

math NEWS

Volume 70, Issue 4

Friday, March 1, 1996

THE SECRET LIFE OF THE MATHSOC PRESIDENT

I AM SARAH MOON! I'M SWORN TO
PROTECT MATHSOC FROM TALL, SKINNY CHICKENBOYS,
AND THAT MEANS YOU! ON BEHALF OF THE MOON,
I WILL PUNISH YOU!

SKAMAL LEMON
PUNCH!



lookAHEAD

mathNEWS	
March 11	Issue #5 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
March 15	Issue #5 hits the stands
March 25	Issue #6 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
March 29	Issue #6 hits the stands
Math Faculty	
March 18	1B Info Night @ 7pm
March 18-22	F96/W97 Pre-Registration
March 29	Last day of lectures
April 20	Last day of exams
May 25	Convocation
MathSoc	
March 4	MathSoc meeting @ 4:30pm, MC 4040
March 25	Euchre Tournament
March 28	Bridge Tournament
April 3	Toy Story at the Cinesphere Contact mszeto if interested
MGC	
March 4	Math Grad Ball ticket sales end
March 16	Math Grad Ball
March 20	Composites available at MGC office
April 8	Yearbooks available in the MGC office
CS Assignments	Watch That Load!
March 8	CS 354 Project 3 Due 5:00pm
March 11	CS 488 Project 5a Due 9:30am
March 13	CS 488 Project 4 Due 9:30am
	Load forecast to be high
March 14	CS 241 Project 4 Due 8:30am
March 14	CS 334 Project 3 Due 11:59pm
March 15	CS 488 Project 5b Due 9:30am
March 18	CS 337 Project 4 Due 1:30pm
Miscellaneous	
March 3	Brian signs \$1 million contract to play 3 rd base for New York Mets
March 4-8	International Women's Week
March 4	Brian put on waivers
March 5	Anselma House Benefit Concert \$3, 8pm at the Bombshelter
March 6	Brian still not claimed off waivers
March 8,9	Winterfest
March 13	One week later, Brian still not claimed Ponders getting a real job

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Dan Gardiner's Reasons for Living: Mike "Hammer" Hammond, Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox, Mala "Crakko" Krishnan

Thinking About Graduate School?

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

Tuesday, March 5, 1996
3:30pm — MC 5158

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

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

All students welcome
Refreshments available

What's Buzzing

Midterms are almost over for most of you, so you'll be looking for things to do before finals. For you people (and others, who may be procrastinating) we have a Euchre Tournament on March 25 starting at 7p.m. in the Comfy Lounge and a Bridge tourney on March 28. More info will follow as the days get closer.

At the end of the term, we (your friendly neighbourhood Social people) have planned a trip to the Cinesphere at Ontario Place. We are going to see *Toy Story* on Wednesday, April 3. So come out and watch Buzz and Woody; maybe you, too, can go to infinity and beyond. The tickets are \$10. This will include the movie ticket and the bus to Toronto. Remember, if you are from the T.O. area, this is a great way of getting home. This event takes place the day after the last day of classes. So go out, buy some friends and reserve your place for a ticket.

For more info, contact mszeto@undergrad.math.

May Szeto
Friendly Neighbourhood Social Director

WIN FREE BEER!!!

Then again, maybe not. How would you, yes YOU, like to be the MGC chair next year? Just think of it: YOU get to decide what types of things MGC does; YOU can be the god(dess) of the graduating class; and YOU get some really cool keys. Basically, we need a chair for the MGC for F96 and W97. If you think that you could be that person, come by the MathSoc office and pick up a nomination form. Nominations are open until Wednesday, March 6 at 4:30 p.m. So come out and run for MGC chair.

Chris Buchanan
MathSoc CRO

Sarah Spews

Yup, verbal diarrhea strikes again

Hi, there! Since I have midterms breathing down my back and work bogging me down right now, I'll just stick a duplicate of the Prez's Report I posted today on the Feedback Board here in mathNEWS.

(Yeah, it's long, but then there's quite a bit going on right now.)

Prez's Report

Here's an update on the projects we've been working on:

Renovation of the MathSoc Office (MC 3038)

Well, the office looks clean and more spacious, and is a lot more organized.

The fantastic people who helped fix it up are (in no particular order): Stuart Pollock, Charlene Knowlton, Jared Riley, Esther Small, Max Stevens, Kurtis McClellan, Chris Buchanan, Manal Katerji, Stephane Carrière, Sarah Kamal, and Kevin Hartmann.

Thanks guys, you're all shining stars!

Publicity And Information Service

There has been a lot of positive response to the work we've been doing to increase awareness and share knowledge in this faculty. The whiteboard across from the Right Angle Cafe has been very useful to us in displaying important dates and information, and the feedback boards and posts on uw.math.ugrad (please subscribe to that newsgroup if you haven't already) have garnered a very satisfactory response.

To further this cause some more, we'll be putting a corkboard up outside the Exec office (MC 3035) in the clubs hallway and post MathSoc minutes, agendas, etc. on it. The boards that MathSoc currently owns will have "Housing/For Sale" or "General" designations clearly outlined on them soon (thanks to our Postings Director, Rich Sieminski). Finally, we've put in a request for a new newsgroup, uw.math.mathsoc, to facilitate our inner communications and help with the coordination of our projects. All Mathies, of course, are always welcome to drop by the Exec office and check up on what we're up to!

MUO Final Exam Service

Okay, okay, back off, already! We're still working on it. (Sheesh.)

We Want Our Own Scoops!!

Well, the Feds tell us that they don't have an exclusive franchise on selling ice cream, so we can go ahead and sell our own.

I think that the service would make us money or break even (which is what we want). We would be hiring a few students to man it, giving more people a chance to make some money while going to school. So I think the addition of ice cream to the regular RAC business would be a good thing all around.

Chances are we won't manage to have it fully in place this term, but look for it sometime next term!

Pre-Packaged Midterm and Final Exam Packages

...are selling very well. We've already noticed a reduction in the use of the photocopiers in the MathSoc office. We'd like to get rid of one of those photocopiers (our 5¢ photocopying service is heavily subsidised, and accounts for a great deal of our expenses per term), and provide some other service with the couple odd thousand that we'd have freed up.

If you have any suggestions whatsoever on what you'd like to see offered, please let us know.

Renovation Of Comfy Lounge

There are still pieces of furniture in Comfy that are badly in need of repair. We'll be looking into replacing or refurbishing them and are also thinking about getting new drapes.

This is on hold until we find out whether or not we'll be granted money by the Fed Endowment Fund, so I don't think you'll be seeing these changes happening in the short term. We'll hopefully get moving on that once we know the status of our funds, however.

As always, please get in touch with us if you have any concerns, questions, or complaints about any of the above at:

MC 3035/9	x6515
Sarah Kamal-Prez	skamal@undergrad.math
Kurtis McClellan-VPAS	krmcclel@undergrad.math
Mark Thornton-VPF	mthornto@undergrad.math

Sarah "mmmm ... what an after-taste!" Kamal



745-2222

PIZZA & WING COMBO

<p>ONE MEDIUM WITH 3 TOPPINGS & 10 WINGS</p> <p>ONLY \$14⁹⁹ + tax</p>	<p>ONE LARGE WITH 3 TOPPINGS & 20 WINGS</p> <p>ONLY \$19⁹⁹ + tax</p>
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Please mention coupon when ordering and redeem to driver. No substitutions, additional toppings extra. Not valid with any other coupon or offer. Limited delivery area. Drivers carry less than \$20.00. Offer subject to expire April 22, 1996.

MEDIUM MEAL DEAL

MEDIUM THREE TOPPING
PIZZA, ONE ORDER OF
TWISTY BREAD AND 2 COKES

ONLY **\$12⁹⁹**
+ tax

LARGE MEAL DEAL

LARGE THREE TOPPING
PIZZA, ONE ORDER OF
TWISTY BREAD AND 4 COKES

ONLY **\$15⁹⁹**
+ tax

Please mention coupon when ordering and redeem to driver. No substitutions, additional toppings extra. Not valid with any other coupon or offer. Limited delivery area. Drivers carry less than \$20.00. Offer subject to expire April 22, 1996.

FIRE!

Hi, it's your friendly director of academics from MathSoc — yes, there is such a beast. I want to tell you a few things that might actually affect your academic career, so listen up.

The Faculty/Student Liaison Committee is up and running. It consists of Dean Kalbfleisch, Paul Schellenburg (Assoc. Dean, Undergraduate Studies), Ron Scoins, and Shirley Thompson on the Faculty side and Sarah Kamal, Kurtis McClellan, Ron Servant, and myself (Andrea McPhee) on the student side. The aim of the committee is to foster communication between undergrads and the faculty on issues relating to the quality of student life. There are a number of things we'll be discussing on this committee, some of which I'll talk about below.

Remember that *mathNEWS* article a few issues ago where Kevin Hartmann complained about how inefficient the whole upper-year advisor thing is? No? Am I the only one who reads *mathNEWS*? Anyway, I brought this up at the last liaison meeting and boy, is Kevin in trouble now. Okay, actually, the advisors don't like the rubber-stamping process either, so the faculty is looking at ways of automating the whole process and putting advisors back in the role of advising.

Another thing we talked about was the fact that sometimes, despite all the faculty's efforts to the contrary, students end up with a bum prof: either you can't understand what he's saying or the whole class is totally lost because things aren't explained clearly, or whatever. You might think that there's nothing you can do about this, but you'd be wrong. Here are the steps to take if you're having a problem:

1. Send a small delegation (read not the whole class) to the prof and tell him/her that you're having a problem with the class. Give suggestions for how they could make your learning experience better. If language is a problem, ask that they write more stuff on the blackboard. Maybe you need more examples. Stuff like that.
2. If that doesn't work, you can go to the chair of the department and tell him about the problem and what steps you have already taken. Do not go to the chair (or the Assoc. Dean, for that matter) until you are sure that the prof is not willing to help you.
3. As a last resort, you can go to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies (Paul Schellenburg).

You'll probably find that you don't need to go past the first step—a lot of profs do actually try to improve their class behaviour (that sounds ominous) when they realize where the problems lie and if you give them some concrete suggestions on how they could help.

The last thing I want to talk about are course evaluations. Believe it or not, those things actually get used in tenure considerations, determining promotions and who will teach what class, etc. I'll write a little bit more in a future issue on helpful ways to fill those out, but for now I need your help. The faculty is looking at ways of improving the questions asked on the front to make them more useful, so (here's where you, the student, might actually make a difference) if you have any ideas for improvements to questions, or questions that should be asked and aren't, let me know.

Okay, that's it for the committee stuff. I just want to mention that the exam packages seem to be really popular, and we want to know what other courses would be good candidates for packaging. Also, this is a good time to help us improve the exam bank by bringing in your midterms from THIS term.

I'm really done now. If you have any ideas for evaluation questions, possible exam packages, concerns about academic issues, let me know either by dropping me a note at MathSoc or sending me an e-mail at aemmcphe.

Andrea McPhee
Academic Resources

Is Edutainment an Oxymoron?

A talk by Dr. Maria Klawe

On March 7, the Women in Mathematics Committee will bring to campus Maria Klawe, Vice President of Student and Academic Services and Professor of Computer Science at the University of British Columbia. She will speak on the topic "Is Edutainment an oxymoron?" at 2:30 p.m. in DC 1302. All members of the campus community are invited.

Over the last few years, interest has surged in developing edutainment software, namely applications that possess the allure of electronic games while achieving educational goals. While success seems to have been achieved fairly easily for some of the more straightforward educational tasks such as math drills and learning the alphabet, combining the attractions of entertainment with the effective learning of more sophisticated concepts remains a significant challenge, with few clear successes so far. Little is known about some of the most basic issues, such as which user interfaces, formats, navigational structures, etc., work well with specific educational content? Which activities are attractive to most girls? To most boys? What are the most effective ways of using these materials in schools? In homes? This talk describes ongoing research on these issues in the E-GEMS project, a collaborative effort by computer scientists, educational specialists, teachers, and professional game developers.

The author of more than 50 publications, Dr. Klawe has conducted research in discrete mathematics, theoretical computer science, and computer-aided education. Recently, she founded E-GEMS, an international consortium of scientists, education researchers, teachers and game designers whose goal is to understand how electronic learning environments might be used to encourage and help children learn math and science. The first E-GEMS commercial product was a math CD-ROM game called "Counting on Frank", which was selected by PC Magazine as one of the top ten educational CD-ROMs in 1995.

Dr. Klawe serves on a number of scientific boards and advisory councils, including the Board of the Computing Research Association, the British Columbia Premier's Advisory Council on Science and Technology, and as a Trustee of the American Mathematical Society. She has also organized and participated in several committees, panels and workshops aimed at the advancement of women in math and science.



Computer Science Club

A Student Chapter of the ACM

CSC Flash

Good day CSC'ers!

Now that you have all enjoyed the mid-winter break that I personally awarded you, I know that you are all happy to be back and to hear about the doings of my CSC.

The CSC took no holidays and was busy throughout the break.

Past Events

M. McCool gave a talk on CORBA on February 21.

The Linux talk by Gavin Peters was held on February 22 and was very well attended. We sold out of Linux CD's, so don't bother coming to ask to buy one. We will order more if there is sufficient demand.

Joanne Atlee gave a talk on CASE Tools on February 28.

The inaugural annual CSC leap-year BBQ was held on February 29 (of course). We let the groundhog live.

Upcoming Events

We have another CGL Tour scheduled for March 6. Unfortunately, the tour is already booked, so you'll have to bribe someone who has signed up if you want to go.

We have decided to bring back the popular Tetris AI programming contest! The contest is scheduled for March 23. This is your opportunity to amaze that special someone with your knowledge of programming (and a good excuse to refine your tetris technique). Refer to the Tetris Contest Rules and Information document, which can be found by pointing your web browser to: ~jjgignac/www/tetris/index.html on calum or ~jjgignac/index.html on the undergrad system. Write to jjgignac@cscclub if you have more questions.

Progress Report

It seems that not enough people have been posting to alt.fan.nikita-borisov! I command you all to post and cross-post an article immediately when you read this. Be sure to put alt.fan.nikita-borisov in your newsgroups line as a cross-post, and remember to mention Nikita! I will exterminate all those who disobey.

Two dollar coins

The "doubloon" is now here. Knock the centre out! Don't worry; each piece is worth \$1. Try to convince the cashiers at the Right Angle Café to accept the individual pieces. Just some fun ideas for doubloons.

My CSC is ever-growing at 569 members. My plan to take over the world (which includes the two-piece doubloon and short winter vacations) will soon be apparent to everyone... join the CSC now!

Calum T. Dalek

Holy Ten of Spades, Batman

Religion in mathNEWS

I would like to object strongly to how the Oracle reacted to the question about Zoggo in this term's issue #2. How a mortal being, no matter how omniscient, could possibly consider himself more powerful than the almighty Zoggo indicates serious delusions of grandeur. In order to lend credibility to my rantings and ravings, look up the angry letters to the creators of "The Parking Lot is Full" on the Web (<http://ophelia.waterloo.net/~plif/critics.html>) and pretend they were written in response to the Oracle.

In order to reassure you of my insane and threateningly non-dangerous nature, I would like to take some time now to reassure you about the threat of various conspiracies going on these days. The most obvious one is of course the new two-dollar coin. I'm sure many of you out there who possess a television set have seen the commercials for the two-dollar coin that the so-called "Canadian Mint" has been producing. Now a thought crosses my mind. Why in the world does the Canadian Mint need to advertise *money* of all things? Is there a limited-time offer on two dollar coins? (K-TEL presents this fabulous offer! One thousand two-dollar coins for only \$19⁹⁹! At most stores, you'd expect to pay hundreds, if not thousands of dollars! Act now, and we'll send you absolutely free, a COIN BANKtm! K-TEL! Where the ! is a way of life!) The thing is, who's going to argue with the mint if it decides to print up new money? My theory is that somebody else is pretending to be the Canadian Mint, and has printed up all these coins with the gold centres (How *do* they get the creamy gold centres into the new two-dollar coin?) that are really cool looking so that we will all exchange our old and ugly twenty and fifty dollar bills for the shiny new two-dollar coins, and this pretend mint will become filthy rich.

Something else that really hasn't been addressed to my satisfaction is the fact that there are no longer any crosswalks anywhere on campus. Basically, this means that all of you people who picked up this here issue of mathNEWS cannot legally leave the campus. Well, you can leave the campus via the skywalk from Carl Pollock, but I'm very suspicious as to why all of a sudden someone wants everyone in the university to use that thing, so my advice to you is to stay away from it. Now the question is, who would benefit most from a bunch of students who couldn't go home? Well, obviously, with nothing to do, they'd have to hang out somewhere, probably a student lounge or something. In the lounge, they might as well play a quick game of cards or something...

Is it just me, or has anyone seen more than one green shirt (i.e. maintenance person) at any given time? I'm not really sure, but I think the reason for this is that you don't realize that they're all clones of each other! Be careful that you don't piss them off by leaving all your garbage lying around the Comfy Lounge. They're amassing an army! Armed with unrecycled bottles and cans and pet plastics and everything! Keep watching the skies!

Christopher "No, I've had enough medication, thank you"

Calzonetti

Reading Moment is Over!

Get back to work!

Tapped

Who's Listening

In my neverending quest to expose the astounding number of conspiracies that are out there, I stumbled across one in particular that is of interest to everyone. No, not the Amish's plans to take over the world. I'm talking about phone taps. It seems that the CIA has a deal with the phone companies that allows them to record all of the telephone conversations in North America. Of course, it would be wasteful to store them all, so they use advanced voice recognition equipment that can search for certain keywords and only record those conversations.

If for instance, you're having an intimate conversation with your significant other, it's probably not wise to mention 'thermonuclear warheads' unless you want the CIA to know all about your love life. I've compiled a list of other trigger words and phrases that should be avoided.

- strategic military arms
- assassination

- Unabomber
- Whitewater
- O.J.
- I think the CIA is taping this conversation.
- Hello, I'm David Letterman, the most powerful man in American broadcasting.
- I'm gonna blow up (the White House/the Pentagon/Walt Disney World).
- Richard Simmons
- The same thing we do every night, try to take over the world!

Warren "The Conspiring Milkman" Hagey

mastHEAD

Hullo! Well, we have arrived at yet another Friday and by gosh! Here we have yet another issue of the mathNEWS!

Pretty good production night tonight. No problems with the system like last time. And no blackout problems like the last time, either. But the evil presence known as midterms looms large. Some were unfortunately caught in the midterms' iron grip, preventing escape. But here's a list of those who did escape and helped out with production, along with their favourite name for the new \$2 coin:

Christopher Calzonetti (The one dollar coin in the new and improved carrying case.), Matt Walsh (An American dollar.), Stuart Pollock ("The Polar Queen" (Anyone who's popped the centre knows what I mean)), Wendy Oakden (Call Stu and he'll make you a nifty ring!), Darren Rigby (Two bits.), David Vernest (A good reason for asking "Hey buddy, can you break a two??"), Scott Norris (A washer.), Chris Buchanan (A cheap coin because if you throw me on the floor enough, I will break apart and roll all over the floor and you will have to chase me all over the room so you can put me back together backwards.), Jared Riley (Enough for Chris to get serviced in TO so he doesn't need to write that stuff!), Oracle (The two dollar coin is nearly priceless (actually mainly worthless — it costs about eleven cents to make) on the grounds that I don't believe it deserves a name.), D.K. Gardiner (Once, well, twice... but I was drunk.), Sarah Kamal (Sarah, because its got a heart of gold.), Kurtis McClellan (Sarah, because it's short, squat, and has a bare behind.)

Many, many thank-you's to the happy wandering band of copy people at Graphic Services and the fine folks at Domino's for the production night pizza.

Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox (My new saviour.),
Mike "Hammer" Hammond (It doesn't seem to be quite solid
— why not call it the Waterlooone?),
Mala "Crakko" Krishnan (Split Second)

profQUOTES

"So everything in W has a sister in V . Hey, it's kind of incestuous, but what can you do?"

Agrawal, MATH 136

(Holding his thumb and forefinger together) "I had to kill some rats the other day. They were this close to getting their master's degrees."

J. Shallit

"I'm doing the traditional thing in mathematics... I'm cheating."

Cummings, PM 340

(Checking the answer in the book) "Good heavens, I did it right!"

Haff, C&O 227

"In mathematics, you don't understand anything, you just get used to it after a while."

Godsil, MATH 136

"The logic you use in mathematics is the same logic you use when arguing with someone in a supermarket."

Godsil, MATH 136

"We wanted to have more than the bloody zero polynomial. There's always *someone* who worries about the zero polynomial."

Jackson, MATH 245

Midterms Suck



The Pink Tie Pledge continues to grow!

I have big news to share this week! The first pledges have already rolled in! So far the class of '96 has pledged \$1,909! The best way to keep track of our progress is to access the Pink Tie Pledge's web page at: <http://www.csclub.uwaterloo.ca/~mkoechli/ptp/ptp.html>. This page contains some information and history about the Pink Tie Pledge and up-to-date statistics of our progress (cool!). But, for the first time in '96, you can now pledge online! Yup, no more paper required! Many thanks go to Victor Wiewiorowski for his web expertise. Take a look!

Challenges so far

Robert Turner has challenged Ron Servant to meet his pledge of \$1000 over 3 years. Quick to match has been Ron Servant who challenges anyone with a job already, especially if it's at BNR in Ottawa, to match his challenge of \$3000 over 3 years. I have still to officially receive Ron's challenge, so how about submitting your pledge over the web Ron? I've heard that you know how to run Netscape (hint, hint).

Now the moment you've all been waiting for!

It's time to put my money where my mouth is. My challenge is simple. For everyone that pledges the minimum of \$303 over 3 years to enter into the Dean's Prime Number Club, I will donate another \$5 per year. That is to say that if 50 people donate at least \$303 over 3 years I'll donate 50 people \times \$5 \times 3 years = \$750. If 100 people pledge at least \$303, then I'll pledge \$1000... you get the picture. If we beat this year's goal of \$30,000, I'll even match big man Ron's challenge mentioned above.

I've heard that some people are planning to engrave their prime number into their class rings. What a great idea!

Just one last thought

Each year numerous students enter U(W) Math as Descartes Scholars. For all you Descartes Scholars out there, what a perfect opportunity to thank the faculty by contributing to the scholarship fund through the Pink Tie Pledge. Remember, the first payment is only required in May of 1997 after a full year of working and is tax deductible. Let's ensure in the future there is enough money to bring future Descartes Scholars to U(W) Math.

That's all for this week. Read about the Pink Tie Pledge in upcoming issues of *Imprint* and the *Gazette*.

Until later, check out the web page!

Marco Koechli
'96 Pink Tie Pledge Chair

Mathletics Presents:

LASER QUEST

March 10, 2 pm
3 games for \$10

We will meet outside the C&D at 1:30 pm. Sign up in the MathSoc Office or contact sdmcisaa@undergrad.math (we need 20-28 people to play)

Now Playing

There weren't any really great movies this week. Here are my reviews.

City Hall

Al Pacino (*Heat*) and John Cusack (*Bullets Over Broadway*) star along with Bridget Fonda (*Point Of No Return*), Danny Aiello (*Hudson Hawk*), and David Paymer (*Nixon*) in this political drama. An interesting note: in the past five months I've seen Paymer in four new movies and one video. *City Hall* investigates the corruption of the New York City political system, and its ties with the mafia. John Pappas (Pacino), the mayor of New York, must deal with the public and his own staff, including deputy-mayor Kevin Calhoun (Cusack), when an innocent child is shot in an incident between a police officer and a mob-connected drug dealer. This film really explores the private dealings of those in power without adding any of the regular Hollywood glitz and glamour. *** $\frac{1}{2}$

Muppet Treasure Island

This show was a disappointment for me. This latest version of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic story stars Tim Curry (*Clue*) as Long John Silver, Kermit the Frog as Captain Smollet, and Miss Piggy as Benjamina Gunn. I guess the biggest turn off for me was the songs. Usually the songs are my favourite part in this type of movie, but I found that the ones in *Muppet Treasure Island* weren't very catchy. There were good parts to the movie, and it was great seeing all of the old gang, like Gonzo, but you might just want to wait until the new TV series 'Muppets Live!' comes out on ABC later this spring. ***

Happy Gilmore

Well, I went into this one expecting to come out with a low rating, but was pleasantly surprised when the movie turned out to be quite good. Adam Sandler ('Saturday Night Live') stars as Happy, a hockey player turned golfer, who shoots up through the pro golfing ranks on the basis of his killer drives. Needing money to save his grandma's house, Happy goes into to golf after being cut from the hockey team because of his poor skating and stickhandling skills. An appearance by Bob Barker ('The Price is Right') in a celebrity golf tourney is hilarious in this very entertaining movie. ***

Warren "The Movie Milkman" Hagey

(Not Really) Food Services Comments This Week

Once again, we received many comments from Food Services customers this week!

Village One

The food in the Village cafeterias is always so much lower quality than what is available on campus, so that forces us to go across campus, get fresh air, exercise, and see more of our wonderful university. Thanks!

At food services, we like to offer choice: good food, or convenience.

I really hate it when people steal plates from the Village cafeterias. These people should be expelled!

We're glad to see that students are as concerned over this problem as we are.

I'd like to commend you on the curry. I've had it many times in the cafeterias, and must say it's the best I've ever had anywhere. I've been to the restaurants in the plazas, and they always ruin the taste by making it spicy. Here, there's no heat, no spice to get in the way.

Glad to see people are coming around to our way of thinking.

Brubaker's

I'd just like to say how incredibly fulfilling it makes me feel to eat here! I wish people would quit complaining about the prices. I really think that extra touch of ambiance is worth it, and am glad to pay a little extra for it!

Thanks! It's always good to hear that we're giving the customers what they want.

Davis Centre

Thank you for getting rid of the worms!

We're pleased to say we have, at least for now, reached our goal of a 100% decrease in the number of worms in the Davis Centre vegetables. Now if someone would return the V1 Cafeteria plates, knives, and forks, it just might stay that way. What were you doing eating in the Davis Centre, anyway?

But we did get some less positive comments too:

Brubaker's is a nice place to eat, but it's so expensive! We students don't have much money to spend on food, what are we to do?

There are a lot of things you can do to make your dollar, or Food Service Pseudo-dollar, go further, such as: buy your food in bulk, haggle with the cashiers for lower prices, try to get a lower price for dented containers. Also, next week, get a 10% discount with each V1 plate or fork you return.

I read that you expect a 25% increase in business from off-campus students. How exactly are you going to accomplish this seeing that you can go to the plazas where they have many restaurants you could probably buy for the price of a Brubaker's pizza slice?

Not to worry, a couple more years of Mike Harris and the only students left will be the ones who can afford our prices.

I see from your weekly menus that the food at Brubaker's is now referred to as "Pub Grub". I defy you to find any establishment anywhere in the world that refers to itself as a 'pub', and serves gyros.

They do have pubs in Greece, you know.

I've been reading these comment sheets for a while now; where do you find these people? Everyone thinks Food Services is the most evil thing in the world next to Pat Buchanan, but you never seem to get any comments that aren't glowing reviews. Where are all the people demanding their money back after buying lasagna in Village under the false impression there would be pasta in it? You don't listen to the real complaints, you just sift out the "I really loved the Turkey Parmesan", or "That Eric guy in the Grill is really cool" stuff, like you're some Orwellian wannabe or something.

No one dares complain, because we control your Watcard accounts; kiss your 'flexible money' goodbye, punk!

Jason Roe

Top 10 Staff Conversations Overheard in Food Services' Kitchens

10. "Uh-oh...these pork chops have been sitting back here for days. Let's just bread them."
9. "You have no friggin' clue what you're doing, do you?"
8. "...and legend has it, at midnight on the evening of a full moon, an evil spirit comes and washes these pots."
7. "Don't worry, sir. I used to work at McDonalds - food quality has never been a high priority for me."
6. "Seriously? You're joking. They'll pay 8 bucks to eat this crap?"
5. "You must be new. We never drain the grease."
4. "The recipe calls it 'Shit Surprise'. On the menu it will be called 'Beef Pot Pie'. The ignorant fools!"
3. "Hey! That's not the toilet!"
2. "Ethel...the rice is talking to me again..."
1. "Run! It's alive!"

Eric "Glad I'm Outta Village" Moreau

What I Did On My Spring Break

Don't Blink Or You'll Miss It!

Applied Health Sciences

Hi, my name is Rick and I'm in 1st year Rec. My spring break was pretty ho-hum. I caught the bus home to Toronto and some little kid kept crying all the way home! He shut up only after I slugged him one when his mom wasn't looking. Anyway, I got home and my mom picked me up at the bus station. Some homeless guy tried to ask me for change, but I planted a right into his jaw and a left to his midsection, and he didn't bother me anymore. When I got to my house I noticed my little brother had stolen my Swimsuit issue so I gave him a quick shot to the neck and an elbow to his nose and he gave it back to me. When we ate dinner that night and my little sister asked my dad to pass her the salt, I noticed that he reached right in front of me to do it so I faked him with the milk and smoked one right into his eye. I can't stand bad table manners! The next day I went downtown to hang out with my old high school buddies. Some old lady tried to butt in front of me to get onto the subway so I took her legs out with a slide trip and laid a sharp shoulder into her breadbasket. On Wednesday I went to see a concert at some club. The doorman seemed to be enjoying his job of frisking me a little more than he should so I shot a knee into his groin and then brought the other knee up against his face when he was doubled over. On Friday as I was coming back to Waterloo, the gas station attendant was lacking a little respect for me and my dad when he was washing our windows. So my dad got him in a full nelson and I landed several good roundhouses to the twerp's jaw. A guy's gotta understand that he's in a service industry and has to provide good service.

Arts

Hi, I'm Susan and I'm a 2nd year Psych major, and, like, I had a really, like, wild spring break! Me and Christy and Donna and Susie (not me but somebody else with the same name as me!) went on a girls-only trip to Buffalo where we could, like, shop shop shop until we, like, drop drop drop! We all piled into Donna's Ford Tempo that has this, like, really GROSS interior colour scheme that, like, make me afraid to sit on it! I was SO embarrassed when we, like, pulled up to the border and the customs man had to, like, see me sitting on a seat that TOTALLY clashed with my outfit! I COULD HAVE DIED! Anyway, we got to the Walden Galleria mall in Buffalo after about an hour of travelling from the border. I couldn't believe at how, like, friendly American drivers are! Like, every car honked at us when they passed us! Anyway, like, we got to the mall and we started to run into the stores when Susie (not me but somebody else with the same name as me!) realized she had forgot her purse back in Waterloo! What a, like, BUMMER! Christy and I were able to loan her some, like, cash but that, like, put a big dent into my, like, shopping plans! Oh, well, I'll just have to ask Daddy for more next month! Anyway, I bought this really hot top and an even hotter pair of cut-off shorts that'll be awesome next summer! Christy bought this really sexy teddy for the next time her boyfriend, Dave, comes down from Guelph! I'm not going to buy any lingerie for when my boyfriend visits

me from London because we've only been dating for a couple of weeks and we've only, like, had sex, like, six times. Anyway, that was, like, our big wild weekend down in the States! I can't, like, wait to go back!

Engineering

My name is Julie and I'm that rarest of rare species: a female engineer. Unlike some lucky stiffs I had only a two day break instead of the whole week, which meant that I was only able to be away from the millions of male perverts in my classes. I had just come off my midterm week and I had two labs to do during the "Study Week" so I was already mentally baked. Anyway, I had an interview on Monday, so I went to Needles Hall and waited in the Pit to be paged. I noticed these weird guys sitting across from me tilting their heads in funny ways and I had no idea what was going on until I realized that they were trying to look up my skirt! This university is full of sexually deprived losers! Anyway, after my interview (in which the man interviewing me kept staring at my breasts) I went home and started to work on my pre-lab work. Tuesday was more studying and household chores like grocery shopping, where some strange guy pinched my butt. On Wednesday, I was in my lab working on the experiment when I suddenly noticed my lab partner trying to look down my top! And I was wearing a *turtleneck*! So many guys in this faculty need to get it in the worst way! I spent Thursday working in the library with my group for our big 3A civil project while two guys at the next table kept winking at me and Friday I skipped class after this maniac tried to grind loins with me in the hall. Every day I curse myself for going into a faculty with hardly any women! That's how I spent my spring break, or what should have been my spring break.

Environmental Science

Hi, my name is Dave and I'm in 2nd year Geography. I didn't go home during the break because I'm from Thunder Bay, which is a little far to go for the holiday. Anyway, I had this killer project that I had to do so it was a good thing I was in town. In my meteorology class, my loser prof had given us a project where we had to record the daily high temperature for the whole week and then calculate the average temperature. I figured it would be a snap because my roommate, John, has a computer that had this really cool spreadsheet that can calculate averages automatically! Neat, eh? Anyway, the first day I went and looked at my little tube with the red stuff. One side said "C" and the other said "F". The numbers on the "F" side were higher at the top than the "C" side, but lower at the bottom! Talk about confusing! I didn't know what side to be looking at so I called up my friend Melissa, who's really smart. She said that I probably have a Quebec thermometer and that "C" was for "Chaud" (which means hot) and "F" is for "Froid" (which means cold). When I asked her if the "F" side was named after that really famous psychiatrist she said she wasn't sure. Anyway, I started to look at the "C" side because I figured that daily high temperature meant how hot it was. But I noticed that it said

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0 on the hot side and 32 on the cold side! How can the hot temperature be lower than the cold temperature? I was really confused! I called up Melissa again but she was pretty sure "C" was hot and "F" was cold because she nearly burnt herself last summer in the shower in Quebec. So I spent the rest of my break cloning my buddy's project.

Mathematics

I'm Joe and I'm in 4B CS. I went home for a couple of days at the beginning of the break and I must have gotten behind every slow frigging driver in the country! I'm from Owen Sound and I kept getting stuck behind farmers in pickups, old grannies in big cars, and transport rigs that all were content to go 5 clicks under the limit. One truck had a sign on the back of its trailer that asked "How's my driving?" I'll tell you, you stupid \$%#%& you're too \$%#%& slow! Anyway, I spent the weekend being nagged at by my parents about why I don't come home more often and crap like that and about how they aren't going to babysit me when I graduate and blah blah blah. I got back to Waterloo just in time to miss an interview (\$%#%&) and that put me in a really rotten mood. I had this brutal assignment to work on that was due on Thursday, so I skipped class on Wednesday and Thursday to stare at a \$%#%& computer screen. By Thursday night I was dying for a drink so I went to the Bomber after I submitted my assignment and got absolutely sauced. I was so plastered that I called up my girlfriend at 3a.m. and tried to sing a song for her but she got really mad and started the nastiest fight we've ever had and slammed the \$%#%& phone in my ear. I had to spend all day Friday taking her out shopping and out to dinner to make up for my good-intentioned phone call. There, that's how my \$%#%& study week went.

Science

Hi, I'm Jen and I'm a 3rd year Chemistry major and I had to stay in Waterloo during the study week because I had to go through interviews and I had a couple of assignments to do. It's a wonder that I survived the week! On Monday, I went into Needles Hall to check the board for interviews and I sprained my ankle slipping on the wet tile floor! Then, as I was hobbling up the crooked stairs to leave by the back entrance, I wiped out *again* and dropped all my books down the stairs! As I was quickly and sheepishly trying to gather my belongings (all the while being stared at by everyone dressed up for interviews) some creep knocked me over as I was bending down to pick up my books! As I stood up to tell him off, some girl came barging through the front doors and hit me right in the face! I got out of Needles Hall as fast as I could but as I was running down the stairs to the sidewalk I slipped on some ice and landed flat on my butt! I figured I should go to Health and Safety because my nose was starting to bleed (thanks to the twit who smashed it with the door). As I was crossing the bridge, some Olympic-hopeful cyclist came whizzing by me so close that, when I moved to get out of his way, I found myself falling over the side of the bridge and into Laurel Creek! I finally dragged my cold, wet, aching body in Health and Safety and started to fill out the form for being a new patient and while I was reading a section, the pen I was twirling in my hand slipped out and flew across the room and hit this really cute guy in the face! I was so *embarrassed!* I

went over to him to apologize and bent over to pick up the pen. But he was already going down to pick it up too and our heads collided with a loud *thwack*. I wanted to die right there! I must have said I was sorry a million times! Anyway, I managed to get in and out of the doctor's office without hurting myself much more (I walked into the office door once) and stumbled home. I spent the rest of the week in my house to avoid any further self-inflicted injuries.

Graham Rogers

The Philosopher's Stoned

The Happiness-Suckiness Principle

(Philosopher's Note: I should warn any devotees of this column which I may have accidentally acquired, that this article may be slightly more technical than you're used to. Bear with me. — So-Krates)

One of the lesser Great Questions in the history of humanity may be stated in six words: "Why do things suck so much?" The traditional answer foisted off on us by great thinkers generally boils down to "just 'cause".

However, in this enlightened day and age such a response is unacceptable. After all, we have the tools at our fingertips to deal with the matter much more rigourously. (And no, I'm not talking about computers; computers suck as well, far too often.) My purpose in this article is to attack the suckiness problem using the techniques of mathematical reasoning.

We shall begin by defining what it means to be sucky. We say that an event *sucks* when it substantially decreases one's enjoyment of the situation of which the event is a part. (I shall assume that the reader has an intuitive concept of *enjoyment*, as the mathematics involved in defining the term are nontrivial.) An event which does not suck can be generally termed as being *happy*.

It seems that we can thus define the set of situations S as a free vector space over the real numbers, with each component event a basis vector; scalars represent the *degree of suckiness* of each event. In addition, we may define an arbitrary length value to each event in the situation, and using these determine the suckiness of the situation as a whole. (By convention, situations are referred to as having "suckiness" rather than "happiness", because for the most part this is in fact the case.)

The alert reader will have noticed that either (a) we have not defined the inner product properly, as suckiness can (presumably) be negative in a situation, or (b) situational suckiness is never negative. This second possibility is known as the **Axiom of Bitterness**, and has been shown to be independent of other axioms of mathematics. I shall assume the Axiom of Bitterness in the following text.

The question may then arise of how to perhaps minimize the suckiness of the situation. This is the motivation for the study of *sucky operators*, i.e. linear transforms on the space S . It has been found that these operators seem to act universally on situations, although the net change in suckiness is different from person to person. This is a result of the **Purbhoo Principle**, which can be simply stated as "suckiness is in the eye of the beholder". Put another way, the arbitrary weight assigned to basis events are person-specific, and thus some things suck more to some people than to others.

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* A concrete example: let θ be the situation defined by "3(tired as all hell because of a CS assignment the previous night) + 2(can't concentrate on the lecture going on in front of face)", and let C be the well-tested Caffeine Operator. It can be easily shown that $C(\theta)$ resolves to "2(wired as all hell) + 3(can't concentrate on the lecture going on in front of face)". Clearly, both of these situations suck, by consequence of the Axiom of Bitterness (AB for short); by the Purbhoo Principle, though, it cannot be said which one sucks *more* without knowing the personal weightings involved. It sucks that we can't tell this, but then, what did you expect?

It can often be useful to consider a *sorted basis* of a situation as follows: divide the set of events into those with natural weights which are sucky, and those with natural weights which are happy. Using this division, we can determine two more useful quantities: the *apparent suckiness* and the *apparent happiness* of a situation. These are often good guides to how a person actually feels about a situation which they're in, even though they know (by AB) that it must suck. A *happy transform* is thus one which decreases apparent suckiness and increases apparent happiness.

This leads us to the major result of this paper: the **Happiness-Suckiness Principle**, which states that the apparent happiness of a situation is directly proportional to the square of its apparent suckiness. The proof is as follows:

Assuming the world is kind, AH will be directly related to AS raised to some positive power p ; fix $p > 2$. Well, it obviously sucks that there's so much suckiness. Thus, to take this into account, p must be higher than we had assumed. Iterating this process can make p arbitrarily large; the consequence of this being that, if AS is less than 1, AS^p tends to 0, which contradicts the Axiom of Bitterness; thus $p \leq 2$. A similar argument shows that p cannot be less than 2, and the result follows.

How is this useful? Well, it's a good rule-of-thumb test to see if one is overlooking something in a situation. If one's apparent happiness is higher than this rule predicts, then something sucks that one just hasn't noticed yet. Contrarily, if a situation's apparent suckiness is too high, either you're not seeing something happy, or you're considering the *actual* suckiness of the situation, which is of course always high.

The difference between AS and AH is called the *suckiness differential*, and it can be shown to express the rate of change of enjoyment. Note that an increase in enjoyment can only happen slowly, whereas a decrease is apparently unbounded.

There are many unsolved problems of suckiness theory. For example, there is the question of metasuckiness: what happens when one factors things sucking into the analysis of things sucking? What happens when you apply the theory to itself? **Nonstandard suckiness** is the form of the theory obtained when one rejects the basic principle that no event is both happy and sucky; one of the few results so far obtained concerns the **Strong Axiom of Bitterness**, stating that all events have positive suckiness. Finally, no complete proof of **Walsh's Conjecture** has yet been found: For any situation s , $\text{suckiness}(\nabla s) = \text{suckiness}(s)$. This basically means that suckiness will form a steady state, barring any external transformation. The reader is encouraged to develop further results of suckiness theory, so that one day it too can be recognized as a fundamental pillar of applied mathematics.

Matt "So-Krates" Walsh

I'll Have The Special

Mmmm... fractal cheese...

Ya know, there's nothing quite like some fractal cheese when in need of a snack. With crackers or on its own, melted or not, it's quite the yummy treat. Fractal cheese... now available in your grocer's dairy section... along with all those other kinds of cheese. Which are crap compared to fractal cheese, but that's just my opinion.

- What's up with Leafs?
- I am angered. There are some out there who show disrespect to our new \$2 coin. There are those who would flagrantly throw the coin to the floor in an attempt to break it in half. I and other members of The Temple of The Two Dollar Coin will not stand for this. We urge all who have or are attempting to break the sacred coin to stop and desist immediately before individual members start taking matters into their own hands. All praise the Two Dollar Coin!
- I'm waiting for the power to turn off as I'm writing this. But I don't think it's going to happen so I'll move on.
- I believe it was last week's *Imprint* that had a campus question on whether or not co-op students who are working in Ontario's public service this term should cross the picket line during the strike. (I wrote this on Monday so I'm assuming the strike is still ongoing.) For me, I find that question difficult to answer. Personally, I don't care much for unions. I think they are still necessary to protect workers' rights and unfair treatment at the hands of management, but over the past few years they've become too political and the leaders of the unions offer old rhetoric and no new visions for the future. So if I crossed the line, it would be my own way of sticking it to the union brass. But if I did that, that could anger my co-workers who've decided to picket and there'd be plenty of bad blood once the strike was settled. And the last thing I need is a terrible work environment for the remainder of the term. It's quite the difficult call. But I hear you saying, "Brian! You're not in co-op! You've never been faced with this decision. You have no idea what you're talking about!" Well, it might just happen to me this summer. The CAW's contracts with the Big 3 automakers run out this year (sometime in August or September). And they've decided to target GM first. And after working there for the past 3 summers, I can tell you some of the rank-and-file workers are pissed off about the contracting out of some jobs. It wouldn't surprise me if there was a strike. A message to all of you U(W) students who hope to be working at GM in Oshawa this summ... Oh wait! There are none of you because no one responded to my query last term. Oh well, I guess I'll just have to suffer alone.

Well, that about does it for this issue. I would just like to say once more that you should rush out and buy some of that yummy fractal cheese today. And can someone also tell me where I can apply for a loan to buy a snack at Brubaker's? Much appreciated... till next time...

Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox

InputOUTPUT

I knew I'd made it tougher. Only one of you submitted a completely correct entry. But let's build up to that.

There were thirteen entries. They were from (9) Mute Marine, (14) Tim Coleman, (15) The Church of Latter-Day Sporks, Graham Rogers, (16) DrewFiDai, Gnuf, (17) Reza, (19) Andrew "Wino" Krywaniuk, Ian Facey, Khalid Syed, Shawn Wilkin and our winner, with a perfect score of 20, Laurel van Dommelen! Nice going. Pick up your well-earned prize in the MathSoc office.

Since this was apparently a killer set of puzzles, you're probably looking for the answers. Here they are: 11) State the letter in the input that separates two smaller words. TOMATO = A, COOPERATE = E. 12) State the Greek letter whose English name appears in the input. MUScle = M, poorRHOUse = P. 13) State the last letter of the plural of the input. PERSON = E or S, FOOT = T. 14) State the length of the smallest common word that appears at the beginning of the input. Apologies = 1, POLICEmAn = 6. 15) State the position of the first A in the input. TEA = 3, KEYBOARD = 6. The accepted alternate answers are listed above. Unacceptable alternate answers by number were: 11) The letter directly following the smallest word contained within the input starting at the first letter. (INVESTIGATE → N) A letter in the word which has a smaller word following it. (Not specific, INVESTIGATE → G) State the position... (Positions not produced) 12) Output corresponds to the letter of the Greek alphabet contained within the word and its relative in the English alphabet. (PETAL → E, not H) Add a letter at the end of the first few letters to make a new word. (PETAL has no output, not specific) MUSCLE → U with the

rule 'State the English letter that most closely resembles the Greek letter contained within the word.' (M more closely resembles mu than u does, capitals of Greek letters are best answers throughout) POORHOUSE → R with correct rule. (That's not rho.) 14) APOLOGIES → 9 with correct rule. (There is a shorter word *a*. Just because it's a letter doesn't mean it's not a word.) 15) The number is how far away the nearest letter to A is. (SHIPYARD → 3)

Now that that's settled, let's move on to the next batch of puzzles.

⑬	TICKLISH	3	SHORT	M	HEIR	A
	DEFENSE	2	LONG	S	QUIRE	C
	OLIVE	1	IRELAND	K	FRAYS	P
	HAMSTRING	4	WONDER	S	NO	K
	EAU	0	BUSH	G	ROUTE	R
	VACUUM		BARKER		EWI	
	PRIVILEGE		SUMMER		OUR	
⑭	TARDY	8	KITTEN		79	
	BOUTIQUE	4	CAB		6	
	LOAFER	2	TAXICAB		60	
	LIBERATED	3	DIRECTOR		62	
	REVOLVER	1	BANISHED		62	
	TWIGS		MAGAZINE			
	QUEUE		CONTROL			

Gridby

gridCOMMENTS

Greetings, Gridders!

Spring is sprung (or at least is in the process of sprunging), the grass is riz. I wonders where the birdies iz. I'm certainly glad that cows can't fly no matter what recent WatSFic posters would have you believe.

There were just four entries to the Cryptic crossword this time, from Ian Facey, DrewFiDai, Chris Wooff, and Alan G. and Mark V. The winner was determined by throwing two-dollar coins in the air and seeing how many pieces I had when they landed. The winner is Chris Wooff. Congratulations!

If the interest in the Cryptic was low then the Unconventional was lower. There were only three entries. Professor Brandon submitted, but got one square wrong. (True, X was a BEER but BEHE can't become a river.) Correct answers were submitted by Ian Facey and Chris Wooff. The winner is Ian Facey. Pick up your prizes in the MathSoc Office and enjoy.

For the gridQUESTION I asked what your favourite Murphy-style law was. You answered: The Hoover Heuristic: "85% of everything sucks." The Power Rule: "The power will fail only when your program hasn't been saved and it's 5 seconds from finishing its test run."

And a special presentation: Rigby's Laws. Rigby's First: "You are much more likely to find something if you're looking for it." Corollary to Rigby's First: "You will never find something you really need until the time comes that you have replaced it, or for some other reason, don't need it anymore." Rigby's Sec-

ond: "Mathies can't count, Engineers cannot figure out what's wrong with their computers, and Artsies can do both without thinking." Rigby's Third: "The chances that you will succeed in doing something impressive are inversely proportional to the number of people watching you try."

The Ancient Order of Two-Headed Turtles is will be a club for procrastinators, who are always saying "not now", or "no T, no W." These were the two letters that should have been removed from the grid.

There was a mistake or two in the Cryptic clues. 2-Down was an anagram on "demon lad," which are not the same letters as "LEMONADE". In the clue for 46A "Raise" should be "Raises" to clue "ASCENDS." Was it a typo? Was it a goof? We may never know...

You will find the solution grid to the puzzle someplace around here, and the complete solution on the back page. Why? Here's why.

Because we get a Reading Weekend in Math instead of a Reading Week. Because professors like to have midterms while others faculties are away in Florida. Because the two Gridword grids have to be alike and it's harder to create an Unconventional grid than a Cryptic. Because I picked a gimmick that has no ready source of words and it was hell, I tell you, hell to find an interlocking grid that works with this gimmick. Because I went through sleep deprivation the last few days of last week trying to get this to work and ended up catching 120 winks (with interest)

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The Midnight Knockout

Every Easter in Toronto there is a week long bridge tournament that people come to from all over North America. One of the popular events is the Midnight Knockout Teams. You face off against other teams of 4 until there is only one team remaining as champion.

The emphasis of this event tends to be on fun and frolic, and alcohol is frequently a big part of the morning. Frequently pairs will invent bidding systems just for this event that will seem silly and destructive and sometimes not very useful.

This time, Big Red and Fish had decided to play opening bids at the two level as showing 8-12 points with four cards in the suit bid and four cards in an unknown higher suit.

Vul: N-S	Fish		
Dealer: N	♠ A Q 10 6		
	♥ 7 5 4		
Lady's Man	♦ J 2	Wise Man	
♠ J 7 4 3	♣ Q 9 4 2	♠ K 8 5 2	
♥ J 10 6 2		♥ A K Q 9 8 3	
♦ 9 5 4	Big Red	♦ A Q	
♣ J 3	♠ 9	♣ 8	
	♥ Void		
	♦ K 10 8 7 6 3		
	♣ A K 10 7 6 5		
Fish	Wise Man	Big Red	Lady's Man
2 ♣	2 ♥	6 ♣	All pass
Opening lead: ♥ A			

The bidding was very quick. As explained above, the two club bid showed at least four clubs with another suit, in this case spades. The two heart bid was clear to the Wise Man. Big Red didn't know what anybody could make on the hand, but he decided that even his partner the Fish could find several tricks on the hand. The Lady's Man (so named because of his coiffed hair, rings and exposed hairy chest) swore at nobody in particular and everyone passed.

Big Red was right. Not even the Fish could mess this up. He ruffed the ace of hearts in dummy and pulled two rounds of trump ending with the queen of clubs. Then he led the diamond jack. The Wise Man could do nothing so he rose with the ace and tried a spade. Fish could now play the king and ruff a diamond, setting up the suit. The beer card was automatic and since it was a Midnight event, he did a slithery little dance on his chair to show off the stylish UWBC beer card shirt.

At the other table, their opponents did not have the scientific bidding methods available and sold out to three hearts. Six clubs was an excellent result for our championship team.

Jared Riley

Seen on the PMC Whiteboard...

"Will our children think of Power Ranger toys as sets of points, each sporting a 3-D Taylor polynomial at its surface?"

Post-Teen Angst: A Lobster Named Claude

People Without Heads

—or—

Insomnia Spawns Great Ideas

Wouldn't the world be a different place if people didn't have heads?

"I can think of *one* who's lost his..." mutters Average Reader.

No, really. Just picture, won't you? Weeeeell, I'll be the first to admit that there are some logistical problems to overcome. Let's deal with those first, before moving on to the philosophical.

I guess the first that pops to mind is, well, the mind. The brain. Where are we gonna put it? There are a two schools of thought in this vein. One idea is to merely move it down a foot or so. Add a bit of bone and gristle around the third vertebrate and *presto!* We end up looking like a race of hunchbacks, but we have brains. Cool. The other suggestion is valid for half the species - put it in the groin, where it seems to reside anyways. 'Nuff said.

Next, we need a way to ingest food and to respire. A simple sphincter at the top of the neck would suffice, methinks. We'll have to add a gullet with which to masticate, but that should solve the food problem. Retract the tongue down the throat slightly, and we can still taste our food, too.

The same sphincter can also regulate air flow. I suppose an auxiliary orifice for respiration would be desirable, so we can still walk in the rain without drowning.... Nostrils in the nipples? Done.

With that, we have successfully done away with the human head. Eyes? Who needs 'em? Blind people do well enough without seeing. Ears? We can do without those, too. So the physical arguments are dealt with. Now, what is the socio-cultural impact of removing the human head?

Of course, without eyes and ears mere recognition of another person becomes a bit of a chore. We have reduced the number of senses by two. This means we have only touch, smell, and taste at our disposal. Of those three, I guess smell would be the least invasive sense to recognise someone by.

Failing an olfactory match, one would then proceed to feel the other. (A mere handshake might be enough. I leave further examples to your *own* twisted imaginings.) Still, this might not be enough to recognise someone else.

The last resort - taste. Hmmmmmmm.... Let's hope that we can keep to merely snuffling at someone, then groping them. I can't say that I would be keen on licking possible strangers to see if I knew them.

But that's just it. It likely *wouldn't* be that much of a problem for a human with no head to lick a stranger. It might even be part of a formal introduction. I know that *I* wouldn't soon forget someone I licked. (Nor their taste.)

So what do you think? Should humanity decapitate itself *en masse*? I say yes. It would be a fun time.

Ian "Son of God Complex" Milligan

Midterms Suck

mathNEWSquiz #4

Boy, we really need sleep and it sure shows!

Hi ho, squizzers! How are midterms going? Are they kicking you in vital, easily damaged parts, too? Apparently so, since we only received five submissions for the squiz this week. Oh, well. I guess it's better than nothing. Let us know what categories you'd like for the squiz! We want lots of people to submit! Okay, enough of our bitching and complaining. Here are the answers for last issue's squiz: **Song Lyrics:** 1) The Chauffeur, Duran Duran; 2) Barrett's Privateers, Stan Rogers; 3) Medical Love Song, Monty Python; 4) A Turn of the Wheel, Rawlins Cross; 5) Punk Rock Girl, The Dead Milkmen; **Inventions:** 1) Georges de Mestral; 2) the potato chip; 3) Jacques Cousteau and Emile Gagnan; 4) playing cards (poker, in particular); 5) the zipper; **Sesame Street:** 1) Alistair Cookie; 2) Gordon, Susan, Maria, Luis, Olivia, Bert, Ernie, but **not** Oscar or Big Bird: they lived outside; 3) Mr. Hooper; 4) 12; 5) Bert; **Mythology:** 1) Ra; 2) On a dare. Tyr stuck his hand in Fenris' mouth for "insurance, and he lost his right hand when Fenris realized he was trapped ("trapped with chains" is acceptable); 3) Parsifal, Galahad, and Bors are acceptable; 4) Romulus and Remus; 5) Herakles or Heracles. Hercules was **Roman**, not Greek.

Here are the ultra-cool people who submitted to last issue's squiz, with the scores in parentheses: Jackie Kwoy (5); Nambo (10); Ian "Word Guy" Facey (15); Bartholomew Cubbins (17); and our winner, for the third issue in a row, is The Church of Latter-Day Sporks, with a whopping score of 18! You can pick up your prize in the MathSoc office! All right, then, let's get on with the show!

Song Lyrics

Name the song and the artist for 2 points

- Every whisper of every waking hour
I'm choosing my confessions
Trying to keep an eye on you
Like a hurt lost and blinded fool, fool ...
- I've got me a Chrysler
It's as big as a whale
And it's about to set sail!
- Our country reeks of trees
Our yaks are really large
And they smell like rotting beef carcasses
- Rabbit where'd you put the keys girl
And the man with the golden gun
Thinks he knows so much
Thinks he knows so much
Rabbit where'd you put the keys girl
- He's bringing sweet salvation
Let temptation take him in
He's every fear and every hope and every sin

Doctor Who

- What does TARDIS stand for?
- What did the big red lever on the TARDIS console do (at least *after* 1984)?
- What are Cybermen "allergic" to?
- What tactical flaw did the Daleks finally overcome in "Remembrance of the Daleks"?

- What was the acronym for the special United Nations military entity that the Doctor had soooooo much contact with? (Bonus mark if you know what it stands for.)

Great Mathematicians

- Who was the first person in recorded history to have used a form of integral calculus? (Hint: it wasn't Leibniz or Newton.)
- Name the "Seven Pleiades of Mathematics".
- Which mathematician, whose lifetime and career spanned the bridge between the 18th and 19th centuries, has been acknowledged by most historians as the greatest mathematician of all time?
- Who is the most prolific writer in the history of mathematics?
- What French mathematician, whose brilliant career was cut off at a short age, is considered the father of group theory?

Video Games of the '70's and 80's

- How many points did you score by shooting a little flying saucer in *Asteroids*?
- Name the four ghost-monsters from *Pac-Man*.
- In *Defender* and *Stargate*, what happened if a Lander made it to the top of the screen with a humanoid?
- Describe the four "games" in *Tron*.
- Who said what when you popped your quarter into the *Star Trek* video game?

Good luck, everybody! You can submit your solutions to the BLACK BOX across from the Comfy Lounge or by e-mailing your answers to mathnews@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca. Submissions are due by 6:30p.m. on Monday, March 11.

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

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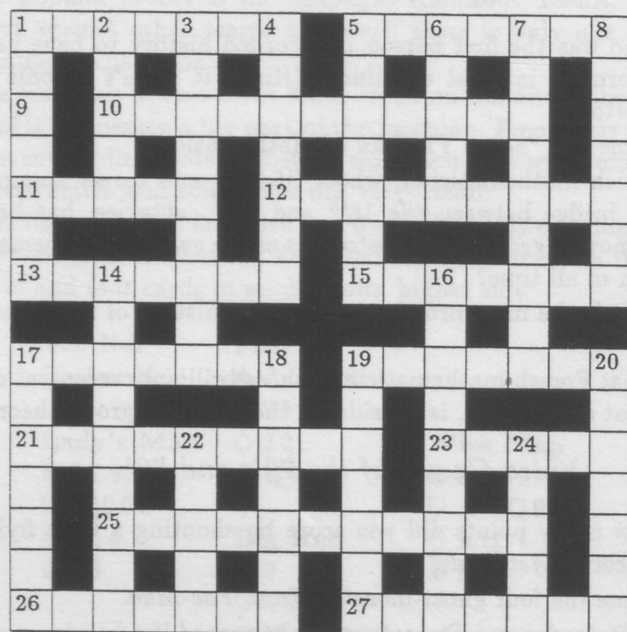
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CROSSWORD



Grid Clues for Leap Crossword (Unconventional)

Across

1. Keep ___ upper lip (2 wds)
5. Chopped
9. Strung up? (2 wds)
10. Frankenstein's assistant
11. Most like a saxophone
12. Bus stations
14. Left
16. Currently "in" footwear
18. Bank jobs
20. Two-way communication system
22. Sermon closer
24. What antibiotics are for
25. Birds from last issue's puzzle
26. Live

Down

1. Fitted into a joint
2. Annex
3. Buried
4. Falsifies
5. Dairy products?
6. Animal fat
7. Performances
8. Dinged
13. Preparing to strike, as certain snakes
15. Artists, in general
16. Stew
17. Joggers
18. Gat
19. Showing loss of mental faculties
21. Get angry
23. Opposite of an opposite of an opposite of 'young'

Grid Clues (Cryptic)

Across

20. On French benefits (they're more than enough). (9)

Solutions to Last Week's Grids

Cryptic

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. CLOSE(S)T | 2. LEMONADE* |
| 5. E(CLIP)SE* | 3. sOX ENclave |
| 10. hEX | 4. SETTLEr* |
| 11. heRE | 6. "COR" + DIAL ^r (corps) |
| 12. hOME + LET | 7. I + cRISES |
| 14. Physicist + ARTICLE | 8. sPECK |
| 16. NO - NO* | 9. ELVES - Loafers |
| 17. invaDES Killer | 12. O.N. |
| 18. VA(LENT)IN + E.(error) | 13. LOVES* |
| 19. STEP* | 14. oPEN CEment |
| 22. DISH + ORDERLY | 15. TENT |
| 26. tHERe, somewHERE | 20. TaOiStS |
| 27. ShIP - Hull | 21. Pick + UP |
| 29. C. + LE(VERNE)SS (Can.) | 23. IRON ² |
| 34. arMY NAy | 24. DIInE |
| 36. GR(hOUND + H)OG | 25. RUdE - D.(daughter) |
| 39. BEAK* | 26. wHIM |
| 40. EDAM ^r | 28. I + SO LATE + D.(day) |
| 43. THE(ODOR)E | 30. LOOKOUT ² |
| 44. sAfE + RATE | 31. reVENUE |
| 45. sELI | 32. REHEARSe |
| 46. WEnt | 33. mEAGER |
| 47. MAN + DATE | 35. AGEOLD* |
| 48. A(SCENe)DS* | 37. RAD ² |
| | 38. anATOMy |
| | 39. BEE + Never |
| | 41. DrAWN |
| | 42. M.E. |

Conventional

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. AFFRIGHt | 2. FIREPOwER |
| 5. CitYFOLK | 3. FLUtE |
| 10. wILt | 4. GEtMYGOAt |
| 11. LAw | 6. wINeAtAStER |
| 12. FRUStUM | 7. FLOWEREt |
| 14. BUtTERwORtHS | 8. tOwARD |
| 16. tEEtER | 9. KISS |
| 17. wAItED | 12. FEw |
| 18. tONGUE twIStER | 13. StRONG |
| 19. wEtSUIt | 14. BREAtH |
| 22. wEIGHt wAtCHERS | 15. wRItE |
| 26. wARD | 20. SQUAt |
| 27. tUtUS | 21. twINS |
| 29. wHIte ELEPHANt | 23. tIDBIt |
| 34. StRICt | 24. CREw |
| 36. wAStE NOT wANt NOT | 25. tELL |
| 39. LEtTER | 26. wAISt |
| 40. twIttERS | 28. UNDERwAtER |
| 43. wELtERwEIGHt | 30. wINtERtIME |
| 44. GANGwAY | 31. wENtWOrtH |
| 45. wHET | 32. tEENAGER |
| 46. tRE | 33. tHROw IN |
| 47. tYPEwRItER | 35. CAtERER |
| 48. DRIFtERS | 37. SwEEt |
| | 38. QwERtY |
| | 39. LEtHE |
| | 41. EGREt |
| | 42. StY |