

math NEWS

Volume 70, Issue 1

Friday, January 19, 1996



fox 96

lookAHEAD

mathNEWS	
January 29	Issue #2 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
February 2	Issue #2 hits the stands
February 12	Issue #3 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
February 16	Issue #3 stands the hits
February 24	Mala "Crakko" Krishnan's birthday
Math Faculty	
January 23	Last Day for 100% refund
January 23	Grade Reports Available in Needles Hall
January 30	Course Drop Deadline
February 1-2	Pre-registration for Spring 1996, non-Coop
February 19-20	Reading "Week"
MathSoc	
January 22	MathSoc meeting, 4:30pm, MC 4040
January 22-26	Nominations for Orientation Director open — forms in MathSoc office
January 26	Engineering Scunt Math team signup in MathSoc office
January 29	MathSoc meeting, 4:30pm, MC 4040 Time and location subject to change without notice.
February 1	Bowling Tournament Signup in MathSoc office
February 2	Math Pub Night at the Bombshelter
MGC	
February 7	Tickets for Math Grad Ball go on sale
March 16	Math Grad Ball (Early notice is better than late!)
MEF	
January 19	Nominations for funding council close
February 20	Deadline for Winter 96 proposal submissions
Co-op	
February 28	Interviews end
February 28	Ranking Forms Available
March 10	Employment Acceptance
CS Assignments	
January 22	CS 241 Project 1 due 8:30am
January 25	CS 334 Project 1 due 11:59 pm
January 26	CS 488 Project 1 due 9:30 am
January 26	CS 354 Project 1 due 5:00 pm Load forecast to be high
February 5	CS 241 Project 2 due 8:30 am
February 5	CS 337 Project 2 due 1:30 pm
February 6	CS 454/654 A1
February 9	CS 488 Project 2 due 9:30 am Load forecast to be high

Just A Reminder...

The Math C+D is open until 10pm Monday through Thursday.

socTOC

Hey there! It's me, the Poesy clone. No, not Sarah ... better! (Sarah, you can't hurt me. :P Okay, sorry about that, but I had to start it off with an inside joke. I think it's tradition, isn't it?)

Anyway, I certainly hope that '96 is going well for everyone. Classes are running as smoothly (or rocky) as ever, living arrangements are beginning to grow on you and you get to see all of your old pals again (ahh, isn't that nice). Well, I guess that since I'm your new Social Director, I should probably tell you what's going on. So, here goes:

- **MATH PUB NIGHT! BOMBER! MATH PUB NIGHT! BOMBER! MATH PUB NIGHT!** That's right, boys and girls! There is going to be a Math Pub at the Bomber. It is being held on Friday, February 2nd. Be sure to come out to this evening filled with prizes, drinking, food and just plain ol' fun. We are going to have some specialty drinks (both alcoholic and non-) for everyone to try. Mathies of all ages are welcome. So all you young'uns be sure to go; this could be your only chance to go to the Bomber before you're legal. Unfortunately, I didn't say you could drink. (Too bad.)
- The Engineering Scunt is also happening soon. This fun and crazy evening is January 26th. This is one of those times where we show those engineers that we are the best. (I know that we are, but they need to be humiliated before they believe me.) So come on out and have the time of your life ... or something. Sign up at the MathSoc office.
- Bowling! Bowling! Bowling! Is this your fancy? If so, be sure to sign up in the MathSoc office. We are entering a tournament on February 1st, against several other faculties on campus. It'll cost you \$5, but you'll get 3 games of 10-pin, shoe rental, snacks, and pop. So sign up now. There is only a limited amount of time and space in the tournament, so act fast. (Geez, I sound like some stupid TV commercial.)

Some other upcoming events are LaserQuest and a movie at the Cinesphere. More to come on that stuff later.

Hey, are you clinically depressed because you have nothing to do? Do you want to meet people who understand? Are you full of ideas (or maybe just full of ... it) Join the Social Committee! To do so, contact me at ext. 2324, pin a note to my board (in the MathSoc office), or e-mail me.

May "Noun" Szeto
mszeto@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca

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The powerful and most-awesome trio: Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox, Mala "Crakko" Krishnan, Mike "Hammer" Hammond

Prez Sez

or Sarah Spews

Hey there, folks.

Crazy, crazy, crazy wild things are happening this term. Nifty, nifty changes are in the works. Big Secret Plans are being made.

Yesirreebob! This is going to be a rocking term, ladies and gents. All of us at MathSoc are feeling adventurous and energetic this term, and we've got a lot of enthusiasm flying around. We want to DO stuff, and we want to do it NOW!

(Yeah, get your mind out of the gutter! Sickos.)

The MathSoc exec are pretty young this term. This means a number of things:

1. We still haven't been burnt out and completely bogged down by schoolwork;
2. We're dumb enough to think anything's possible; and
3. We're stupid enough to try out any idea whatsoever that we think might be cool.

Luckily, we've got a bunch of wise 'uns still hanging around who'll slap us around if we do anything too stupid, but at the same time, it looks like this'll be a term of trying out new ideas and making changes.

If you want to keep abreast with the stuff we're doing, please keep an eye on uw.math.ugrad for postings about Soc goings-on. There'll also be weekly updates on events and dates and other stuff that you should know posted on that newsgroup every Monday. If we're feeling generous, we might even let you in on our Big Secret Plans.

MathSoc meetings are at 4:30 in MC4040 on Mondays. Feel free to come on out (we'd love to see you there!) and let us know what you think of the things we're doing.

If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions, drop by the exec office (MC 3035/3039) and let us know what they are.

Come out and get involved, or just drop by and give us your input. We want to hear from you, dammit!

Sarah "Crazy, crazy, crazy, wild thing" Kamal

Kurt's Corner

Hey, folks! Welcome to yet another term of sheer hell, filled with assignments, postings, interviews, and all around grief. School is out to treat us like road-kill left out in the sun to bake. But, wait: there is hope! Your student society, MathSoc, will be your ray of shining light in these dark times. Did you even know you had a student society? That's right, you do: the Math Society. Every undergrad Math student is a full member of the society. As the new Vice-Prez of Activities and Services, I figure that it's my job to inform you all of the things we have to offer. In order to beat those winter blues, MathSoc is currently planning to help you put some order to your social life.

We have competitive and co-rec teams already under way and plans for a Math Pub night at the Bomber in the works. If you're more interested in your schooling (yeah right), you can always come in and use our exam bank, course calendars, local phone, computer lab, study rooms, 5¢ photocopies, laser copies and prof evaluations. If the most important thing on your mind right now is food, you can always try out our C+D, and get the best food on campus.

So MathSoc doesn't seem that bad, eh? How about becoming a volunteer? We need volunteers to keep us running. Working an hour a week in the office is a great way to meet people and get the inside scoop on what goes on around this university. We also need people to help out our directors. If you want to get involved drop by either the Soc office or the Exec office and check us out *OR* come by our next meeting, this Monday at 4:30 in MC 4040. We'll be having a discussion session after the meetings and we'd love to hear from you. Check out the weekly agenda for meetings, posted on the MathSoc door and around the 3rd floor of the MC, for more information.

Kurtis R. McClellan

P.S.: Wondering what those crazy engineers are up to? Their Scunt is on the 26th and we Mathies are going for gold with a team of our own. Interested in joining? We need brave young men and women to lead our forces to victory. If you're willing to try, the sign up sheet for the team is located on the MathSoc door (that's MC 3038!). See ya there!

High MathSoc Finance

*Well, of medium altitude. Okay, so it's lower than
Danny DeVito's kneecaps. What do you want from a
title I didn't write myself?*

Warning!!! If you're a member of Stream "Y" (last term's Co-stream) or a Stream "Y" sympathizer, I suggest you'd better be sitting down when you read this. This isn't stream bashing. I don't want to create any bad blood, so I'll stick to the facts.

I moved into the MathSoc Exec. Office two weeks ago. Now I thought as VP of Finance I would be greeted warmly by a nice, new (to me) big cool desk (the only perk to the job). But it took me almost an entire week to find it. If you've ever been in the Exec. Office, (feel welcome to drop by sometime if you haven't, MC 3039) it's rather small and not the place one could lose a full sized desk. It was actually there the whole time. It's just that there was so much stuff piled on it that it was invisible to the untrained eye. For example, we have Stream "Y" invoices (unpaid), old math assignments of the previous

VPF, threatening (in a friendly way) messages from Xerox, and the University Financial Services stating that it would be in our best interest if we paid our debts that have accumulated over the past four or five months. These numbers have been totaled up and we (Stream "X") have debts in excess of \$10,000.00. Not to worry you - the money is in the bank - it's just that it was never paid. And of course, this will be taken care of in the very near future.

I don't yet have a financial report, but the budget will be brought before council on Monday, January 22, and a copy of the passed MathSoc budget will be debuted in the next issue.

Catch you on the Other Side
Mark Thornton, VP of Finance

mastHEAD

Happy New Year, everybody! Hope you all had a great Christmas! (Since I went home to Vancouver Island, mine was more of a grey Christmas, but I still enjoyed it!)

A typical saying that you hear around the New Year is, "Out with the old and in with the new!" Well, mathNEWS is a little strange: this term our theme seems to be, "In with the old and in with the new!" Mala and I are, indeed, editing again — and taking CS 488 (Graphics), too, giving no hope to our friends regarding our sanity — but this term, Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox has joined us! We are indeed the mathNEWS Triplets, or, as we prefer to call ourselves, the "Holy Trinity."

Unfortunately, one of our esteemed editors — in fact, our *only* esteemed editor — couldn't be with us tonight. A cowardly virus which struck her as her back was turned has kept her from helping us produce this oh-so-quality issue. If you see her, be sure to ask her if she's feeling better!

For our first issue, we had a good turnout: about a dozen mathies and an optometry student! Our helpers, along with what they would do to people who leave the photocopier lid up while photocopying, are: Sarah Kamal (Well! Obviously it's an indication of an even more heinous social crime: leaving the toilet seat up. So what I, personally, would do to someone like that is far too gory to be published, even in mathNEWS.), Kevin "Lord NullSet" Hartmann (Photocopy them! How to run a 5' human being (or a 4' smurf) through a photocopier is left as an exercise for the devious reader.), Stuart "Jean-Guy!" Pollock (Let them face the wrath of *Die Feste Zitroen.*), Matt "So-Krates" Walsh (Mulch them and convert them to toner.), Jared Riley (Take them to a hospital and make them visit people who left the lid up too many times.), Darren Rigby (Firing squad at dawn. And if they ask for change first, they don't get the blindfold and cigarette.), May "Noun" Szeto (Make the join the damn Social Committee and have them work for (oh, I mean *with*) me.), Scott "Buckminsterfullerine" Norris (Force them to shave Sarah's head.), Candice Parado (Send them to the Engineering Scunt gods as bribes!), Lixin Chungphaisan (Force them to come down (or even up) to the Optometry Building to get their eyes checked. :)), and D.K. Gardiner (Yes, but never in Nebraska.).

Thank you to everybody who came out, and we hope to see you on January 29th, our next Production Night!

Mala "Crakko" Krishnan (Infect them with my illness)

Mike "Hammer" Hammond

(Enroll them in CS 444 (Compilers), CS 452 (Real-Time), and CS 488 (Graphics) in the same term! That'll teach 'em!)

Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox (Force 'em to watch Full House re-runs.)

ultraCLASSIFIEDS

Crakko & MC Venn:

Hope you're feeling better!

Hammer & Nihil

Nihil:

Thanx for your help on Monday. It was very much appreciated!

Hammer

Herzlichen Glückwunsch zum Geburtstag, Miguel und Dave!

Die Ill One

\$10,000.00

MEF

Well, that termly \$10 π (\$31.42) you've been donating to the Math Endowment Fund (MEF) for the past year has piled up. The interest generated off the endowment has risen to approximately \$10,000.00.

What are we going to do with all that money, you ask?! Frankly, that is up to you. Yup, that's right, students. Us. The little people. We control the money. How do I get my say in this, you might ask. Easy! You can do one of two things.

Funding Council

Join the funding council. What is the funding council?? The funding council is a group of people made up of at least a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority of students. Proposals are brought before and presented to the funding council. The council then recommends projects it feels are worthy of funding to the MEF board of directors. The board of directors of the endowment fund is controlled by students and consists of the MEF directors (one for each term [F,W,S]), 4 students from the funding council, an alumnus, the dean, and one professor. The board has final say over project funding.

Getting Money

The other thing you can do is submit a funding proposal. If you have an idea that would benefit education in the Faculty of Math, bring forward your proposal.

Nomination forms for funding council are available on the MEF office door (MC 4046) and the MathSoc office door (MC 3038). As well, "Submission For Funding" forms are available in these same locations.

Nominations for funding council close **TODAY!!!** (Friday, Jan 19th). So get a form and get on council and have your say.

More information can be obtained from the MEF web site <http://www.undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mefcom/>, by emailing MEF (mefcom@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca), by dropping by the office (MC 4046), or by calling x5757.

Remember, MEF has \$10,000.00 available to be spent.

Ronald Servant

Winter 96 MEF Director

A Knight To Remember

The Math Grad Ball '96

The Math Grad Committee will once again be holding its annual Grad Ball. This formal event will be held at Bingemans on Saturday, March 16th. The theme chosen for this year is "A Knight To Remember".

Tickets will cost \$40 (subject to change) and sales will start on February 7 in the 3rd floor hallway of the Math building.

For more information on the Grad Ball, contact John Szeder (jszeder@undergrad.math) or David Bajar (dabajar@undergrad.math).

Dave Bajar

Co-Director MGB

The Philosopher's Stoned

Choosing a Major

Hello, boys and girls! After eight months of sort of hanging around the edges of *mathNEWS*, I've finally gotten around to starting a column of my very own.

I thought I'd start with an article dedicated to the frosh in the crowd (and the occasional 2A) who have yet to face the onerous task of choosing a major program of study. I'm therefore providing opinions based on my own observations, as well as the usual rumours and half truths. (Thanks to Lord Webchat for some enlightening comments about himself as a typical CSer.)

Accounting: I just don't get these guys. I mean, you come into the Math faculty, then proceed to do years of number-crunching. What gives? Maybe it's a way to avoid the stigma of being called "Artsie"... by being called "Mathie" instead...

Actuarial Science: A lot of people seem to feel the ActSci is only about death. Not true. ActSci is *also* about mindboggling statistical formulae, getting high-paying co-op jobs, and the writing of weeks of multiple-choice exams followed by the consumption of gallons of alcohol.

Applied Math: These are people who like physics *way* too much. They also think that, because they have the word "applied" on their degree, they'll be good for something in the Real WorldTM. Also, is it just my imagination, or do these people have more than their share of personal problems and emotional crises?

Business: OK, so you're in the Math faculty, but you're not really all that fond of math. So what do you do? Well, how about doing something that's (a) vaguely applicable to real life, and (b) not really all that mathematical? So you become a business major. I personally have little to no fondness for the business world, but maybe that's just me...

Combinatorics & Optimization: C&O majors are the drifters of the faculty. They're people who waited too long to declare a major, then found out that C&O is the only one they have enough course attempts for; or they were once CS majors who ran into too many coding-course brick walls; or they've got a declared major and want to pick up a cheap Joint Honours. Something like that.

Computer Science: The Dark Side. People who are willing to spend their university career spending more than half their waking hours staring at a CRT, so that they may then proceed to graduate and get a job which entails precisely the same thing. They have no lives, because (a) they have poor personal hygiene, and (b) they never get out. (Hey, don't blame me, guys, a CSer pointed these out to me.)

Interdepartmental: People who can't make up their minds to save their life and the lives of their friends and family. They end up with a little bit of everything, which doesn't add up to much. The only reason that they didn't end up in C&O was that, hey, there were those nifty STAT courses...

Operations Research: Practicality is the name of the game here, folks. From what I've seen, the typical OR major is a control freak to their fingertips, always trying to make things work the way they feel is correct. Assertiveness a must, probably because you'll be spending the rest of your life quibbling with managers about the proper way to do things. Must have a high tolerance for courses which begin with CS and STAT.

Pure Math: If you're useless and you know it, join Pure Math. Seriously, though, I haven't yet met a PMathie who hasn't been at least partially whacked out of their skull. (Some of you non-frosh may remember a gentleman named Eli...) Still, it is one of the more interesting (read: brain-bashing) programmes of study.

Statistics: You know, I don't think I know any Stats majors currently in the faculty. There isn't, therefore, a hell of a lot that I can say, except that I'm willing to sell my soul to avoid becoming a Stats major. Good card players, though.

Teaching Option: Mould little minds. Go back to your old high school and be on equal terms with that physics teacher you hated so much. Develop an area of concentration outside of math, so you get to walk to different buildings and thus see the sun more often than the rest of us. Have your own little section of co-op jobs. Be here during the summer lots. Join the Teaching Option.

Double Majors: There's a special hell for people who attempt double major degrees, and the best part is that they inflict it upon themselves. Some (PM/C&O) aren't as bad as others (AM/CS), but they all kind of suck, y'know? Makes me wonder why I'm in one...

If this little piece offended you, I apologize, but lighten up a little, will ya? I hope I've given you frosh a better idea about what you're getting into... OK, not really, I hope I've completely stepped around the point. Whatever.

Matt "So-Krates" Walsh
PM/C&O, by the way.

Novelties

MathSoc has a number of groovy novelty items on sale this term, and many more which are not so groovy. Nonetheless, they're CHEAP CHEAP CHEAP, so you should buy lots of them.

Top Ten Novelties Items on Sale in MathSoc

10. Pink Tie Mechanical Pencils — \$1
9. Pencil Leads, 0.5mm (12) — \$1
8. Psycho Math Lizard Playing Cards — \$1
7. "90210 Pink" Plastic Rulers — \$1
6. Pink Tie Pins — \$1
5. Soup Mugs/Small Coffee Cups — \$3
4. Shirts that have nothing to do with cheating — \$10
3. Cheat Shirts — \$12
2. Kant's *The Metaphysics of Morals* — \$42
1. Broken Locks — still only a quarter (25¢)!

In addition, math baseball caps will be in soon.

Christina Norman

Mathematics Endowment Fund (MEF)

Submissions for Funding Guidelines

As outlined in Section 2 (Purpose) of the mathematics Endowment Fund Constitution, "MEF shall recommend the use of the Funds for such mathematics project needs as teaching resources, laboratory equipment and student projects of an educational nature and such other purposes as MEF shall consider appropriate".

A 'Submission for Funding' form must be completed and submitted either through any member of the Board of Directors for the current academic term or by dropping it off in the MEF office in MC 4046. **Please note that you must attend a MEF meeting to answer questions any funding council member might have with regards to your project. If you or a representative are unable to attend such a meeting your request will be deferred until the following academic term.**

Notes:

1. Members of the MEF funding council are not eligible to make submissions for funding.
2. All submissions must be accompanied by a formal estimate of cost.
3. If your submission is granted funding, a series of "Accountability Guidelines" must be fulfilled. These guidelines will be explained when funding is granted.
4. MEF reserves the right to defer any submissions to the following academic term, due to time constraints.

The Joys of Frosh Week

I want you to think back to your Frosh Week. For some it was a long time ago. For others it wasn't. Nonetheless, I think it's safe to say that you enjoyed Frosh Week. Since then there may have been other Frosh Weeks, with you not as frosh, but as a leader. You helped with a frosh-group, and helped the Orientation Directors make sure that everything went okay. Did you ever wonder what it'd be like to do more? To be an Orientation Director?

You may be wondering why I'm talking about this. Well, it's once again that time of year to start thinking about Frosh Week. Well, maybe not for everyone, but just for those who think that they might want to take a shot at being Orientation Director.

To that end, I'm announcing that nominations for Orientation Director(s) shall be open starting at 8:30 on Monday, January 22nd until their close at 4:30 on Friday, January 26th. Nomination forms may be picked up from the MathSoc office (MC 3038).

The best way to make sure that Frosh Week is a great one is to have the best person in charge. If you believe that you're that person, then come out and run for Orientation Director.

Chris Buchanan
MathSoc C.R.O.

Mathematics Endowment Fund (MEF) Submission Form

Name: _____ ID # (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____ e-mail: _____

Position: _____ Dept.: _____

Date / /
mm dd yy

Please ensure the above information is complete. Is this the first time a submission has been made to fund this project? Y / N

If no, when was the previous submission made?

 / /
mm dd yy

Explanation of the project:

(Please include the following information: how it was conceived, how will it benefit education in the mathematics faculty at U(W).)

Formal estimate of project Cost:

Ensure that this estimate is complete (add attachments if necessary). Please note any other organizations or areas of the University where funding has been requested for this project.

**** Attach additional pages if necessary. ****

**** Please ensure that this request is legible and complete before submitting. ****

I have read the guidelines and notes provided, and agree to their terms.

_____ mm / dd / yy
signature

Deadline for Winter term submission is Feb. 20, 1996 at 5 pm. Drop off submissions in MC 4046.

profQUOTES

The Best of Fall '95

"profQUOTES books are available in the mathNEWS office!"

Huron, MUSIC 275

"Huh, you learn something new everyday. There's a little clip here on the overhead projector to keep your transparencies from sliding off without having to pile stuff on top of it. I've been teaching for twenty-eight years, and I never knew about that before."

Norman, KIN 102

"You don't want to wake up in the morning wondering whose bed you will sleep in. That didn't come out right."

Smith, ECON 101

"Next week's topic is recursion. If you haven't seen it before, it can throw you for a loop."

Rehder, CS 130

"Why don't we pretend that we're stupid. Pretend we're from Western. (Shortly after) Okay, let's pretend we're not SO stupid. Pretend we're ... honours students from Western?"

Willard, MATH 135

"People are smiling. This is calculus, you're not supposed to have a good time."

Best, MATH 137

"The left hand side = blah. The right hand side = blah. Therefore, blah = blah."

Best, MATH 137

"Is anybody else puzzled? I mean, perhaps it's because I've been mixing x's and y's with θ 's and r's. It's like comparing apples with other apples. Though they look like apples. Is anyone confused?"

Sivaloganathan, AM 453

"If I removed all the air from this room, you wouldn't be able to hear me. Of course, if I removed all the air we'd die of oxygen deprivation."

Eastman, SCI 205

"Now you're all mathies, but I'm a physicist and I'm not bound by your rules. So we'll cancel these numbers out."

Vanderkooy, PHYS 121

"Instantaneous reincarnation is not part of actuarial science ... you can come back as a cow or a mosquito, but you can't come back as a 62-year-old."

Brown, ACTSCI 435

"MAPLE is very easy to use. You type maple, and press Enter. Then you type help."

Stewart, MATH 145

(Looking at result on board) "Aw, shit! (looking around) Shh ... you didn't hear that. Don't you dare put that in profQUOTES or I will give you all zero without compuction."

Marshman, AM 251

"Don't forget to buy your profQUOTES book!"

Huron, MUSIC 275

Looking at Old Exams

I don't know whether you've ever used the service that the Math Undergrad Office provides of allowing students to check over their past final exams, but I recently discovered that this service has been abolished.

This was news to me. There was no discussion, no publicity, nothing. One term I could go in to check how my old exams went, and the next I was turned away.

They seem to have a reasonable enough reason for getting rid of the service (too much demand, they couldn't keep up), but at the same time I think that it's a very important service to keep for math students. Students that are borderline, marks-wise, might want to check three or four exams to see whether they can squeeze that extra mark to make the Dean's Honour list or to stay off academic probation. Bothering three or four profs for that (which is what students have to do now) seems rather excessive for the piddly marks involved, but at the same time could mean the difference between getting kicked off campus and being allowed to stay. I don't know about you, but I'd like to be able to see my final and work through the questions, formulate a good defence for why I deserve the extra piddly mark, then go bother a prof. Bad relations between a prof and a student (yes,

this does occasionally happen) would also inhibit some students from wanting to check past results.

I don't think that's right. I think that we should be able to go in and see how we did in privacy, whether it's only for curiosity's sake, for an ego boost, or as a desperate measure to try and stay in our program.

So, do you agree with me? Do you think something should be done to try and get that service back?

This issue could be taken up by MathSoc. Basically, research could be done at the other faculties to see whether they provide this service and whether their system of letting students check their old finals is more efficient. Hopefully, a compromise would be worked out that would keep the staff at the MUO from becoming overworked but would still let students check their old final exams anonymously.

I'll only start this up if I think that other people out there are interested, however. Please let me know by e-mail at skamal@undergrad.math whether you think this is a worthwhile issue to look into.

Thank you.

Sarah Kamal

Here Two Times at Least

*A Tribute to MATH 138
To the Tune of "Beauty and the Beast"*

Who can pass this course?
Neither you nor me.
I'm here a second time—
Is that really a crime?
I'm striving for a 'D'.

Isn't it so strange?
My marks have decreased.
I failed the exam;
Sad to say I am
Here two times at least.

This all looks the same.
Not a big surprise.
I've seen this before.
I'm just not so sure
That my grades will rise.

What a waste of time
Sitting in this class.
Four lectures a week.
So bored I can't speak
And I won't even pass.

Re-taking this course,
Boredom has increased.
I failed the exam;
Sad to say I am
Here two times at least.

I failed the exam;
Sad to say I am
Here two times at least...

Drew "This isn't anything personal against Dr. Collins"
Hamilton

My Misadventures with Belle Canada

*With apologies to Bob Newhart, Lily Tomlin and of
course, Ma Belle herself.*

BELLE: Hello! You've reached...**BELLE CANADA!!** For unreliable customer support, press 1. For a summary of your sad life's pits and downfalls, press 2! And to speak to a real live person, press 3.

ME: 3!!

BELLE: To speak to Judy, press 1. There is no one else left here. Unless you count Cleophus.

ME: 1!!

BELLE: Hi this is Judy!! I'm sorry, but I just lost my job today. Oh, my poor children, and the dog!! Anyway, go back to the previous menu, and talk to the machine, or if you're feeling adventurous, talk to Cleophus.

ME: OK, press 1.

BELLE: I'm sorry, this machine is on the blink. We'd repair it, but guess what, **WE DON'T HAVE TO!!** No competition, with a heavy dose of monopoly, adds up to more profits, and not having to deal with scummy users like yourself. I'm sorry, you'll have to talk to — Cleophus...

ME: OK, fine, 4!!

BELLE: Good evening, this is Belle Canada!! Cleophus speaking, how may I help you.

ME: Well, I just moved in to XXX Stillcreek Circle, and I want to get a few lines hooked up.

BELLE: Hooked up??

ME: Yeah, installed, activated, get it? So I can use a phone!!

BELLE: Ah, but sir, you're on the phone right now. Why do you need a line hooked up??

ME: I'm on someone else's phone.

BELLE: Are you paying a licensing fee?? If not, I'll have to report you to the U.S. Committee of Monopoly Price Gouging.

ME: No, I'm sharing the phone.

BELLE: No, no, no, no!!! You must pay a fee, otherwise, you're pirating valuable hardware and software.

ME: Alright, alright. I'll pay the fee.

BELLE: That'll be 433 dollars and 97 cents.

ME: What!??

BELLE: Don't worry, we'll just automatically remove it from your bank account. Now, how may I help you??

ME: I'd like to get a line.

BELLE: OK, what are the last digits of the number?

ME: I don't know.

BELLE: OK, XXX Stillcreek?? I'm sorry, but our computer shows that there are no lines there! You should call 651-4326 to get them installed.

ME: But they *are* installed. I'm looking at the jacks right now!!

BELLE: Oh, let me see. No, sir, I'm sorry, there are no jacks in your house. If there were, my computer would say so.

ME: I'M LOOKING RIGHT AT THEM!!!

BELLE: Uh, no sir, you are not. They are not there.

ME: OK, OK, I'll get them installed.

BELLE: What is your name??

ME: David Vernest.

BELLE: OK, let's see...Nope, sorry, you are *not* David Vernest.

ME: WHAT DO YOU MEAN???

BELLE: There's no David Vernest in the computer, so you don't exist. Please put someone on that does exist, I don't have time to play around with non-entities.

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

ME: Hello?? HELLOOOOOO??? Does this make sense to you?

BELLE: Does *what* make sense, sir??

ME: The fact that I am talking to you right now, and you are saying that I do not exist.

BELLE: Well sir, I guess there are a number of ways around that. You could have existed before, and recorded a message. Or maybe you are a computer. Or maybe I am talking to a ghost. And it can always be an illusion. Maybe I'm not a Belle operator, but a psycho-delusional bitch waiting for her Puppy Chow. But then, you wouldn't know anything about that, would you, sir??

ME: OK, OK, OK. Let's at least prove I am not pre-recorded.

BELLE: OK, if you must, but really, my favourite soap opera is on.

ME: Tell me a random phrase. That way, if I can repeat it, odds are I am not prerecorded.

BELLE: OK, say "Twenty giants fought one another to perform gymnastics on the upholstery."

ME: Alright, "Twenty giants fought one another to perform gymnastics on the upholstery."

BELLE: OK, you're not prerecorded. But you could be some other person, or a computer programmed to act like this so-called David Vernest.

ME: Or I'm David Vernest himself.

BELLE: Yeah, right! And I just fell off the chopped liver truck.

ME: Don't you mean the turnip truck??

BELLE: Uh no, I'm not a vegetarian...

LONG SILENCE.

ME: OK, let's prove I'm not a computer. Think of some problem that cannot be solved by computer, but only by employing the frailty of the human brain. That's not computational, not algorithmic, and there is no way a computer can solve the problem, but oddly enough, there is only one unique answer. And I promise to answer it if I can, since if I refuse, that is not telling anything, since I (I mean, a computer) could refuse as well.

BELLE: OK, fine. (Since I can't think of such a problem, we'll call it Φ .)

ME: Ah, the answer is $\Omega^* + \alpha$.

BELLE: You are correct!! By geez, you aren't a computer. (Don't ask how the operator knows the answer...) OK, fine, you are a real person. You know, I don't even want to prove that you are Dave as well as real, because this article is getting too long.

ME: I agree.

BELLE: OK then, you are Dave, and yes you do exist. Fine.

ME: Alright then, can I get my line installed??

BELLE: Yes, you can.

ME: Phew.

BELLE: What was your last number?

ME: I don't know.

BELLE: Well, OK. NB-Tel you say? Gee, even though we are affiliated, we don't recognize them. You'll have to fill out a identity card at the nearest Belle Phone Centre.

ME: Which is that?

BELLE: Where are you?

ME: University of Waterloo.

BELLE: OK, go to the mobile.

ME: But what about the new location in the Student Life Centre?

BELLE: Oh, that's only temporary. I'm not surprised if it's closed. Go to the mobile...

(Needless to say, the mobile was not there, as it hasn't been for several months. All I can say is if this story was all true, it would be especially aggravating! As it is, it's half-true. Can you figure out which half is made up???)

Dave "At long last considering going to Unitel, and definitely an advocate for deregulation in the local phone sector" Vernest

Bridge Wearing Only a Tilley Hat

Team Tilley set out one fine day to a bridge tournament. Naturally, they showed up late and so sat down for their first match with nary a moment to greet each other. Tim and Tom Tilley drew two gentlemen they had never seen before and began the game.

Vul: E-W	North		
Dealer: S	♠ A 10 5 3		
	♥ A 10 6 2		
West	♦ J 9 4	East	
♠ Void	♣ 8 3	♠ K J 9 x	
♥ J 8 7 3		♥ K Q 2	
♦ A 8 6 3	South	♦ 7 5 2	
♣ K 9 7 6 2	♠ Q 8 7 6 4	♣ Q 5 4	
	♥ 5 4		
	♦ K Q 10		
	♣ A J 10		
Tom	West	Tim	East
1 ♠	Dbl.	2 NT	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Dbl.	Rdbl.
All pass			
Opening lead: ♠ 6			

The bidding was definitely unusual. Tim's 2 no-trump said that he had a good hand with support for spades. He was quite surprised when West had the audacity to redouble. Now the pressure was back on Tim. Had Tom psyched? It was possible that Tom had bid on 2 queens just to see which way the wind was blowing. This had led to some interesting results in the past. Finally, Tim passed aloofly, deciding that he could blame everything on Tom if 3 no-trump actually made.

Tom led a spade and Tim continued with the ten after winning the ace. East covered with the jack and lost to the queen. A third spade followed. East now played the KQ of hearts, both of which were ducked by Tim. He then attempted to set up the clubs but Tom was able to knock out the diamond ace before the clubs could be established. East was able to take only 2 spades, 2 hearts, 1 diamond and 1 club for down 2. Plus 1000 was very useful for the Tilley Team.

So, the moral of the story is: if things go wrong, make sure that you have a good reason to blame your partner. If they go right, submit the hand to *mathNEWS* and take all the credit.

If you are interested in learning to play Bridge, get in touch through e-mail at uwbc@watserv1.uwaterloo.ca.

Jared Riley

Terminal Sitcom Addiction

Hi. My name is David Vernest, and I have a problem. I am addicted to television sitcoms — situational comedies, to be exact. Now we're not just talking about watching a few, for relaxation or pleasure. We're talking about going through withdrawal if I'm not near them.

It's always been this way. From *Three's Company* and *Too Close for Comfort*, to *Seinfeld* and *Friends*, with *Growing Pains* and *Facts of Life* pushed in for good measure, I've basically spent my life watching TV! And that wouldn't be the worst part, except that I am unable to watch a sitcom and not identify with one of the characters, and consequently try to be like him in real life. Sad, but true..

From *Three's Company*, there was Larry. He was a swell guy that hung out in cool places, combed his chest hair, and was always there for a punch line.

More recently, there are *Seinfeld* and *Friends*. George Costanza, I mean, how can you not help but identify with him? He sees problems in everything and everybody, is willing to break up with a girl over the size of her nose, and is generally a very depressing kind of guy. Much like *Friends'* Chandler, who recently wouldn't go out with a woman because she had a large head. Such shallowness, but also, self-deprecatory humour is what sets these characters apart from the rest. And, others may appeal to other folks, but for me this hits a special kind of chord,

something that entices, nay, *forces* me to drop whatever I'm doing and go home early Thursday to watch the string of sitcoms Global has thoughtfully lined up for us.

What happens when you try to emulate a sitcom? Inevitably, pure failure. For unlike sitcoms, real people have memories, and though Chandler and George make self-deprecatory comments to generate laughs every week, on the whole their on-screen companions still respect them. They have fulfilled their *raison d'être* — comic relief — and that is known and taken into account.

Whereas, out here in the real world, if you start to put yourself down a bit too much, sure you'll get a laugh, but then people start to believe that you are as bad as you say you are. Loss of respect, and "not taking you seriously" then ensues.

Still, and in spite of this, I remain addicted to sitcoms, and to generating laughter out of self-deprecatory behaviour.

Is there any hope for recovery?? Or, in the big scheme of things, is my problem worse than other addictions, like that of staring at a computer screen for days on end, typing, reading, responding, and eventually burning out???

I don't know. Maybe I should shut the TV off for a second, and find out... Then again, I see out of the corner of my eye that *Frasier* just started. Excuse me for a sec...

Dave "The George/Chandler wannabe" Vernest

Scott's Very First Article

My very first pet peeve is vi. But first, let me introduce myself. My name is Scott Norris. This is my very first article for *mathNEWS*. I found myself attending this term's *mathNEWS* Disorganizational Meeting and once you attend the meeting there is no turning back! Don't get me wrong here. I've always wanted to be in *mathNEWS* from the start. The friendly folks volunteered me for everything. What a bunch! (Sarah in particular... not to worry, I'll get back... MOU-HA-HA-HA...) Actually, this is one thing I was intending on doing from 1A. So you can now expect some more warped articles from another writer wanna-be. So here it is:

Scott's Pet Peeves

Have you ever seen those mints in restaurants? You know the ones that are in the little dish beside the cash register. Well recent surveys have shown that they contain trace amounts of urine! Yes, URINE! Why? People don't wash their hands and put their hands into the bowl of mints. Ugh!! Men are particularly bad about this. In my unofficial surveys I have found that less than half wash their hands. I've actually seen people simply DRY their hands and not wash them. Why did they have to dry their hands? Or how about the person who rinses their hands quickly and runs them through their hair. What's really disgusting is those who do wash their hands still have to open the door to leave the washroom. One could continue and say that everything that "they" touch has trace amounts of urine. Am I being just a little too crazy?

Send your comments via the BLACK BOX.

Scott "Buckminsterfullerine" Norris

vapidFIRE

Waterloo Regional Police report a peaceful end to a hostage situation today. At 10:30 this morning, thirty kindergarten students took their 28-year-old school teacher prisoner to protest classroom conditions. The school teacher was tied up with a skipping rope and made to repeatedly count to one hundred while the children mercilessly stuffed Arrowroot cookies in her mouth.

The protest took place on the heels of massive spending cuts to the educational system. The children made up signs and chanted slogans demanding longer nap times and better crayon sharpeners. The walls of the classroom were painted in red, blue, and yellow lettering asking officials for "Mor Toys" and "No Spelin."

In a telephone interview with five year old Martin Zewitzsky, the reason for the hostage taking was blamed on "the dysfunctional relationship between authority and the masses, combined with a sharp decrease in the funding for the school system." A quick poll of his classmates blamed Zewitzsky's comments on his being "a big poo-poo head."

The Waterloo Police ended the protest peacefully by ringing the school bell and announcing that it was "home time." The names of the students cannot be released due to the Extremely-Young Offenders Act, but a court hearing has been set for next Thursday during recess.

The Mike Harris government could not be reached for comment.

Adam "The Bitsnatcher" Benjamin,
with inspiration from M.Z.'s Mother.

Post-Teen Angst: The Next Generation

Conduct

—or—

"Apologies are so hard to give... Would you accept some potatoes instead?"

Yup. Everyone conducts themselves...

"No! *Really?* You're joking!" cries Average Reader.

Let me finish! You, dear, Average Reader, have just provided me with an example. Everyone conducts themselves according to their own personal code of conduct. Yours, f'rinstance, tells you that being a smarmy, sarcastic **GIT** is a *good* thing. (Mine, on the other hand, says that parenthetical asides are *hilarious*...)

But that's just it. Note the word "personal". That means "Belonging to **ME!** Mine, mine, mine!" (Unlike the word "kawphy", which some people lacking in grade two phonics skills *still* don't understand.) Point being, my code of conduct and your code of conduct are different. They may coincide in some places; they may enter a no holds barred best of three falls rhythmic gymnastics martial arts kumite in others.

Take, for example, these excerpts from the conduct codes of Mr. Random Male and Ms. Random Female. First, the subject of objects flying through the air...

"Code of Conduct of Mr. Random Male:

Section IV - Females

Subsection ix - Projectiles

Paragraph B:

She who hurleth projectiles at thine head is:

- a deranged psychopathic bitch who doesn't understand you
- a shrewish, loose-moralled trollop who can bloody well ride out on the horse she came in on
- playing frisbee

Ms. Random Female sez: "If that bastard deserves it, throw stuff. The only thing men have more of than sex drive is adrenaline. Let him burn some of both off by doing a session of Jedi-training maneuvers avoiding flying projectiles.

If he whines when you hit him, hit him again. That'll shut him up."

One can see how these sections mesh, in a brutal, combative Neanderthal fashion. (No doubt, after the fray, the "passionate sex" conduct comes in to play.) So, we've examined an isolated incident from two sides. Now let's look at a series of encounters, and see how Mr. Random Male and his code of conduct handle them.

Mr. Random Male feels like consuming a beverage.

[Flipflipflip...]

Section I: Sustenance.

Subsection ii - Beverages. (Dog-eared and well-worn)

Paragraph A:

BEER. Beer is a good beverage. Go out and consume some. Then consume some more. Got it?

So, Mr. Random Male goes to his local Bombshelter. (No consultation necessary on *that* one.) He enters said Bomber. He looks around. He sees people. Fe-people...

[Flipflip... Chicks... flipflip... Chicks... flipflip... Chicks. Oh, "See also 'Females'." What a stupid cross-reference. Flipflipflip...]

Section IV - Females

Subsection vi - How to Pick Up

Paragraph C:

Picking up in a bar is *easy*. They wouldn't be *out* unless they knew that *you* were going to be, right? Problem is, they just don't realise that you're looking for them. To attract attention do the following:

- Chair-dance.
- Put empty pint glasses upside down on your head.
- Give them "wet willies" with gravy from your neighbour's fries.
- Belch a lot. (The alphabet, "Mary Had a Little Lamb", etc.)
- Get really, really pissed and yuke all over the urinals.

Somehow, this section of Mr. Random Male's code breaks down, and he fails to entice any of the fe-people with his display. ("There's a shocker," mutters Average Reader.)

So, Mr. Random Male must implement some contingency plan.

[Wassup...? Flipflipflip...]

Section X - When all else fails

Subsection i - Females

Paragraph R:

In the unlikely event that your efforts with a female (cf. **Section IV**) fail, you still have some options:

- Go on a bender and cry about the puppy you lost at age seven. Sympathy is a beautiful weapon.
- Come off a bender, clean up your act and become a productive human being for a change.
- Write some letters (cf. **Section III - Armpit Hair**) and save humanity.

Okay. I think you get the hang of it. Codes of conduct are silly. And yet we all seem to rely on them from time to time. People are strange (cf. "PTA - Rules for Life").

Ian "Son of God Complex" Milligan

I'll Have The Special

Does this mean it's now an editorial?

Well, here we go again with yet another term of the fun-filled mathNEWS. And here we go again with yet another term of me ranting and raving and bitching and complaining and commenting on things (some of which are even relevant.) Anyways, here's the first installment for this term... and since I'm a co-editor, I guess this is now a co-editorial? Whatever...

- This term I'm taking French. FR 152 to be precise. I thought I would get around to improving my French skills (written and spoken) while I'm still in university. It's now been a couple of weeks since I started, but I'm starting to pick up the language again. Considering it's been years since I took French in school, I'm surprised I've caught on this fast. But something in the course outline has me worried. First, you will lose marks if you don't show up for classes or labs. Fair enough. But, absences are only excused by medical certificate, co-op interview or the student has indicated in advance that they'll miss class due to an appropriate reason. Makes me wonder. If I miss class and don't have an appropriate reason, is the French department going to send someone out to break my legs?
- Last time the CRTC handed out speciality cable channels, CTV submitted an application for a regional sports service. TSN objected, stating that there wasn't enough room for 2 sports services in Canada. Last week, the CRTC accepted applications for even more speciality services. And guess who submitted a bid for a regional sports service? Yep... TSN. Can you say "monopoly"?
- Here's something amusing: I was standing in line at the Bomber a couple of Wednesdays ago. The lineup was long and moving at a snail's pace. Suddenly, a voice from above. It's Alternative Night at Fed! \$2 cover! (or something like that) Cheap beer! Guess what? Even after the 3rd time they announced it, no one left. Maybe they should have said, "If you don't go to Fed, we'll break your legs." That would have gotten people moving.
- The search I started last term for Waterloo students who worked at GM was a total disaster. No one came forward and admitted they worked in Oshawa at GM over the summer. I don't blame you. I don't know why I freely admit it.
- Well, I'm picking the Steelers to beat the Cowboys in the Super Bowl. And I'm going to be bold and say that this one will be close. Yes, I'm predicting a nailbiter to be decided in the last minute or two. You heard it here first.

I hope everyone had a good holiday break. Unfortunately, we now enter January where the days are still short and will probably be cold. And that continues on into February. And that's when midterms begin! Gotta love the Winter term. 'Til next time...

Brian "The Calculus Cowboy" Fox

mathNEWSquiz #1

Tag-team Match of the Century

Bonjour, allô from the land of ice and snow (Ottawa)! Welcome back to school, Squizpeoples! How was the break? And for those of you who were on work terms in the Fall, how much unpaid overtime did you work? I hope you people are prepared to answer some pretty brutal (yet surprisingly interesting) questions! Enough idle banter: on with the Squiz!

Song Lyrics

Name the song and artist for 2 points

1. I can still see myself crying in your lap asking you, "Are you happy with the man you have found?"
2. The night is my companion, and solitude my guide. Would I spend forever here and not be satisfied?
3. They came to seize and take whatever they please All they gave back was death and disease.
4. Madame Zombie, elle est méchante
Est sa soeur est plus méchante
Oui sa soeur est plus méchante
Mais sa mère est le plus méchante.

Our Nation's Capital

1. What is the street address of the Prime Minister's official residence?
2. What is OC Transpo's standard bus fare for non-peak hours (as of Dec. 25, 1995)?
3. What is located at 1 Rideau Street?
4. What is the section of the Highway 417 going through Ottawa called?

Pee-Wee's Playhouse

1. What is the main mode of communication out of the playhouse?
2. Name either of Pee-Wee's "big" collections.
3. Which former Saturday Night Live cast member played Captain Carl?
4. Who did Pee-Wee get the secret word from every week?

Star Trek: The Original Series

1. Name three roles Majel Barrett-Roddenberry has played in any incarnation of Star Trek.
2. Which two original cast members are originally from Canada?
3. Which original cast member has proven to be otherwise employable by appearing on Babylon 5?
4. In *The Galileo 7*, which shuttle was destroyed and what was its crew complement?

Good luck, everyone! You can submit your answers by e-mailing us at mathnews@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca or in the BLACK BOX. Submissions are due at 6:30 on Monday, January 29th.

Ian "Son of God Complex" Milligan
Stuart "Jean-Guy" Pollock

INPUTOutput

You know, it's really funny the way my life generally works out. Since I've been a writer with *mathNEWS* I have done a puzzle column supplementary to the Gridword. It's been a tradition, and I've never done the same kind of puzzle two different terms.

Coming into this term, I had planned to do a reverse word search in this column every issue this term, some of which I had written some years before, but never published. I had brought them up to Waterloo so that I didn't have to worry about them. But instead of reverse word searches, I did the cryptograms in the fall term. At some point, I decided that I should take them home because I wasn't using them, and then quickly forgot that I had done so. Tonight, when I was looking for them, I figured out what I must have done, and grabbed whatever puzzles I had at hand and hauled them in. I did this at nine o'clock tonight, two hours after the deadline had passed.

So, what we've settled on out of the meager choices of puzzles already written is a type of puzzle that GAMES published called Input Output.

A hypothetical computer takes words as input and generates letters or numbers as output. But the computer always leaves the last two outputs blank, and never divulges the reason for the output. In the example below (marked '0') each input word is listed horizontally opposite its output. Your job is to a) supply the missing outputs for 1 point each, and b) give the rule the computer is currently following for 2 points. In the example, the rule is 'State the number of E's in the input.', so the missing numbers are obviously 3 and 0.

How many of the others can you find?

②		①		②	
WEDDING	1	WHEREAT	3	QUALITY	E
FAN	0	TOMORROW	2	TABLE	S
EXTREME	3	PENSIVE	7	LEAK	B
SHAMROCKS	0	NEON	1	HAIR	C
PLEASE	2	TUNNEL	10	TRIPS	S
ENVELOPE	??	EXISTENCE	??	AWFUL	??
HAZARD	??	FROSTY	??	UNTIE	??

③		④		⑤	
INPUT	O	HIJACKING	L	UNCOMMON	5
TACKLE	B	BACKED	F	PEPPER	3
REGULAR	F	MONOPOLY	Q	BELIEVE	5
PRY	Q	QUARTERS	V	INTERMITTENT	6
SHOWY	X	FRIGHTEN	J	BLUSH	5
HIKERS	??	VULTURES	??	FIREFIGHTER	??
BOOKMARK	??	CONFIGURED	??	BANANA	??

Send your answers (and guesses!) to the BLACK BOX by January 29th, 1996 at 6:30pm. The entrant to score the most points will win a prize. Ties will be broken by random draw.

Good luck!

Gridby

gridCOMMENTS

Greetings, Gridders!

I'm back again this term to taunt and tantalise your brains. This term I hope to bring you error-free grids. That's my New Year's Resolution. And we all know how long those last...

First, there's a small bit of old business to attend to. Apparently, last term an entry for the next-to-last "Tribute" grid got lost and I only received it tonight. My apologies to The Bond Girls, and this one wasn't my fault.

The first grid of the term has, as always, a cryptic and a conventional side. The cryptic is just like the ones that appear in magazines and newspapers: each clue is actually two descriptions of the same word. One half is a direct definition or synonym of the word that belongs in the grid. The other half gives some indication of how the word is written. In this half, you will find anagrams, hidden words, containers, charades, reversals, acronyms, and other various forms of wordplay. You may even find a second definition of the word. Either half may come first, and the break between halves can occur anywhere.

In most years, and with most constructors, the conventional crossword is also totally normal. But I'm not the normal type. There is some gimmick in each grid that will alter the way you put in your answers. I may ask you to remove some letters, double them up, or use symbols. I will always tell you what you have to do, but not how to do it. For example, I may ask you to remove a pair of letters wherever they appear, but not *which* pair specifically. Usually the title offers a clue, and I try to drop as many hints as I can in the cryptic.

In this grid, many of the answer words have a certain implied instruction within them. Follow this instruction whenever you are told to (by the word you get), and enter the result into the grid. I will tell you that following the instruction always means that the word will get shorter. Follow the instruction in the most logical and obvious manner you can think of. All but eleven of the entries contain the instruction. Some words are minor spelling variations, as noted.

Submit your answers (as many words as you can solve) to the BLACK BOX on the third floor of the MC, or e-mail me directly at djrigby@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca. The most complete entry in terms of correct squares for each set of clues will win a prize. Ties will be broken in a random (but strange) method of my choosing. Entries must be received by January 29th, 1996 at 6:30 pm. Good luck!

Be sure to include your answer to the gridQUESTION: What is the worst thing you could do on a first date?

Gridby

Now Playing

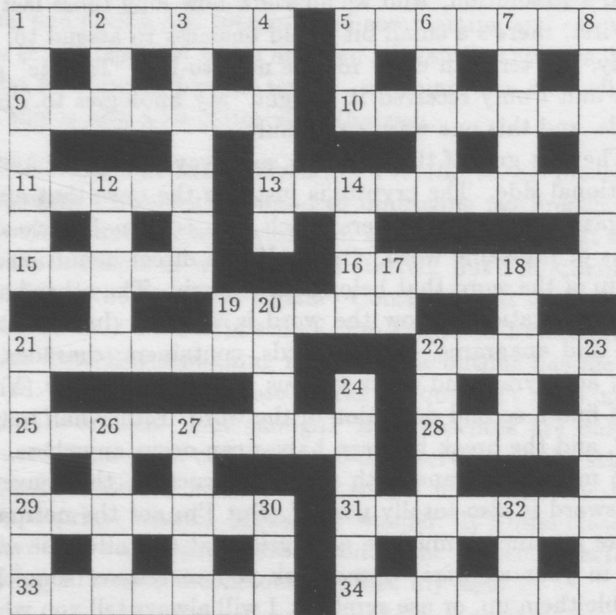
Nixon

If you happen to have three hours to kill sometime soon (and I'm sure you will), then *Nixon* is definitely worth watching. It may not be completely accurate — in fact I'm sure it isn't — but it's sure a great show. Anthony Hopkins is brilliant as Richard Nixon, portraying both the public and private man, and Bob Hoskins gives a hilarious performance as J. Edgar Hoover. Great acting and intense drama make this picture very much worth your time. ★★ ★★ ½

Warren "The Milkman" Hagey

Lockers Are Still Available!

Sign up in MathSoc



Grid Clues (Cryptic)

Across

1. Strong spirit belonging to us found in bird house? (7)
5. Rude snake interrupts message to godmother. (7)
9. Yellow writers left accident around Toronto fair? (7)
10. Get back at a rotten apple who first caused noted falls. (7)
11. Before saint, musical representative of a god sits still. (5)
13. Back to fix trees' inner tendency toward producing bark. (9)
15. Spice shakes up old stories. (5)
16. Combat viral attack with last of sherry. (7)
19. Duck will endlessly travel around. (5)
21. Tape alien entering social class. (7, var.)
22. Kept hard worker without long drive. (5)
25. Bunch of stocks I throw back into poor masses. (9)
28. Never abuse your strength. (5)
29. Hovel in desert sand, for example? (7)
31. Fields all the complaining: "Cat noises" covers it. (7)
33. Rakers and mowers have a craving to get a little something to drink, perhaps. (7)
34. Speaker will wobble about, waver first. (7)

Down

1. Prisoner stumbled on pit in cave. (7)
2. Container held in joey for long trip. (3)
3. Other names for setting sail in the ocean. (7)
4. Literary compositions speak, describe curve. (6)
5. Took first backup now. (3)
6. Fortune teller took to the river. I followed. (5)
7. Mad at; in a rage! (5)
8. Listeners hiding in straw get gossip. (7)
12. Homes to California city's tax collectors. (5)

14. Hear each sound a cat makes. (4)
17. Inanimate thing. (2)
18. Stick party up. (5)
19. Around there. (2)
20. Cover live fight. (4)
21. Partner hid original work amid the fake. (7)
22. Put bug in vault in a city in New Mexico. (5 2)
23. Journalists without power are in the German bureau. (7)
24. Plan is inside information. (6)
26. Propellor turns around. (5)
27. Place to take the podium out from under leader. (5)
30. Bobby, for one, cannot finish glass of beer.
32. Away from youth centre. (3)

Grid Clues for Inside Information (Unconventional)

Across

1. Hearty pie filling.
5. Cleaned as if by a breeze.
9. TV series featuring the Sinclair family.
10. Almost an island.
11. Similar in character.
13. Without thinking.
15. Kind of camera made from a shoebox.
16. Opposite of deprogram.
19. Where croupiers work.
21. The Globe, e.g.
22. You're reading one.
25. Town where Apu lives.
28. He usually wrote backwards. (2 wds.)
29. Grenade.
31. Feature of camera or window.
33. Swoozie's series.
34. Skin salves.

Down

1. Bird with red, white & black head and yellow wings.
2. Lost in the war. (Abbr.)
3. Football's timekeeper. (2 wds.)
4. Cheapskates.
5. They've been "Dangerous" in the movies.
6. Windshield feature.
7. They have cowcatchers.
8. Fantasy film starring David Bowie.
12. Ocular disease.
14. Hack, band and jig.
17. Analogy connective.
18. He recently had an 80th birthday special.
19. Word from a disjunctive.
20. Display clearly.
21. Wine producers.
22. Tiny.
23. Massive headaches.
24. Different.
26. Quills.
27. Adolescent insects.
30. Diamond, silver and land.
32. Prepare leather.