (Sorry Ian!)); Kivi Shapiro (ABBA rules! ABBA rules! Kibo fnord!); Stephen Mills (she smacked me first!); Mala Krishnan (when somebody decides to give an excruciatingly difficult midterm exam, continues to give *long* assignments and then threatens to give an equally painful final exam (any resemblance between this and any CS242 prof is purely coincidental)); Moses Moore (Because Machiavelli said so); Joe Hewitt (if they refute your claim that you have a purple dragon in your pocket or if they get to see Gogh Van Go and spell it wrong or something); Dr. Seuss (hey, why not?); and Ian Goldberg (Wanting me to do layout the morning after a production night).

Fuzzy (I need a reason?)
Curtis Desjardins (They gave me an atomic wedgie)

Virtual Soundscape

Concert Tonight

Come out tonight to Conrad Grebel College, Great Hall for an evening of Electroacoustic Music. The concert starts at 7:00 PM. Refreshments will be served.

Dale "ñotasquare" Wick

mastHEAD

Here's a list of the people who contributed to the making of this issue, along with their X-mas peeves: Elaine Ooi (Being far away from home); Kathi Lai (Buddist Oriental Relatives); Joe Hewitt (Having Santa phone in bomb-threats to my home); Stephen Mills (The fact that everyone expects me to get them a gift); Eric Sutherland (Being at home); Peter Milley (Trying to give my 1700 relatives different ideas when they ask me what I want); GUS (Curtis, did I ever tell you that you're ugly?); Mike Hammond (Having exams 'til the 19th (yes, a Sunday), then trying to book airline tickets in the Christmas rush season!); Mala Krishnan (Having exams 'til the 21st (Thanks a lot Mike)); L. Amber O'Hean (It's too short); Moses Moore (presents that are wrapped in concrete); Dale Wick (Exploding presents from Jokey Smurf); Asif Islam (Not being able to go home!); Victor Wiewiorowski (Christmas—the whole fucking thing); and Ian Goldberg (I won't be around campus to use the computers).

Fuzzy (Numpsi—Oh, I thought you said X-mas Steve)
Chewbacca ('Ho Ho Ho' my ass!)

The Oracle's Advice column

No question too odd

How many woodtrucks could a woodtruckchuck chuck if a woodchucktruck could chuck woodtrucks?

The Cornerbrook Convention

Only as much woodtruck as a woodtruckchuck could chuck if a woodtruckchuck could chuck woodtrucks. Now if we had woodtruckchuck chucking trucks of woodchucks who chuck wood, then we'd have woodtrucks of wood being chucked by woodchucks while these woodtrucks were in turn chucked by woodtruckchucks. Thus, we have woodtruckchucks chucking woodtrucks of woodchucks chucking wood in woodtrucks. There are fourscore cords for four fortnights before and more forty-four cords in each woodtruck: the rest is left as an exercise for the student

Does the University have policies against forcing your CS T.A. to bungee jump off the roof of the Math Building using twine?

R.G.B.A.

There are policies against binding any university staff (including TAs) against their will; therefore the university will strictly forbid the use of twine in that situation. I recommend that you follow university policy and not use any twine, bungee, cable, rope or anything else

Who burned down the Library of Alexandria?

The Last Burning Question

Regrettably, it was a group of local insurgents that wished to "liberate" the former city of Ku'wadhah from the Grecian influence. Their attempt only succeeded in getting most of their group killed and causing fire damage to most of the city. The Great Library was one of these places: although the paper, papyrus and leather inside was burnt, the stone building itself was intact. The local government tried to rebuild it, but the death of so many scholars (of many faiths and even some from Greece herself) tarnished the reputation of the Great Library such that it never again had the prestige to attract the necessary people to make it great again. The second burning was less than one hundred years after the first, and part of the building came down during it

And now, for all you Animaniacs fans out there,
it's time for another

Good Idea/Bad Idea

Good Idea:

Sleeping in a comfy bed.

Bad Idea:

Sleeping in the Comfy Lounge.

The End

Mike "Come join the Hammer Brothers" Hammond

Are you guys going to keep trying to put the word fuck in mathNEWS

ftp wuarchive.wustl.edu

Yes

I've heard that some CSC members have quirks that will drive them away like garlic drives away a vampire. What's the story?

Lum Fan Club

Three things have been witnessed to turn certain CSC members out of the office: pointing, singing Ursei Yatsura songs and MGC pizza days. Mathsoc has been working on driving all of the members out of the office for some time, but they haven't tried pointing or singing yet.

When you're looking for enlightenment on color monitor, remember the key to Zeno-Bhuddism: The meticulous rooster flies expectantly. Kill "Bob" before They kill him for you. Are we having fun yet?

LAST MINUTE BULLETIN: For those of you that care, Doom will be out on December 10th, 1993. I predict that /alex is actually going to be faster than ftp just for the occasion.

The mathNEWS Oracle

Contest to Name the North Campus Recreation Facility

Parameters - the name should describe the New Building, the Icefield, and any other possible expansions.

Entry forms are available at the PAC Equipment Centre and the Turnkey Desk. Deadline: Friday, January 21. There's a prize for the winner. Contest is open to everyone!

Distinguished Teacher Awards

To nominate your outstanding professor, demonstrator, or teaching assistant for the Distinguished Teacher Award, contact TRACE, MC 4055, Ext. 3132. Deadline: February 4, 1994.

The C+D is open for business
until Dec. 15th

Math, the Universe, and Everything

Are You Ready for the Nineties?

As 1994 approaches, it's rather distressing that the Nineties don't have an identity of their own. What we need is a stereotypical attitude that can be applied by us and, God help us, our children in the future. It doesn't matter that the stereotype will have very little to do with reality because many of us, due to excessive alcohol abuse, won't remember what the Nineties were really like, anyways.

So who's responsible for creating the stereotype? The Yuppies are out - The Eighties belonged to them, and a lot of them are dead, mostly from being run over while jogging, along with a couple of frozen yogurt overdoses. The Generation X crowd has enough trouble dealing with their angst - they're not going to be of any use. Finally, anybody younger than us can't even dress themselves without putting their clothes on backwards. It falls to us to determine the identity of this decade.

So, I've put together Flipper's Quiz for the Nineties. This quiz will test your readiness for the next few years, and determine if you are worthy of determining an identity for the Nineties. Or maybe it's just another excuse for me to make fun of people I don't like.

- The correct thing to say when a friend's spouse dies suddenly is:
 - "Aww, man, and I was hoping to get a shot at her."
 - "You don't need her - let me show you what a real man can do."
 - "Heard about your husband. Too bad. Hey, I guess he won't be needing his car today - can I borrow it?"
- You see an elderly veteran selling poppies for Remembrance Day. Do you:
 - buy a poppy and chat for a couple of minutes
 - push him over, steal his money, and laugh at him?
 - spit on him for being a war-mongering pig.
- I tell you that I no longer think that you are a complete idiot. You:
 - see the humour in it, especially if I pay your salary
 - threaten legal action
 - go straight to the President of the Federation of Students and complain, giving her another reason to hate me.
- If somebody comes up to you in Fed Hall and asks you to dance, you should:
 - assume (s)he wants to have sex with you, and take him/her home.
 - assume (s)he wants to have sex with you, and take him/her up behind the pool table on the second floor.
 - hey, why are you in Fed, anyway? Don't you know where the Bombshelter is?
- Laura, 23, is a Western student who always thought that ABBA was a heavy metal band before she went to school. Laura:
 - has severe brain damage.
 - spent her first nineteen years locked in a basement.
 - would probably never have sex with me, because I'm not rich.
- ABBA actually is:
 - the greatest band of the 70s.
 - the greatest band of all time.
 - a heavy metal band.
- If someone buys you a beer, proper etiquette demands that you:
 - buy them a beer sometime in the future.
 - drink it and run away.
 - do whatever they want.
- The two words to remember for success in the Nineties are:
 - Elvis lives!
 - gold card.
 - two four.
 - oral sex.
- Love is:
 - a two-four and a pack of smokes.
 - a gold card.
 - oral sex with Elvis.
- KISS's best album was:
 - Dynasty, because of their groovy disco songs.
 - Destroyer, because of their groovy disco clothes.
 - Sergeant Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band.
- the next prime minister of Canada should be:
 - Sheila Copps
 - Preston "KKK" Manning
 - H. Ross Perot
- Ross Perot:
 - is a Texas billionaire who once ran for president.
 - likes saying "make him stop interrupting, Larry, or I'll cry!"
 - has big ears.
- The correct spelling of "women":
 - is "women"
 - is "womyn"
 - has pretty much outlived whatever limited humour value it may have once had.
- The secret of life is:
 - love and family.
 - money and power.
 - oral sex with Elvis.
- The God of thunder is:
 - Thor.
 - Gene Simmons
 - Curtis Desjardins [*What the Hell is this crack supposed to mean? -Big Wook*]
- If you wanted to have fun, you would:
 - go to Fed, listen to the music, and slit your wrists.
 - go to the Bomber, drink beer, and throw up on a bouncer.
 - view pornographic images on an Xterm.
- The wierdest place you've ever had sex was:
 - your parents' bed while they were on vacation.
 - your parents' bed while they were there.
 - the fourth floor of the Math & Computer building.
 - the fourth floor of the Math & Computer building while your parents were there.

Scoring

If you actually answered any questions, maybe you should take up a hobby.

Steve "Flipper" Shaw

Quebec vs. Ontario

A disheartened, homesick Francophone speaks!

To all you Maple Leaf fans out there, read this:

Montreal Canadiens are the Best!

(that was especially addressed to those Leaf fans which I won't name like Mike P, Mike V, Raman, and Mark)

I regret to inform all you Ontarians that in Quebec:

- bars are open till 3am (with alcohol, too!)
- you only need to be 18 to drink (nanny-nanny-poo-poo **Thbhbbbbbttt!**)
 - we have Ben and Jerry's ice cream (yes, Curtis, better than Haagen Daaz [*You just haven't used Haagen Daaz correctly, yet - Curtis*])
 - we have the Montreal Canadiens, the best team in hockey
 - we don't have an ugly picture on our driver's license
 - we get paid to have babies (at least it's paid labour)
 - we have live entertainment everyday - Indian conflicts and logging protests! (who needs movies?)
 - a good many Prime Ministers are originally from Quebec (OK, that's stretching things a bit)
 - we have the best hockey team [*Go Nords! - Curtis*] (oops, I'm repeating myself)
 - we kiss just about anyone we meet (on the cheeks, on the cheeks)
 - we have the Expos (OK, we at least have Youpi, the mutant orange bear)
 - Montreal had the Olympics (Toronto just got the shaft)
 - most of Toronto's corporate head offices are Montreal's second-hand castoffs (and not once have they thanked us)
 - "Kid in the Hall" Kevin MacDonald calls Montreal home
 - ... [*and correct me if I'm wrong, but doesn't Quebec have the highest rate of condom usage in Canada per capita?? Sez. Sez. Sez. It's abominable I tell you, simply abominable! (So, when do we leave?) - Ed.*]

But in all fairness, Ontario:

- has nicer highways
- gives the right to turn right on a red light (watch me get a ticket in Quebec, now...)
- doesn't have Mitsou
- Skydome is not falling apart like Olympic Stadium
- Axl Rose didn't start a riot in Toronto (and I still didn't get my refund!)
- has friendlier people (but that's beside the point)
- that's all I can think of...

Concluding this brilliant provincial analysis (modestly, of course) you all have to do me a favour and *practice your French* cause it's not chou, and it makes me shit, but don't give up the potato. (Hint: if you don't understand that last sentence, you *badly* need some French lessons, and fast!)

Chantal-who-knows-that-Courtnall-is-not-with-the-Canadiens-anymore-Bray

ultraCLASSIFIEDS

Janice,
I'm sorry I mentioned your name in *mathNEWS* and I promise I won't do it ever again.

Not Sean
P.S. I did *not* hit you.

Heather,
I'm glad some people can take a joke without flying off the handle.

Guy with a big handle

To LB,
Sayang

From SP

Kathi,
Thanks for everything! I have known you for almost 2.5 years now and you have always been there for me. Keep smiling!

Chickadee

Stop complaining about my snide comments, or I will submit the incriminating photographs of you and the power drill

R.G.B.A

B.N.
T. A. H. N. M!
I. W. H. M. N. R. A. G. T.
H. V. A. W. I. M.

N. M.
(B. T. W.: I. S. D. W. T. G. V!)

Hey Big Chief!
Wassup? Not too much man. Are you pissed off? What the hell is this? Talk to you later.

A true story...
Curtis has played squash for MANY years. He teaches Chanty, who's never played. She beats him in the first game.
Haha!

Chanty's revenge

Free Refreshments

"REACHING OUT TO TOMORROW"

Campus Centre Expansion & Renovation
Groundbreaking Party

All students, staff, faculty and community leaders are cordially invited to join the groundbreaking party on December 6th, 1993 at 11:00 am between the Campus Centre and the Math & Computer Building.

If you have any questions, feel free to call 885-1211 x5330 (John Leddy, Project Coordinator).

The C+D is open for business
until Dec. 15th

profQUOTES

"I'm not going to lick it again."

Becker, CS241

"With integration, sometimes you can go the wrong way and end up in hyperspace"

Hewitt MATH 137

"I could do fractals *before* computer graphics"

Wil Gilbert

"If it is a good evaluation, my name is Davidson. If not, it's Scoins."

Prof Davidson

"(Asks about a question) Is that clear? (class laughs)"

Bondy Math 135

"At the top is all the nice light furry stuff"

Conrad Hewitt, Math 137

"I haven't done any particular violations to reality so far, but I will."

Ord, Phys 256

"...So I streak down to the end ..."

Burkowski, CS 340

"This is easy for humans. Did I do it right?"

G. Labahn, CS 134

Professor: "Do I want to roll this back or do you trust me?"
Student: "We trust you." Other Student: "I don't trust you but go ahead."

Struthers, STAT 231

"Then, look at the general equation which I just erased."

Tenti, AM 261

Professor to Student: "Your English is lousier than mine."

Tenti, AM 261

"When a psychologist tells you you failed the midterm because you were under stress, don't believe it because no one was pulling on you."

Tenti, AM 261

(Creating a stack of several chalkboard erasers) "...so if anyone falls asleep, I have ample ammunition to wake you up repeatedly..."

G. Bennett, STAT 231

"Alright, no more hands up! It's obviously right!!"

A. Kerr-Lawson, PM 330 [After making several errors on the board]

"Flattery will get you in the hole."

TA Ian Vander Schee, CS 130

"I haven't sucked on my lemon today."

TA Ian Vander Schee, CS 130

"What, you mean we're not desperate? I know I am ..."

TA Ian Vander Schee, CS 130

"<< .0001... down around... no I won't say anything about Engineers IQ's."

S. Brown, STAT 231

"In the privacy of our own homes... we can do it in both ways."

Scoins Math 137

"Scoins is a dummy"

Scoins Math 137

"For this example, I want you to pretend that you don't know anything about logs and exponents. Hey! Some of you don't have to pretend!"

F. Zorzitto, Math 137

"That should be a 1. Oh! That's a boob!"

F. Zorzitto, Math 137

"I'll do it this way, because I don't want to have to drag Fermat's Little Theorem out of you again." Student: "Wild horses couldn't drag Fermat's Little Theorem out of me!"

W. Gilbert, Math 135

"How many of you think it's right? How many of you think it's wrong? How many of you have no idea? You're all right!"

B. Forrest, Math 137

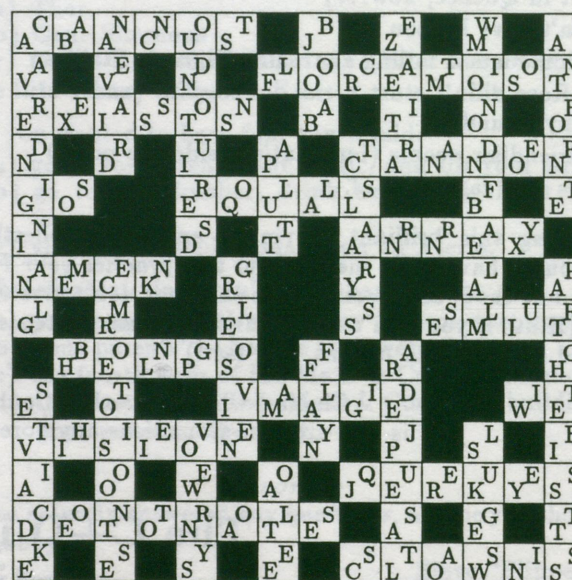
"They usually put the test results next to the washroom so that if you have to throw up..."

B. Forrest, Math 137

"The way you spell 'Nietzsche' is N, i, e, t, and then you stick in all the consonants you can think of."

Horue, Phil 102C

Issue 4



Comfy Lounge Bridge

Casual or Uncouth?

Bridge is a wonderful pastime. In fact time passed a little *too* quickly for me last year due to this game. Indeed there are those here about whom I wonder whether they go to class at all. The Comfy Lounge usually has two or three games going during the day, with people waiting for a turn. However, sometimes I find the atmosphere a little bit uncomfy. I have no objection to the dropping of formalities: not cutting the deck before each deal, not scoring, offering advice (esp. to novices). But when people don't want to wait for a player to work out his play, or when people drop big hints about what's in their hand, it takes the fun away. I would like to quote a few words on bridge etiquette from Alfred Sheinwold's "5 weeks to winning bridge". It might clarify what I mean.

"Certain practices have become traditional with bridge players; certain others are viewed with disfavour.

"For example, you're supposed to wait until the dealer finishes dealing and begins to pick up his cards before you pick up any of your cards. The idea is that he should have as much time as anybody else to study his hand."

This is a good point, although not *too* serious. Slightly more serious:

"The language of bridge is limited to exactly fifteen words: pass, double, redouble, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, notrump, spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs. *That is all.*

"Do not say 'Bye' or 'Bye me' when you mean pass. Do not say 'Club' or 'Spade' when you mean 'One club' or 'One spade'. You might accidentally get into the habit of saying 'Club' for a mediocre hand and 'One club' for a strong hand - which would be severely censured if anybody noticed it. All of this can be avoided if you limit yourself to the approved bridge language."

More serious:

"It is the most natural thing in the world for people to act like human beings - even in a bridge game. The better the player, the less human he must act.

"When the average player gets a strong hand, he sits up and looks cheerful. He bids in a hearty voice. He doubles an opponent in a thunderous tone.

"All of this is reversed when our hero has a poor hand. He slumps in his chair or glances away from the table. He looks pained or fearful. He bids, if he must, in an anguished whisper.

"All very human - and all very revolting to the expert! The expert wants everybody to make every bid in the same tone of voice, with the same expression.

"Bridge is a game of skill and judgement, not a contest of histrionics. You are entitled to base your judgement on your partner's bid, but not his tone of voice; on the card he has played, but not the manner in which he played it."

Now, if all this sounds a little uptight and overly formal, consider that the behavior I see in the Comfy Lounge often consists of people interpreting their own bids, and often in a non-standard

way, (So why learn the correct bid if you can just tell your partner what you meant?) dummies running around the table to complain about the declarer's bidding or play, (please wait your turn!) opponents saying 'Well you know who to finesse.', (No, actually, it wasn't certain) and players taking one look at their hands and putting them down on the table, scowling as if to say 'I have no points, I'm not going to bid, and I'm not interested in the hand.'

Wouldn't it be a bit more fun and challenging if we actually had to figure out how to play?

A Yellow Orange
L. Amber O'Hearn

The *math*NEWS Season Cliffhanger

Stranded alone on a desolate mountaintop, Elaine, Kathi and Andrea have to fight for survival in the barren wilderness. While searching the wreckage of the plane for saltine crackers, Andrea notices something - the brake wires had been cut! Was this accident intentional? Is someone trying to do away with the MathSoc exec? Will help arrive before their food runs out and they're forced to eat the twelve unread copies of "Calculus by Spivak" that they've inexplicatively brought with them!?

Meanwhile, back at the MC, while searching for scissors in the mathSOC office, Erich "Fuzzy" Jacobhy unearths a *secret* document! He reads it, looks around the room frantically, but before he can tell anyone what he's seen he is struck down by **matchlock musketfire!** Who is the mystery assailant!? Can Fuzzy get to a doctor in time!? And how do you get blood stains out of a math cheat shirt, anyway?

Outside in the hall, vegetarian martian clones of the *math*-BOOZE staff (speedy.c thru scribe.c inclusive) spread pamphlets about proper dental hygiene. The frivolity ceases when Curtis arrives... Will he finally tell Joeb and Mike which one of them is really the son of an Albanian emu herder? Will this revelation destroy their mutual love of donuts forever? Does anyone really care?

One hundred odd kilometers away, Steve "Flipper" Shaw enters a bar. In about thirty minutes, he's gonna get beaten up by the bouncers, again.

Joeb Hewitt

Issue 1

O	R	G	A	S	M		M
R		I			A	D	A
B	A	G			S	I	N
		A			S	E	X
O	W	N			A		
I	O	T	A		G	A	G
L	A	I			E		I
S		C	O	U	S	I	N

L^AT_EX'n

With apologies to The Firm

Chorus:
Lay-tekkin', across the universe,
Doin' mathNEWS layout, under Fuzz and Curt!
Lay-tekkin', across the universe,
Askin' Ian questions, and finishin' the verse.

How's it going, Ian?

Ian:
Has anybody scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover,
Has anybody scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover, Fuzz?

What's up, Fuzzy?

Fuzzy:
Anyone here that wants to type?
Wants to type,
Wants to type,
Anyone here that wants to type?
We need more typists now!

(Ian's verse)
Chorus:

Who's going for pizza?

Hammer:
Please, Fuzzy, no hot peppers,
No hot peppers,
No hot peppers,
Please, Fuzzy, no hot peppers,
At least, not on my slice!

(Fuzzy's verse)
(Ian's verse)
Chorus:

Hey, Curtis, here's this week's Mathtoon!

Curtis:
Oh, no, no more Mathtoons,
No more Mathtoons,
No more Mathtoons,
Oh, no, no more Mathtoons,
Alright, just one more!

(Hammer's verse)
(Fuzzy's verse)

Ian:
Has anybody scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover,
Has anybody scanned the cover,
Or Joeb's "Aaron Silver"?

Chorus:
Lay-tekkin', across the universe,
Doin' mathNEWS layout, under Fuzz and Curt!
Lay-tekkin', across the universe,
Askin' Ian questions, and things are gettin' worse!

What's the word, Joeb?

Joeb:
Don't ask. I'm on medication,
Medication,
Medication,
Don't ask. I'm on medication,
And buy a 'Crow Quill' pen!

Hey, Mala, how's it going?

Mala:
Mike, did they print your Mathtoon,
Print your Mathtoon,
Print your Mathtoon,
Mike, did they print your Mathtoon?
What? How dare they not!

(Curtis' verse)
(Hammer's verse)
(Fuzzy's verse)

Ian:
Has anybody scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover,
Has anybody scanned the cover,
Scanned the cover, yeeeeeeeeet?

Fuzzy: Watch me change this Top Ten list!

Hammer: It's worse than that, it's a Mathtoon, Curt!

Curtis: Do we have a GridWord for this week? No, we don't need one.

<<boom>>

Chorus:
Lay-tekkin', across the universe,
Doin' mathNEWS layout, under Fuzz and Curt!
Lay-tekkin', across the universe,
Askin' Ian questions, and finishin' the verse.

Mike "Hammer? I just met 'er!" Hammond

Issue 2

E	L	E	V	A	T	E		A	H		
L			A				A	L	L	O	W
E			L			S		E	T		
C	O	P	U	L	A	T	E			P	
T			E				E		S	I	R
R	U	B		A			R		A	D	O
I	R	E		M			F			T	
C				C	O	N	F	E	T	T	I
		A	T		U			E			S
K	N	O	W	N				L			T
		D	O		T	E	A	S	E	R	S

Aaron
Silven
is

GONE

by Joe Hewitt. The story thus far: Aaron was declared dead by NH. After filling out a change of address card he went from a waiting room to a war zone to another waiting room where he created his own war zone. At that exact moment, a mime in a gulliver's cab called for help. We now join the story, in progress...

Aaron emerges from the dark tunnel thru a door marked "Authorized Personnel Only"!

Wierd.

Across the hall, he sees Co-op interview postings and finds that he's missed three!!

Depressing.

Also, Euripides, the greek playwright, goes upstairs!!!

Hellenistic.

He forms a plan!

If I follow him, maybe something interesting will happen!

Aerodynamically Advanced "Groucho" Slouch

On the third floor, he is greeted by three glowing spheres of light stolen from a Star Trek set!

You aren't gonna bring me to another waiting room, are you?

Of course not!

You're about to meet your maker!

Uh, good... but if he/she's wearing a toga, I'm leaving...

You're in luck! His toga's in the wash!

Here you go! There he is!

That's him!?

Slurp

Are you supposed to be my creator?

That's what it says at the top of the page.

Wierd... I'd always envisioned you with a smaller nose & more fashion sense!

Careful... I can still write you out of "Simeon Crossing*" you know... Say, could you loan me \$20 until next week?

Sure, I guess so... uhm... but what am I going to do about this death thing?

*A SECRET PROJECT!

Well, you could go to Needless Hell and argue with secretaries about it for a few hours, but it's probably not worth your while. You can die up to three times in Math without incurring academic penalty, though if I were you I'd transfer into Arts and take up Skydiving!

Now, if you'll excuse me, I have to go...

No! Wait! I haven't asked you about the Meaning of Life or Chia Pets yet!

Sorry... I don't want to be caught talking to figments of my imagination, Again...

And in the end, Aaron is left with one nagging thought...

You know, I always thought "Hammer" was much funnier than "Guelph" anyways...

END.

Important Faculty Announcement!

Introducing... the Department of Calculator Science

The Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo is an adaptive entity that recognizes the need to change in response to the changing needs of our evolving society. That is why Faculty members have collaborated to create a new department, the Department of Calculator Science (CalcSci), to come into existence in the Fall 1994 term. The Faculty has recognized that no one really enjoys doing math, and that the calculator is the ultimate tool for the lazy society of the future!

What Does CalcSci Offer?

In addition to the basic core courses for the Math Faculty, CalcSci majors are required to take many brand-spanking-new CalcSci courses. Here is a sample of them:

- C SCI 101 – How to BS Your Way Through the Core Courses Using a Calculator
This is an essential first course for new Mathies (recommended for non-CalcSci students as well).
- C SCI 131 – What Does THAT Button Do? I
An introduction to the mechanics of the scientific calculator, focusing on how to turn it on, and perform simple operations. (Not as easy as it seems!)
- C SCI 231 – What Does THAT Button Do? II
Students will explore the mysterious “shift key”, and the multitude of bizarre and useless functions it allows you to use.
- C SCI 262 – Calculator Memory
Discover how to cram tons of formulae and equations into a calculator, and disguise a calculator’s memory capabilities so you can bring it into exams.
- C SCI 315 – Expanded Calculator Uses
Learn how to use a calculator to change channels on the TV, open the garage door, play Tetris, and make toast.
- C SCI 391 – Obscene Curve Sketching
Students will learn how to use a calculator to graph certain functions that are sexually suggestive.
- C SCI 406 – Calculator Language
Learn which numbers look like letters when you hold the calculator upside down, so you can write silly words like “boobless”.

So, Why Would Anyone Want to Take CalcSci

It’s simple, really. CalcSci is the only program in the Faculty that truly applies in the “real world”. The skills of cutting corners, cheating, and learning how to do something without understanding how it works are essential to succeed in today’s society. CalcSci embodies these values, and seeks to preserve them. These values are especially important in government, and CalcSci graduates should have no trouble in securing rewarding careers in this field. For Math students who are too unmotivated to decide on a major, CalcSci may provide the ultimate solution!

Jason “Pokey” Ubeika

**The C+D is open for business
until Dec. 15th**

I’m Going to Fail Calculus

I never thought it would happen to me. Wait, that isn’t true. Every term I’ve thought it was going to happen to me, but I’ve been wrong. *This* term however I am positive I am going to fail calculus. Looking back on the past few months I find myself wondering “how did this happen?”

At first I thought I was failing because I didn’t study enough. Then I thought it was because I always started my assignments the night before they were due. Happily though I’ve discovered it isn’t my fault at all: it’s the faculty of mathematics’ fault. I’m failing calculus because of that damned $f(x)$ notation for denoting functions.

How many times does the average student use $f(x)$ in a calculus course? Hundreds? Thousands? Even millions of times. What does the average student think when he sees $f(x)$? He thinks “ $f(x)$ =flunk(calculus)” or “ $f(x)$ =fuck(calculus), I’m going to the bomber.” I’m positive if it wasn’t for $f(x)$ I’d be acing Math 237.

I thus propose that all math professors and all math students give up the $f(x)$ notation and support the more motivational $a(c)$ notation. Every time a student writes $a(c)$ he’ll think “ $a(c)$ =ace(calculus).” For multivariable calculus, more encouraging variables can be inserted. When the average student sees $f(x,y,z)$ he thinks “flunk(calculus,why bother studying?,time to catch some z’s).” I suggest we replace that with $a(c, \$, xxx)$. This will make the average student think ace(calculus,make lots of \$\$\$,have gratuitous sex). Hell, it makes me want to go integrate right now.

Lectures would be a lot more fun with these changes too. Finding the gradient vector, for example, is boring. Imagine, instead, a prof asking the class “what vector has the maximum rate of change with respect to gratuitous sex?” I think there would be a much better response.

Who knows, maybe I will pass calculus...

Chris “Strunoph” Norman
aka Ahmora the Dragon
aka The guy with the two foot long tongue

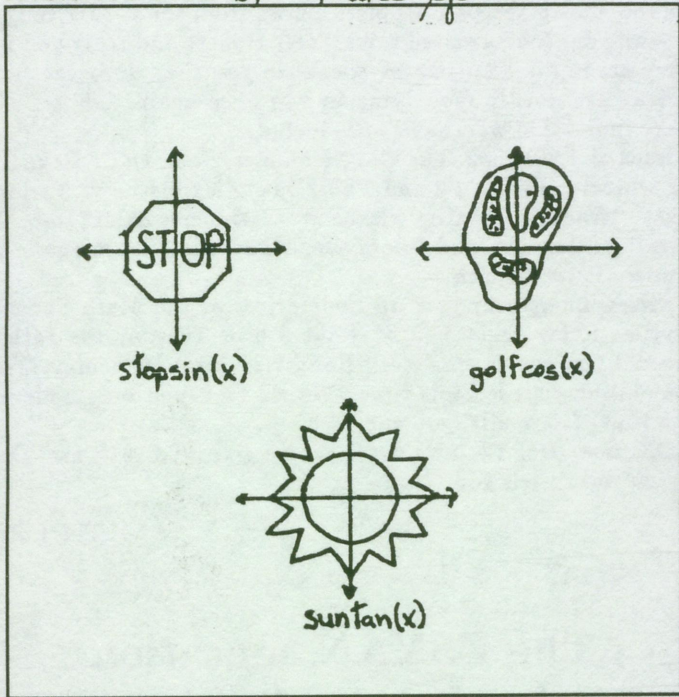
Issue 3

S	C	R	A	P	P	E	R		B	L	A	S	T	I	N	G	
L			I									A				R	
A	L	G	A	E			M	O	P			P	O	L	K	A	
P			I		B	I	D	E		I	D	E	S		U	B	
P		D	A	B			D	N	A			Y			N	B	
I							I	N				E	N	R	A	G	E
N						B	A	R	O	N							R
G		S	A	U	C	E		I		O	P	E	R	A		S	
	L	A	G				E	L	V	E	S			Y	I	P	
B			C	O	U	N	T		E		E	T	H	E	R	L	
A							S	O	R	E	S					A	
S	A	L	I	V	A			T	D							S	
E		E			M		T	A	G			M	A	P		H	
B		A		F	I	R	E		E	C	H	O		A		I	
A	L	P	H	A			R	I	D			M	O	R	O	N	
L					L										K	G	
L	I	S	T	L	E	S	S			A	S	H	T	R	A	Y	S

MathToons the Editors didn't want you to see

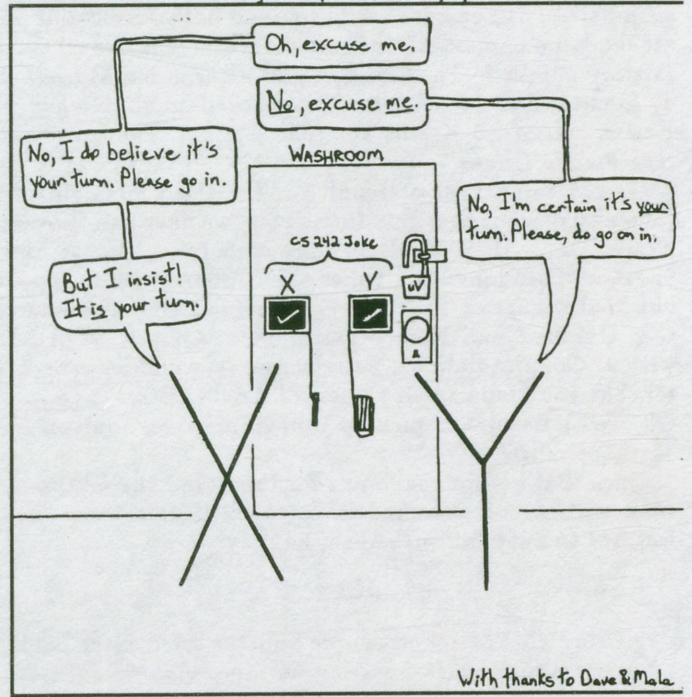
And with good reason...

Mathtoons by *Mike Hammond*



Little-known trig functions

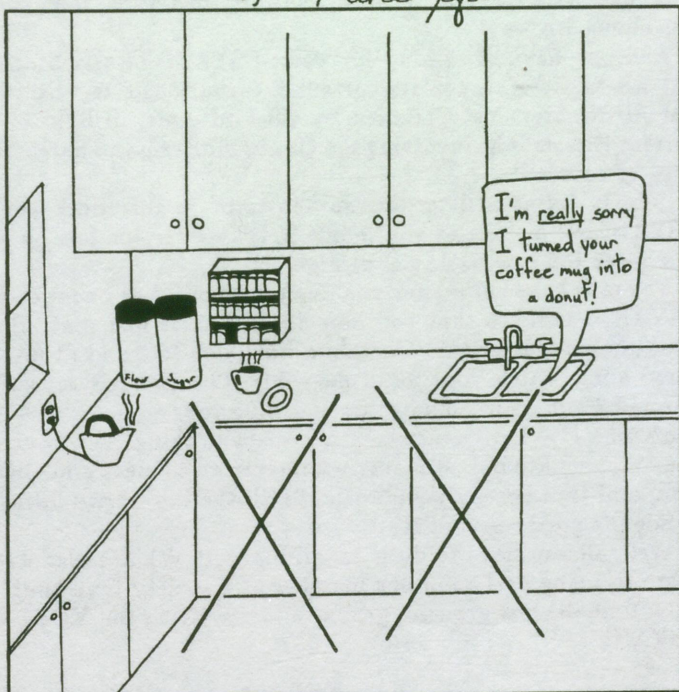
Mathtoons by *Mike Hammond*



With thanks to Dave & Mala

Mutual Excusion.

Mathtoons by *Mike Hammond*



Topologizing

Mathtoons by *Mike Hammond*



The Chinese Remainder Theorem.

mathNEWSquiz #EOT

Good evening, you avid mathNEWSquizzers! Seeing as how the 'Squiz kinda fell to me this term, I feel it's only appropriate to finish off the term, too! But I didn't do it alone. Thanks go out to Mala Krishnan and Brian Spencer, for contributing categories, and to Joeb Hewitt, for getting the term started off on the left foot. So the answers are: Saskatchewan 1) Trick question: while no prime minister was born in Saskatchewan, John Diefenbaker had his home riding there; 2) The North Saskatchewan and the South Saskatchewan; 3) Louis Riel; 4) "...speak English here."; 5) Legal is in Alberta, and both Jolson and Zoolapa are made-up names. All the rest are real towns in Saskatchewan; Disney Flicks 1) The Lion King; 2) Elton John; 3) Lea Salonga; 4) Aquata, Andrina, Arista, Atina, Adella, and Allana; 5) Glen Keane, son of Bil Keane, the inflictor...er, I mean creator of *The Family Circus*.

Geez, I think I see a trend! For the third fortnight in a row (and every 'Squiz that I've done so far) we have had three entries. Three. Oh, well. The submissions came from: Dan & Alex with 6; Mark "Pseudonymly Challenged" Coburn with 6, as well; and our final winner of The Year Of Our Lord One Thousand Nineteen Hundred and Ninety-Three, Peter Olbach, Mad Scientist with 7! Congratulations, Peter! (And it would have been 8, Peter, but you kinda spelled a few of Ariel's sisters' names wrong. Oh, well.) Be sure to pick up your impressive 'Squizprize in the MathSoc office!

Since that's it for the 'Squiz for this term, the following questions will not be answered in mathNEWS this term. However, feel free to have fun with them anyway!

Music 375

- Using an FM sound source and the fixed filter bank, compose a short phrase lasting *no more than 20 seconds*.
- Create a tone (about 10 seconds in length) in which the depth of vibrato slowly increases from zero. Do not exceed a natural sounding vibrato depth or frequency.

Math 235

- A sequence of numbers $\{x_n\}$ is given by $x_0 = 1$, $x_1 = 1$, $x_{n+2} = x_{n+1} + 2x_n$ for all n . Find an explicit formula for x_n .
- Find the general solution to the differential equation $f'''(x) = 2f''(x) + f'(x) - 2f(x)$. Also give the specific solution satisfying $f(0) = 2$, $f'(0) = 5$, and $f''(0) = 5$.
- Show that the rule $\langle u, v \rangle = 2u_1\bar{v}_1 + u_1\bar{v}_2 + u_2\bar{v}_1 + u_2\bar{v}_2$ defines an inner product on \mathbb{C}^2

Math 137

- Prove that $I(k) = \int_1^k \frac{1}{\sqrt{k^2+x^2}}$ is independent of k , where k is positive.
- Prove that if f is continuous, then $\int_0^1 f(1-t)dt = \int_0^1 f(t)dt$.
- Prove that if $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is continuous and odd, then the function g defined by $g(x) = \int_0^x f(t)dt$ is even.

Since this is the last issue of the term, there are no answers, and no 'Squizprizes. However, if you e-mail the answers to mhammon@descartes, a small cash honorarium may come your way. (Just kidding!) Have fun with the non-questions, and have a great Christmas!

Mike "SquizHammer" Hammond

The C+D is open for business
until Dec. 15th

Gridword and Squiz Winners —
Read This!!!

If you appear in the list below, you have won a prize for the grid, or for the squiz, or what have you. Yeah, yeah, we know the prizes haven't been available all term, but this can be attributed to our extreme laziness. But, as a special reward for patience, we have increased the prize amount from a measley \$2 to an amazing \$3!

So - if you come to the MathSoc office (MC 3038 - you know, the room with the photocopiers across from the C+D) you may pick up your long awaited prize. Yes. Honest and truly you may. They are in my hands as we speak, so yes, they do in fact exist, and we are not, in fact, lying to you once again. Those, oh so lucky individual who have won, include:

Issue # 1 winners: The Games Master, Sam/Dan/Alex. Issue #2 winners: Phage'n'2 and Paul/Dan/Alex. Issue # 3 winner: Fizzy "Wacky" Tobaccy. Issue # 4 winners: Alex/Dan, The Burning Stickmen, and Boom aka Laka Boom Boom. Issue # 5 winner: Peter Olbach.

Prizewinners may pick up their prizes at the Math Soc office anytime today or on Thursday the 9th or Tuesday the 14th between 1 pm and 5 pm. Yes. Honest to Rudy, you may. We're not pulling your leg this time. Yes, in fact, you may believe us this time. No, really, you can.

OK, fine. *Don't believe us!* See if we give a fat rat's ass. Don't say we didn't tell you.

The Editors

The ESYAN sensation

Early-Starters-Yet-All-Nighters

Are you a Computer Science student? Do you find the assignments/labs just so long that you spend endless hours working out algorithms right after the assignment comes out and then find you have to do at least one all-nighter to get it done?

If you answered "yes" to the above questions, then, well, you're not alone! No way!

And, we have the group for you: ESYAN - Early-Starters-Yet-All-Nighters, or, in its current incarnation, Early-Starters-Yet-All-Nighters-Yet-Creamed-By-CS-Midterms, in light of the current catastrophe involving the CS242 midterm (no harsh, feelings, of course)!!

Sure it *seems* a little late in the term to introduce you to ESYAN, but as long as you're in CS, it's never too late to join. It's never too late to do an all-nighter!

You may have bet money you'd never do one, but once you join ESYAN, you'll see that you can do one. Just like that. Bring your ghetto-blaster into the lab, a bottle of Jolt and at around three a.m. watch your mind go wild! The ESYAN sensation! Around 4 a.m., you'll find yourself letting your anger out—about profs who give hard assignments, profs who think their course is the only one around, students who never go to class and still do well, and those geeky people who finish the lab in two days!!

Sounds good, doesn't it?

Well, all you have to do is an all-nighter! What easier way is there to being an honorary member of a society than that?

Our small, but growing group is just waiting for YOU! Join ESYAN!

M. Krishnan - Founder & President
Early-Starters-Yet-All-Nighters-Yet-Creamed-By-CS-Midterms

Dumb Things to Do with Your Dick

- Discipline your pitbull
- Check to see if the electric pencil sharpener works
- Pry jammed toast out of a toaster
- Cannibal + Blowjob = Dumb
- Substitute it for a golf tee
- Teach someone to drive a five-speed stick-shift
- Screw the 16-year-old daughter of a red-neck Texan gun salesman
- Lay it across the road and use it as a car counter for the DMV
- Snapping turtle bait
- Skipping rope for Double Dutch
- An anchor for bungee jumping
- Pogo Stick
- A barber's razor strap
- Cock fight with Long Dong Silver
- Ice fishing

Naughty Non-Hammer Contributors Say the Damndest Things

Flop 10 Catchphrases Found in mathBRUISE

10. mathSCHMOOZE sucks.
9. Lush,
Greedy, Seedy, Dimmer, and Imbibe.
8. We're funnier than mathSCHMOOZE!
I swear!
7. What makes you think we're a rip-off?
6. The Bumshelter is the best bar in the world!
5. Drinking problem? I drink. There's no problem!
4. Well, let me ramble about myself for half a page or so...
3. But we're needed to provide a funnier newsletter!
2. Okay, so most people found our last issue dumb. We're **still** better than math-SCHMOOZE!
1. ...or you're a BIG FAG!!

How To Make Love To A Mathie (Without Getting Bored)

A Guide To Mathie Sex Etiquette

Everything you've ever wondered about sex, but were afraid that you didn't really want to know:

It is generally acceptable to refer to your partner by his or her first name when involved in the act. One exception is when you are sleeping with one of your professors, in which case "Sir" or "Ma'am" is more appropriate.

Your partner may be a sadist, in which case he or she might ask you to watch Deep Space Nine as a type of foreplay. Your partner may be a masochist, in which case he or she might ask you to quote the Bolzano-Weierstrass theorem in the heat of passion.

If someone sneezes, say "Gesundheit".

Never wear a sombrero to bed. Someone could get hurt. The same holds true for lawn chairs and tuning forks. It may seem like a neat idea at the time, but it just isn't worth it. Really.

Above all, remember to use a LaTeX condom.

The Other Son of an Emu Herder

Musings of a Bus Error

I was riding on a TTC bus the other day, and I suddenly realized that...I was on the wrong bus! CS'er that I am, I immediately shouted, "Bus error!", to which my friend immediately responded, "Get a life!"

So I started thinking. "Gee." Then I stalled. After a warm reboot, I was reminded about the time I botched up an earthworm dissection. That was a segmentation fault, I realized. Then my cerebellum cried, "Get a life!"

Now I realize that this is pretty stupid, but always remember...we're better than mathSCHMOOZE. Really.

By The Positive Electron

With thanks and apologies to The Negative Positron

mathBRUISE

ISSUED ONCE, VOLUME CONTROL, DECEMBER 6, 199

News From the Clone

Yes, we've written **another** editorial about just how crappy mathSCHMOOZE is. But that's not all! We're going to tell you all about ourselves, and how mathBRUISE is so much better than mathSCHMOOZE! Okay, so we've done that before. Yes, more than once. Okay, alright...we realize that we're kinda repeating the same thing over and over again. But with our lack of originality, we just can't help it!

Oh, and that reminds me. Gratuitous comment about myth-SUK: mythSUK is actually a Communist organization bent on washing everyone's brains with bland mathSCMOOZE. At least, *we* think that mathSCHMOOZE is bland. After all, any publication whose editors insist on being known by pseudonyms has *got* to have *something* wrong with it, don't you think? (Oops. Nevermind.) And even though we're not exactly sure how, *we know* that mythSUK controls everything that mathSCHMOOZE prints.

We have had people e-mail us (at our handy-dandy anonymous mail id, an93666@anon.penitentiary.fine), asking us why we publish our own newsletter. Well, I suppose that we *could* have submitted these articles and criticisms to mathSCHMOOZE, but it makes so much more sense for us to go to the trouble of printing up, paying for copies of, and distributing our *own* product. At least, it makes sense to *us*. Okay, so it doesn't. Sue us. Or better yet, report us to Jack Kabbagepatch!

Anyway, since we don't have anything new, fresh, or exciting to say, let's go to the articles. Oh, and one more thing: be sure to catch more of our mathSCHMOOZE roasting on **uw.genital!**

Lush,
Greedy, Seedy, Dimmer, and Imbibe

P.S. We find ourselves to be somewhat at a loss when we get parodied like this. In fact, I wouldn't be too terribly surprised if, by the time you read this, we have radically changed our style, our content, and even our logo, just to prevent those people at mathSCHMOOZE from getting any ideas. So if we have changed, don't blame us. Blame that Myke "Himmler" Hammock guy.

The Really Real Hierarchy of Life

mathBRUISE

ecstasy

eternal reward

orgasm

alcoholism

masturbation

Bumshelter

complaining about how much mathSCHMOOZE or mythSUK sucks

cheap drinks

cheap sex

expensive sex

mutual masturbation

printing with **almost** laserprinter quality

sex for grades

grades for sex

pseudonyms

Heave "Flapper" Shock

Willfret Lordingly University

The C&D&E

Imp'tint

General Math degrees

The University of Waterlogged GetzWet

self-referentiality

Myth & Confusing building's 6th floor

unnecessary amputation

working for H&R Schlock

Fedup Hall

working for Fedup Hall

Alcoholics Anonymous

working for Alcoholics Anonymous

pain

eternal damnation

mathSCHMOOZE

