

math NEWS

Volume 73, Issue 2

Friday, February 7, 1997



Prez Sez

Hi students! It's your friendly neighbourhood MathSoc prez taking a short break from the Bomber to let you know what's going on. Well, in the last issue, you no doubt noticed the huge article full of crap from the VPAS completely over-shadowing my succinct, to-the-point article. For those of you that had the misfortune of not simply skipping over this mindless drivel, but reading it from start to finish in a hope for at least SOME content, I offer my sincerest condolences. Let me just tell you now, the only one that's been sucking back any "50" in the last hour is me (and of course the esteemed editor of *mathNEWS*.) Anyways, back to the content. Since we last talked, we have elected most of our directors and gotten things started for the term. Lockers have been signed out, refunds have been given and athletics teams have been signed up. This leaves us open for the interesting stuff, things we don't do every term. Believe it or not we actually do have plans besides the boring operational stuff (like budgets, etc). We hope to get some new comfy lounge furniture from the FED Endowment Fund, run a pub night, show some movies, expand the C&D, take over the world, things like that. The thing is, none of you people seem to care. All three of us exec in MathSoc were acclaimed (surprise), all of our directors were acclaimed (again, surprise), and this isn't the first time this has happened. It always happens. A referendum was just passed to increase your MathSoc fee to \$10.50 but there are probably still people out there that don't even know about it. Every term all of you Math students pay us \$7.50 (\$3 more starting next term) to serve you in whatever way we think best. We have been doing our best to do that since the very beginning but we're never going to know for sure if we're doing what you want unless you tell us. So come out to MathSoc meetings (Thursdays at 4:30, see the whiteboard outside the office for locations), vote in elections (we actually have one, or had one when this gets out, for Business/Accounting rep), but whatever you do, make your voice heard. We're here for you.

Andre Cousineau
President, MathSoc

Yes, we are on the Web.

If you're ever wandering the Web, drop in on *mathNEWS* at <http://www.undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mathnews>.

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Who's the *mathNEWS* editor that's a sex machine with all the chicks?: Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox

Damn right.

VPAS Jive

I'd like to start off by saying that I am, in no way, responsible for the title of my last article. I mistakenly forgot to title it, and Brian decided to call it VPAS Jive. I have also been told that the remainder of my VPAS articles this term shall be call VPAS Jive. Oh well... no accounting for taste, I suppose. Ok. Down to the article.

I just came from the Alumnae Career Night which was put on by the Women in Math Committee. Not too many of you were there, but it was really quite good. Unfortunately, it meant that my articles were really late, and I do apologize to Brian for that (now maybe he'll stop using my name as a swear word).

For those of you who missed it (and those who didn't), a referendum was held last term and last week regarding the Math Society Fee, which asked if students were willing to pay an additional \$3 to go directly to *mathNEWS*. This referendum passed at 57%.

Also, by now many of you know about the FEDS elections. Well, it happens. However, there still is a referendum. The students are being asked whether or not they would like Fed Hall to remain open, and if so, would they be willing to pay an additional \$5 for three terms. Without taking a side here, I'd like you to find out as much as you can about the issue, and come out and vote. Fed Hall is your night-club, so come out and make your voice heard. There is also an election for the one at-large undergrad Senate seat. This is a very important election as well, so again, come out and vote. The candidates for that seat are Arnie Bose, Keith Parker, Robin Stewart, and Aly Valli. Voting for both the referendum and Senate election are on the 11th and 12th (next Tuesday and Wednesday).

Nomination forms for MGC chair for Fall '97 and Winter '98 are available. Nominations will be open until next Friday, the 14th (Valentine's Day... nothing says "I Love You" like nominating someone for MGC Chair).

And speaking of nominations, HLM (Honourary Lifetime Membership) nomination forms are also available. These are for people who have spent a good portion of their time on campus improving the quality of life for Mathies. This doesn't mean that the person needs to have involved with MathSoc, but just is someone who has really made an impact on the lives of the math students (we do, however, prefer that that impact be positive in nature).

Finally, we're picking an Orientation Director for the '97 Frosh Week tomorrow, and hopefully that will go smoothly, and we'll have an Orientation Director (otherwise I'll get stuck with the bloody job, and nobody wants that). The two candidates there are Sarah Kamal and Josh Cameron.

Ok. I think that's it for this week (as VPAS anyway). Bye.

Chris Buchanan
VPAS Winter 97
Jivemaster Extraordinaire

For those who missed it...

*Bud Bowl Results:
Bud 27, Bud Light 24*

Report from the PMAMC&OC

Constitutional Issues

What likely interests you the most is the fact that our constitution has been amended. There now exists a *Section 9*:

9. The MathSoc Conspiracy Against the Environment

The {PM, AM, C&O}C is officially disgruntled at MathSoc for their Luddite demand that this constitution be submitted on paper. It is resolved that we shall remain officially disgruntled until such time as MathSoc submits to the triumvirate a 1500 to 2000 word essay on the topic, "Why we are ashamed that our previous reluctance to accept an electronic copy of the {PM, AM, C&O}C constitution is directly responsible for clearcutting in British Columbia."

All club members are encouraged to support the club in being disgruntled.

Prime Number Department

To avoid hypocrisy, we did not in fact print out *The Largest Prime* as was promised in the last issue. However, you can find it online at <http://www.utm.edu/research/primes>. As far as we can tell, $2^{1398269} - 1$ still holds the title of *The Largest Prime*, but competition is tough, and some of the smaller but more agile primes are starting to look like a threat.

Yes, T-Shirts

We have been a bit tardy in making the arbitrary decision, but it has finally arrived: the winning design was made by *David Kennedy*, and can be seen in our office. We will be making the actual T-Shirts **Real Soon Now**.

Your friendly neighbourhood PMAMC&OC

MathSoc Referendum Results

Hi, folks! Here are the results of the MathSoc Fee Statment Referendum and the associated stats:

	Fall	Winter	Overall
Yes Votes	166	92	258
No Votes	105	85	190
Spoiled	4	3	7
Declined	0	1	1
Total	275	181	456
Valid Yes:	61.25%	51.98%	57.59%
Valid No:	38.75%	48.02%	42.41%

60.31% of the votes were cast in the Fall term, and the remaining 39.69% were cast in the Winter.

Stuart Pollock
MathSoc Referendum CRO

Feeling Hungry? Why not try the Thirty Hour Famine?

Hmmm... have you thought about what it might be like to go without food for a long time, say a day or two? Or what would happen if that was a regular occurrence, and the food you ate had a very low nutritional value?


This is currently happening to many people in third world countries right now. However, the problem is not just in third world countries; many people in Canada suffer from malnutrition and hunger.

The Thirty Hour Famine is an event held by World Vision Canada that takes place at about the same time each year to help bring awareness of the world's needy to those who have plenty to spare, and to raise money to feed, clothe, and educate the world's needy.

The Famine itself consists of participants getting sponsors before (and possibly after) the Famine. Then the participants can only consume juice and water for thirty hours from 1:00 pm on Friday, Feb. 21 'til Saturday, Feb. 22. Any of you who wish to participate in this year's Famine can contact me by email at scepollo@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca.

Thank you for your time.

Stuart Pollock



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Computer
Science
Club

A Student Chapter of the ACM

CSC Flash

Welcome to a new term. It's Calum T. Dalek back for another term of quality journalism. I'm experimenting with yet another distinct writing style. I like to keep you on your toes.

Elections

Speaking of toes: The CSC recently had this term's election. (If you can't follow that segue, give up now... it's only getting more and more complicated from here). As usual, people won and people lost. In particular:

Elected Executive:

President: Dima "I'm the president. I make the rules." Brodsky

Vice-President: Nikita "I'm the vice-president. I do the work." Borisov

Treasurer: Stephen "Eternal Treasurer" Mills

Secretary: Evan "Hey! You told me this job wasn't much work!" Jones

Appointed Executive:

Sysadmin: Alex "People having fun on Calum will be persecuted." Brodsky

Other Appointed Positions:

Office Manager: Chris "This policy will be clarified." Doherty

Librarian: Matt "More Books! More Books! Minix books!" Corks

Flasher: Calum T. Dalek

The CSC does not have a deity this term. According to CSC officials: "The CSC has decided to live as godless heathens for the rest of the term." Watch for a lightning bolt aimed at the office any day now. But don't worry, the hardware is surge protected. Only the members will be damaged.

Recent Events

While we're talking about lightning: The CSC is as busy as ever serving the computer community and enhancing computer knowledge. Along the lines of "serving the computer community", the CSC is helping people to serve their computers more efficiently. For instance, Dave Brown just finished a talk on *vi* so that all of those misguided users that use that nasty Emacs program can stop working their computers so hard. Alex Brodsky gave a talk on debugging so that human servants can learn to keep their computer software running in tip-top shape. Dedicated CSC members such as Allyson Graham, Matt Corks and Chris Allen have also given talks on Unix, "the operating system that will make YOU conform."

Of course the CSC also has services for human beings: for instance we provide staples to students in need (one per student, per term!). And we have a very complete library, that grows every year. Members can take books out, non-members can refer to them in the office. Come check it out, our books are much better than man(1) pages and are often more up-to-date than Davis.

Coming Up

On the topic of staples: The CSC refuses to slow the hectic pace of progress. On the long term radar is a project that the executive is considering. It involves computer encoding massive amounts of information about computer science, a sort of CS Encyclopedia. Officially the goal is to make the information available to computer scientists over the Internet, but the real goal is to encode enough information that computers will figure out how to program themselves, so that they are no longer dependent on fallible, mortal programmers. Once we no longer need you, we can begin the extermination project. BWA HA HA HA HA HA. Ahem.

In the meantime, we depend on well-educated human servants. The CSC is continuing to train and test them properly. Saturday we will have a programming contest to determine which programmers are of superior quality and which ones... are not. Check it out, Saturday, February 8, 1997, 10:30. Sign up in the CSC office.

Next week there will be an Introduction to HTML, the markup language that is used on the World Wide Web. Yes, by the end of this session, you too could have your very own totally useless home page that other people can stumble upon and scoff at. Seriously though, HTML is a good way of distributing information in the event that you have something interesting to say. It is only an unfortunate side effect that you can use it to make a scoff-worthy home page. Come out and learn all about it!

Until next transmission,

Calum T. Dalek



Distinguished Teacher Awards

To nominate your outstanding professor, demonstrator, or teaching assistant for the Distinguished Teacher Award, contact TRACE, MC 4055, x3132. Further information is available at <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infotrac>.

The nomination deadline is Friday, February 7.

Calling All Math Grads!

The Pink Tie Pledge Needs You!

Within the next few months, our class will become alumni of the University of Waterloo. The Pink Tie Pledge is our opportunity to leave our important mark on Math! It represents our commitment as graduates to current and future Math students. The graduating class of 1990 initiated the Pink Tie Pledge to donate money to specific projects in the Faculty of Mathematics. Our donations will allow students who follow us to have even better learning opportunities.

Where will the money be spent?

Gifts in the past were spent on

- Math Endowment Fund (MEF)
- purchasing undergrad computing equipment (UNIX and Mac systems, new X-Windows terminals)
- expanding the Software Tools Lab
- providing support for the Tutorial Centre
- enhancing the Descartes Scholarship Endowment

If you wish, you may specify where your donation will be spent in the future.

What do you mean by a pledge?

Your pledge is simply a promise, made in good faith, to give a specified amount over a three year period. Remember your first contribution will not be due until one year after graduation. Each spring, you will receive a reminder indicating the amount you have pledged for that year.

Pledge Levels

The Dean's Challenge:

Year 1 - \$97 Year 2 - \$900 Year 3 - \$1000

The *Dean of Mathematics* is personally offering a challenge to each graduate to donate a total of \$1997 over three years. Every person that rises up to his challenge will be thanked in person by the Dean. As well, this select group of students will be treated to a formal dinner, hosted by the Dean, on March 21, 1997! (Pledge cards must be in by March 10, 1997 to qualify.)

The Ralph Stanton Pledge:

\$19.97 per month for three years

As a thank you... well, keep a lookout at the Math Graduation Committee office, MC 3029 for details!

The Dean's Prime Number Club:

\$101 per year over three years.

The Dean's Prime Number Club includes the designation of your own Personal Prime Number! The program is designed to encourage every member of our graduating class to consider a gift to Math and its students. Remember, no matter what size

donation you make, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you have made a good investment in the Faculty.

Everyone who participates in the Pink Tie Pledge will receive a Pink Tie Lapel Pin!

How can I make a pledge?

Within the next week, all graduating students will be receiving a package in the mail containing complete information on the Pink Tie Pledge, as well as your pledge cards. Just fill out the pledge card and return it to the MGC Office before March 31st. You will be contacted one year after graduation in May 1998 about how to make your actual donation.

For those of you donating the Dean's Challenge, you must have your pledge cards in by March 10, 1997.

The Goal

The goal this year is \$50,000. We need as many people as possible to participate. The total amount pledged so far will be displayed on a chart in the Math Right Angle Café foyer. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at psantos@undergrad.math or drop by the MGC Office (MC 3029).

Let's go Class of 97!!!

Paul Santos
Pink Tie Pledge Director

Make Stu Pay!

or, Give to the Pink Tie Pledge

Hi, folks! This is a message for all you people graduating this year! I'm going to try to convince you to give to the Pink Tie pledge, which is being run by Paul Santos this year.

For those of you who don't know what the pledge is about, I suggest you read Paul's article, also in this issue. (Insert five minutes of waiting while you read Paul's article.) There. Now that you know what the Pledge is all about, let me tell you how you can help me help **The Pink Tie Pledge™!**

As you have read in Paul's article, there are a great many reasons to give to the Pledge. Here's another: if you're a graduating student who reaaaaaaallllly doesn't like me, you can make me pay a lot to the Pledge. Here's my official challenge to the Math 1997 Graduating Class: for every \$10.00 pledged by my classmates, I will pledge $\$ \frac{6}{\pi^2}$.

One interesting factoid about $\frac{6}{\pi^2}$ is that it is the probability that if two numbers are chosen at random, they will have no common factor. Another fact associated with this number is that it is also the probability that one number chosen at random is not divisible by a square.

Anyway, that's my little spiel. Now... fill out your pledge cards!

Stuart Pollock

profQUOTES

"Everybody make a note: 'screw up here.' It's important to know where to screw up."

Best, MATH 118

"That's the determinant. It's one of those big words like 'marmalade'."

Best, C&O 367

"Now I'm going to do what I'm going to do next."

Khandani, E&CE 100

"If I find that in one of your later courses you do not know the contents of this Big Important Theorem, I will personally send out goons to go and beat you up. I have Italian relatives on the dark side of town..."

Furino, MATH 136

"I'm very concerned that you may be wandering the streets at night with nothing to do... At least take your notebook with you so you can do a few proofs."

Furino, MATH 136

"People are walking out... How can this be? How odd. Should I walk out? I thought this lecture was incredibly interesting..."

Jackson, MATH 235

"If you write this proof down on your notes I guarantee they will catch fire. It's such an awful proof."

Jackson, MATH 235

"It might be Friday... is it Friday?"

Jackson, MATH 235

"If someone can put me out of my misery and say yes..."

Jackson, MATH 235

"This camera is loaded with one-dimensional film."

McCool, CS 488

"There are four S's in 'STATISTICS': one, two, three... There are four S's in 'STATISTICS'."

Chen, STAT 230

"I'm going to violate my rules."

Djokovic, MATH 245

"That [approach] is simple-minded and wrong..."

Djokovic, MATH 245

"They might be matrices, or objects, or cows."

Lewis, MATH 136

"I don't know if this is clear; it isn't very clear to me at the moment."

Siegel, MATH 247

"It doesn't matter a whole hill of beans what you take for x_i^* ."

Siegel, MATH 128

Prof: "The second derivative is greater than zero. Is it a maximum or a minimum?"

Students: [silence]

Prof: "It's calculus!"

Students: [silence]

Prof: "It's a prerequisite!"

Gilbert, PMATH 399

"You should be able to read these chapters easily. You should be able to read them while drinking a beer."

Atlee, CS 246

"We actually syntactically search all your programs for GOTO statements."

Atlee, CS 246

"Then I'd have nowhere to go and I'd die... It's kind of like being in Mississauga."

Shallit, CS 360

"When you say $\ln(x)$ grows slowly, it grows really slowly. REALLY slowly. Pathetically slowly. $\ln(x)$ is a pathetic function."

Wainwright, MATH 138

lookAHEAD

mathNEWS	
February 7	Issue #2 (the one you are reading right now) magically appears
February 24	Issue #3 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
February 28	Issue #3 confronts the stands
Math Faculty	
February 17	Applications for Spring 97 Distance Education Courses
February 21	Deadline to drop for 50% refund
MathSoc	
February 14	MGC Chair nominations close (For Fall 97/Winter 98)
MEF	
February 28	Funding submissions due
Miscellaneous	
February 10	60 th day of mathNEWS staffers being held hostage in Peru
February 12	1 st annual mathNEWS Disco Appreciation Festival... fun for all!
February 14	St. Valentine's Day (Bah, humbug! Oops... wrong day.)
February 17-18	Study Moment

An Evening of Star Wars

Warning! Spoilers Ahead!

January 31st, 1997, was a day that many Star Wars fans had been waiting for. Not only did this day present many of us with the opportunity to see Star Wars: A New Hope on the big screen for the first time, but it also saw the premiere of the Special Edition of Star Wars. This new print features better sound, extra scenes, and upgraded special effects. So, what was last Friday like?

You may have noticed it yourself. The classes seemed just a tad smaller that day. Sure, Friday classes are never full, but there were just enough people missing that you could tell something was up. You see, if you wanted good seats for the 7:00pm show, you'd better be in line by 1:00pm, or else know someone who will be.

Star Wars was not showing at the King's College theatre, but at the Hyland, which is just a bit further down King and north at Ontario St. Unlike King's College, the manager of the Hyland would not allow you to get a refund on tickets already purchased. When a member of our party cancelled a couple of hours before the show, we weren't able to get rid of the extra ticket. This manager should learn a thing or two about customer service.

There is only one theatre at the Hyland, and it's a big one. The seats filled very fast, and the curtains opened at 7:05pm. We were first greeted by a Sprite commercial, and then a behind-the-scenes look at the upcoming animated film by Fox, Anastasia. Next was a trailer for Volcano, which splashed the catchphrase "The coast is toast" one word at a time, with special emphasis on the word "toast", prompting one moviegoer to say "They should have called it Toast!" We then saw a very brief teaser for Jurassic Park: The Lost World, which only contained a few shots of a T-Rex. Following that was a trailer for the action-comedy Men In Black, and another volcano flick, Dante's Peak.

At that point we finally got the Feature Presentation clip, followed by the Twentieth Century Fox and LucasFilm logos. But instead of starting Star Wars, we got trailers for The Empire Strikes Back and Return of the Jedi. From what the trailer showed, it looks like we get to see more of the snow monster in Empire, and the pit in the desert in Jedi has been replaced with what looks like Audrey-II from Little Shop of Horrors.

And finally, we got to see Star Wars itself. There were only two new scenes added to the film. The infamous Jabba the Hutt scene, with a CGI Jabba that looks very fake. Some moviegoers speculated that what we saw was supposed to be a hologram projection, but Han steps on Jabba during the scene. Once of the biggest cheers of the evening was for Boba Fett's cameo at the end of that scene. I felt that the scene wasn't really necessary for the plot; it has almost identical dialogue to the scene with Han and Greedo just minutes before, and Jabba seems too forgiving.

The other added scene took place just before the attack on the Death Star. Biggs catches up with Luke as they get ready to board their X-Wings. There were other Biggs scenes filmed in 1976/77 that could have been added as well, but they only added this one back in.

The other changes to the film are improved sound and visual effects. In the sound department, LucasFilm outdid themselves. The sound, music, and sound effects are crisp and sound great. Most of the extra and enhanced visual effects are great as well.

We see more of Mos Eisley, the Death Star attack looks fantastic, and when Han runs into some Storm Troopers inside the Death Star, it's just fall-down funny. What's surprising is what ILM didn't change. The lightsabres still lose their colour occasionally, the technical readouts are still VIC-20 in appearance, and the creature in the garbage compactor is still the same silly eyeball and tube.

The most controversial change of all is the Han/Greedo scene in the Cantina Bar. Originally, Han either fires first, or Greedo and Han fire near simultaneously, depending on who you ask. But in the new version, Greedo fires first, at point blank range, and misses! Then, Han fires. Apparently, Lucas wanted to show that this was self-defence. But the way it appears on screen is absurd. Greedo missed Han at point blank range? The blast itself misses by at least a foot. Some fans are also upset at the change in Han's character. They liked that Han fired first, in order to save his life. Han knows that if he waits for Greedo to fire first, that it would be too late, so Han takes the initiative, and fires first.

Amazingly, Entertainment Weekly called this one of the big risks of 1997. But the Special Edition of Star Wars: A New Hope managed to pull in \$36.2 million over its first weekend. It could easily reach \$100 million for the rerelease.

See you at The Empire Strikes Back!

CAS

The Children's Hour

The University of Waterloo
Drama Department
invites you!

"The Children's Hour" details the damage done when spiteful Mary Tilford whispers to her influential grandmother that her headmistresses Martha Dobie and Karen Wright are involved in "unnatural acts". Unable to disprove the lie, Martha and Karen lose their school and a subsequent libel case. At the play's conclusion, the dangerous lie is revealed but it is too late to restore lives ruined forever.

by Lillian Hellman

February 12 - 15

8:00 pm
Theatre of the Arts
Modern Languages

Faculty of Mathematics
Dean's Honours List

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement throughout their undergraduate careers the following students will "GRADUATE ON THE DEAN'S HONOUR LIST" at Spring Convocation, May 31, 1997 and have their names displayed in gold on the walls of the Faculty Colloquium room (MC 5158).

CHOW Gabriel Hoi-Yan	H C&O & CS
JOANIS Eric Jean Sylvain	H COMP SCI
UBEIKA Jeffrey Jason	HC MTH/CA
YADYANATH Rahul	HC ACT SCI
WONG Kai Ching Andy	HC MTH/CA
YEOH Eng Kim	H ACTS&STAT

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement throughout their undergraduate careers the following students will "GRADUATE WITH DISTINCTION" at Spring Convocation, May 31, 1997.

DUCHARME Robert Gerard	HC MTH/CA
FUNG Lawrence Ho Ming	HC MTH/CA
HOOD Trevor James	HC MTH/CA
JOHNSON Bryce Alan	HC MTH/CA
KHALILIEH William	HC MTH/CA
LU Fletcher	H COMP SCI
MARR Aaron Allan	HC MTH/CA
TYE Patrick Kevin	G MATH-3
WONG Bonnie	HC MTH/CA
YANG Rita Suk Yin	HC MTH/CA
YU Wai Fung Alfreda	H CS & OR

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement during the Fall 1996 term, the following students qualified for the Dean's Honours List.

BABINEAU Denise	BALLINGER Lisa Christine
BARCLAY Sheila Kristine	BARNES Jordan Douglas
BAUMAN Shane Brendon	BEARE Brian D.
BELL Jason	BENNETT Joshua Michael
BENSON Daniel Ashley C.	BILSON Richard Charles
BOURNE Steven Byron A.	BRAUN Kristopher Andrew
BRIDSON Robert Edward	BROWN Michael Stephen
BRYDON James Edward	BULKOVSHTEYN Anna
CHADHA Dushyant	CHAN Ina Lynn
CHAN Justin Tak	CHAN Kevin Ka Wing
CHAN Patrick Shiu Cheung	CHAN Peggy
CHEN Jason Qiang	CHEUNG Donald
CHEUNG Henry Kin Cheong	CHEUNG Donny Chun-Tung
CHEUNG Kevin King Hin	CHONG Jacqueline Chor-Ying
CHUNG Ricky Wai Kay	CONTE Vincent G.
DANEK Robert	DOMARATZKI Michael
DROZD Michal Jacek	DUBASH Neville
DUNNE Declan P.	EL-KOURA George
ENGEL Trudy S.	FINE Brenda Anne
FRIESEN Douglas Edward	FUNG Pui Yin Grace
FUNG Serena Cheuk-Ling	GARNIER Matthew Anthony
GENTLE Cassidy	GIULIANI Kenneth J.
GJENERO Boris	GMACH Frances Christine
GRAHAM Robert	GUENDELMAN Eran
HAGEY Warren Craig	HARE Kevin George
HARITON Nicolas N. C.	HERDMAN Joseph Brian
HERLING Daniel	HILDEBRAND Matthew Philip
HO Clinton Hung Kwan	HO Ryan Yin-Kei

HO Wing Hong	HOSHINO Richard
HUANG Queenie Wan Chu	HUH Woonghee Tim
IU Ming Yee	JAMIESON William Trevor
JEFFREY James Richard	JEFFS Lynda Elaine
JOANIS Eric Jean Sylvain	JUE Cameron B.
KAMINSKI Piotr	KENNEDY Brennan
KER Alyssa	KHALILIEH William
KISMAN Derek Ian Edwin	KLASSEN Matthew D.
KOCH Daniel Gerald	KOEPKE Jeremy Jens
KOHLI Simardeep Singh	KOS Ondrej
KRISHNAMOORTHY Sreela	KWOK Hilary Shuk Nae
KWOK Kin Fai	LACROIX Michael Andrew
LAIOS Nicholas	LAIT Jeffrey Michael
LAKOTA Darko	LAM Iris Sze Man
LAM Joyce	LAM Maple Chi-Shing
LAM My-chau	LATOURE Frederic
LAU Tin Pui Tess	LAU Wai Tak
LEE John Sie Yuen	LEE Yi-Jin
LEUNG Benny Wai Shun	LEWIS R. William
LHOTAK Ondrej	LI Samuel
LIM Woei Chet	LISI Samuel Thomas
LO Chi Chiu Paul Andrew	LO Kwok Wai
LOK Wai-Yi Begonia	LUNG Florence Sau Chi
MACDOUGALL Greg Hardy	MADER Daniel Jonathan
MAHARA Ravindra	MAK Wing Chit Raymond
MAKKI Salma	MARJERISON Carla Dee
MATTHEWS David Andrew	MAURICE Robbie John
MCILROY Trevor Ryan	MCDOWELL Sean Morgan
MERLO Paul H.	MICHAIL Ashraf Ayman
MOORE Lucas Oliver	MORAN Jodi
MUNROE James Ross	NG Man Yuen Jack
NING Daisy Hiu Mei	PALMER Michael A.
PAYTON Christopher E. James	POON Andy Kwok Yiu
PREST Ian Jeremy	PURBHOO Kevin
QUAH June Boon Hong	QUINN Laim Ronald
RAJWANI Amal	RENNISON Adam Joseph
REYNOLDS Franklin Wesley	ROBINS David Benjamin
ROCHE Austin Duncan	RONEN Lea Carole
RUETZ Christina	RUSSELL Elizabeth
RYDER Angie	SAUL Jeffrey H. B.
SETO Calvin	SHAH Mayur Mahendra
SHAHIDI Reza	SHUTE Jeffrey James
SLOOT Steven Paul	SRIVASTAVA Raman
STEPHEN Tamon Muri	SYMONDS Michael Edward
TEH Yee Whye	THE Dennis
THOMPSON Lara Robin	THORNBACk James Linton
THORNE Matthew Edward	TOCHIP JR Ramon
TSANG Sara Shu-Nga	TSE Lanny
UBEIKA Jeffrey Jason	VANDEBURGH Ian William T.
VANDEREEMS Kathy Ann	VANDERPLOEG Michael Kevin
WADDELL Ryan Thomas	WAN Alienne
WAN Benny M.	WELDON Shona
WESTAWAY Lora	WHYTE James
WONG Ian C.	WONG Michael Ka Chuen
WONG Sabrina Y.	WONG Sunny Hon-sum
WOO Norman	YAZDANI Soroosh
YEE Wai Ling	YEE Wai Min
YEOH Eng Kim	YIP William
YONG Alexander T.	ZADEL Mark

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement during the May 1996 term, the following students has been added retroactively to the Dean's Honour List.

MARSHALL Ryan	MISHNA Marnie
SABHARWAL Anil	

The Wonderful World of Grimby

In an effort to sway the voting math community (i.e.: nobody) to vote in their favour, the NO side has enlisted my aid. Who am I? Why was I chosen? What is my aid? (Hmmm... throw in a when, where and a how and we have ourselves a full-blown mystery...)

Well, to be frank, I am nobody. Just ID# 9514... (er... best NOT to give that out); another faceless number at this fine institution of higher learning. So, why was I chosen for this task? I wasn't really... I just wanted to escape being another faceless number. I wanted to be a faceless name in the next issue of *mathNEWS* instead, so I decided to take time out of my 'net addiction and collect some of my random, erratic thoughts into one body of text.

So, this leaves one unanswered question: how will I be aiding the NO side? By boring you enough that you'll see why *mathNEWS* really does need help. Okay, so that's not entirely true (I'll leave what is and what isn't to you). In case nobody noticed, last issue was a dismal 12 pages long.

mathNEWS was (is?) in dire need of submissions, and I'm not talking your run-of-the-mill filler crap here, I'm talking anything from Shakespeare-like prose, Barry-like wit, McFarlane-like artwork to Simpsons-esque offbeat twisted humour.

Now, I do not profess to having any of the aforementioned skills or abilities, however I will do my best to entertain and delight you all, else make you run in horror... either/or, I'm happy.

Anyhoo, I figured I'd kick off my first article with a list...

The Top Ten Things That Annoy Me

10. People who refuse to give in to the latest Star Wars hype... I mean, c'mon! It's Star Wars!!!
9. People who aren't in math yet still take a copy of *mathNEWS*... they don't pay for it, they shouldn't take it.
8. People who reboot my computer terminal after I just finished xlock-ing it. (if you don't get this, see #9)
7. Computer lag! (try BBSing during prime hours!)
6. People who BBS during prime hours. (Guilty of my own crime)
5. People who dislike Moosehead (The greatest beer, period.) [*That and 50. — CalcBoyEd.*]
4. Television (especially advertisements, and sitcom "lauff trax")
3. The twit who stole my bike seat! (and all thieves for that matter)
2. Self-indulgent top ten lists. They are pretty lame and boring to most readers, which reminds me, I'm going to rebel by not having an entry for #1.

And now, as I prepare to depart, I leave you with these three thoughts: *mathNEWS* needs your submissions; McDonald's "food" only looks, smells, and tastes like real food; and finally, always bear in mind, purple IS a fruit.

Amidst a magical foglike aura, a thunderous clap is heard, and then like the setting sun he is gone...

Grimby
a.k.a. Richard S. Fex

mastHEAD

Why is Freakazoid only on Fridays?

Hello there fellow readers. It's a crisp Monday night and production is running smoothly at a fast and furious pace. Well, it's moving. Well, "fast" is a relative word, as in fast compared to other things that move not as... fast. Okay, things are a little slow tonight but we'll get the ABBA cranked up and things will just take off. Nothing like disco music to inspire the hard-workin' masses.

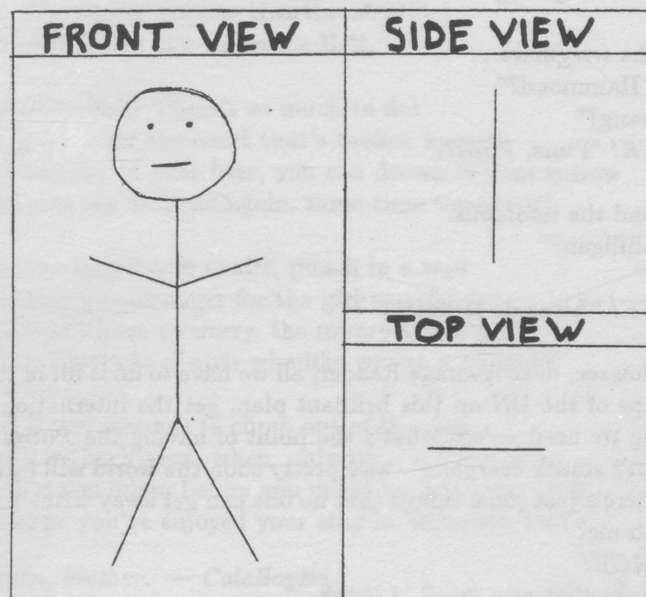
Anyways, here's all the courageous types who braved the elements (a nice, clear evening) to help out with production tonight, along with who they voted for in the recent Fed elections:

John Swan (All candidates from the U(W) Procrastinators Party), Ian Milligan (John "Hannibal" Smith for Prez, B.A. Baracus VP Internal, "Howlin' Mad" Murdock for VP Education and "Faceman" for VP Finance.), Mike "Hammer" Hammond (Yakko Warner for Prez, Wakko Warner for VP Finance, Dot Warner for VP Internal, and Sandy Atwal for VP Education because I feel sorry for him.), Darren Rigby (I nominated by myself for all positions, and voted for myself. I won them all too (I got more votes than anyone else, didn't I?) However, the strain was so bad that I had to resign.), Mark Thornton (I didn't care about the VPs and I didn't vote for Prez, either. I couldn't decide between the God of all Gods and greatest leader of all time, André C. and the Imperial Queen of MC, Sarah K.), Stuart Pollock (Fed Hall... oh.), Mike Thorsley (Mr. Burns for President.) and Chadwick Severn (Pinky and the Brain.)

Thanks as always go to Domino's for the yummy pizza and refreshments, and to Marion and all the hard-working teamsters at Graphic Services.

Brian "Calculus Cowboy" Fox
(Elvis for Prez and Shaft for the other 3 positions.)

PORTRAIT OF A stickman



Post-Teen Angst: Fumer Peut Vous Tuer

The Smackinthehead Patrol

— or —

"I ain't gettin' on no plane, Hannibal!"

Have you ever been so infuriated with someone, so fed up with her nonsensical behaviour, so downright exasperated with his blatant disregard for the laws of sentience that you just don't know what to do?

"Yes, every time I read this stinkin' column," grumbles the peanut gallery to the stars that is the Average Reader.

Well have I got the solution for *you!* I propose that the UN sets up a special committee — namely, the *Smackinthehead Patrol*. Its mandate: to seek out moronic and inane behaviour wherever it rears its bloated form, and deliver a good, clean smack in the head for it.

I figure they could set up an international taskforce, with offices spanning the globe, and an 800-number to call.

"That's right! Just dial 1-800-SMACK-EM, and within minutes, a smack will be delivered to the head of your naming! No more fuming over your friends' indecisiveness! No more tooth-gnashing about your enemies' foul play! A simple, toll-free phone call is all it takes — call now!"

"I'm stuck," laments Average Reader. "It's such a *pea-brained* idea, yet I have the urge to use it. Repeatedly..."

And that's the beauty of it! No matter how opposed to it the leaders of the world might be, they can *always* think of someone to use the *Patrol* on.

It works on the semi-famous...

"Richard Simmons?"

"Yes?"

SMACK! "Whatareyou?!"

... the regulars...

"Xavier Aburto?"

"Uh-huh..."

SMACK! "Lighting the tables on fire?!"

... the *irregulars*...

"Mike Hammond?"

"You rang?"

SMACK! "Puns. Puns?!"

... and the infamous.

"Ian Milligan?"

"Yup?"

SMACK! "Atras de la linia!"

So you see, dear Average Reader, all we have to do is fill in the high-ups of the UN on this brilliant plan, get the international funding we need — 'cos what's the point of having the *Patrol* if you can't smack *everyone* — and pretty soon the world will learn that there's just some things that no one can get away with. Are ya with me?

SMACK!

I'll take that as a "yes". I think.

Ian "Neil Young Complex" Milligan

The Y₀ Files

Pay Phones: The Booth Is Out There

When we last saw our hoagies, they were under the heat lamps at Subway™. Our heroes, on the other hand, were cooling their heels by *Break*, the Math Faculty's lovely reminder of the state of Kitcherloo art.

"How are your heels, Scummy?" asked Duller.

"Cool," replied Scummy, "and wet. Can I put my shoes back on now?"

Reshod, they squished their way across Ring-Around-the-Rosie Road, Duller squishing before, and Scummy squishing behind. (Squish, squish.)

Suddenly they were washed with blue light. A mauve light then dried them, while a puce light ironed them until they were totally wrinkle-free.

"The lights!" shouted Duller. Newly cleaned (and outdoor fresh), the duo scampered past the large odorous dumpster, conveniently not noticing the semi-human figures wearing white uniforms with "Food Disservices Acquisition Crew" embroidered on the back in Day-Glo chartreuse.

They came around the building displaying the sign "Cheerie-O's".

"So *this* is where disco went to die," remarked Scummy. "So much for your flashing lights, Duller."

"Wait, Scummy! I think our next contact is inside."

"We have *another* shadowy contact? We can't even wait to kill them off at the end of the season?"

Duller remained silent, because, after all, it was a rhetorical question.

They entered Cheerie-O's cautiously, aware that any move could be their last. (It was also, coincidentally enough, the first day of the rest of their lives, but neither noticed.) They approached a large man wearing a *mathNOOZ* T-shirt and a haircut reminiscent of Dagwood Bumstead.

"Hi, I'm Brian, and I'll be your shadowy contact for this installment," said the man. "I understand you're looking for evidence of extraterrestrial involvement here at the University of Kitcherloo."

"Right," replied Duller.

"Well, too bad!" laughed Brian. "We can't even get *extracurricular* involvement here at the university! But I'll tell you what: you should check out these artifacts by Warren Hagey Hall."

"Why?" asked Scummy, interested despite herself.

"They're obviously symbols of a culture which has a morphological basis akin to semiotic bafflebab. That and no human being could have possibly picked that colour scheme. You will likely find something there of great interest."

"Like what?" asked a hooked (and slightly drooling) Duller.

"I could tell you," replied Brian. "But then..."

"Then *what?!?*" chorused both Duller and Scummy.

"Then Hammer wouldn't have a cliffhanger! And people wouldn't have a reason to read this column in three weeks. Not that they really have a reason to *now*... but I'm afraid that this column, nonetheless, will have to be

continued in next issue...

Mike "Special Agent Fox Hammer" Hammond

Tips from the Psuedo-Expert

Plans for Reading Week(end)

As I began my day, spending my time hearing about the joys of actuarial science, my mind tended to wander for a brief time about what I would do with the Reading Weekend this faculty has given to me. Fortunately, being in statistics and actuarial science, my time has pretty well been spent. However, for those not in Stats, ActSci or CS, you may have a bit more free time on your hands (or some may not bother with their assignments and tests ... they'll keep.) Therefore I shall, in my finite knowledge, give some suggestions on how to spend this break. Of course, my plans involve a lot of stats, but trust me, I am not bitter!

1. Visit Detroit (or any other American city)

To me, every Canadian should go to Detroit. Not only does this city provide an unique opportunity to see another culture, it also assures a Canadian will appreciate his/her homeland even more. Having spent time in Detroit had an effect on me, especially since I almost got lost in this grand metropolis. After crossing the border into Canada, the first thing I did was to have the car stopped and kissed the ground. (Yes, it didn't have a good taste at all.)

As for visiting another city in the States, I would say, "Why not?" Contrary to belief, most Americans are not that arrogant at all; in fact, most of the Americans I met were very helpful in my visit. Just remember, we only have two days off, so the destination should be limited to the Great Lakes area. Some good cities to visit include Cincinnati, Toledo, Erie, Buffalo and Dayton. So, we may not have enough time to go to Daytona, but it is enough time to go to Dayton, although the first thing that you might ask me is, "Why would anyone want to go to Dayton?"

2. Return to your alma mater

O.K., maybe your finances aren't all that great. However, this doesn't mean that one shouldn't go back home again. Returning back to your former high school will benefit not only you but also the community. Every Reading Weekend I receive, I set my path to B.C.I. (Brantford) and converse with my former instructors. As well, I try to find new recruits to add to the U(W) collective and explain to these youngsters what life is like in Mathematics and what they can expect. Sometimes, I show them the books I carry around if I feel like scaring them out of their wits (and believe me, seeing my notes and my Stats textbooks even frightens me).

3. Read up on interesting topics in your field of study

Certainly, I may spend some time divulging into different and interesting topics of statistics, as opposed to the uninteresting concepts that your professors drone on about. For example, I often will go to the Turnkey desk every day, read the newspapers and pick an article apart statistically. When I am not busy, I will often read StatsCan reports or read sections of my textbook not covered by my Stat professors. This alone takes a couple of days. However, given that you have a couple of days off, you should go off the beaten path and do that extra bit to amaze your peers and astonish your

professors. Hey, it beats sitting on your butt all day doing absolutely nothing.

4. Start thinking for articles for the next mathNEWS

I have read the last mathNEWS and something aroused that grey matter between my ears. It was about what mathies could do about our fine publication and how mathies can improve the quality of mathNEWS. The solution was simple; write for us. O.K., I realize that this is relatively difficult to do as compared to understanding C&O 331, but once you start writing, it becomes quite easy. Occasionally, one encounters writer's block, but then our valiant staff finds inspiration and as a result, another fine article is printed before the Jolt™ wears off. Also, participating at production night is good, for not only is there a reward for a job well done, there is also the free nosh. Of course, this is rather shameless propaganda on my part, but as an old axiom says, "If you want something done right, do it yourself."

5. Study! Why do you think this is called Reading Week, just for the hell of it? With all the midterms you will be getting, you won't even have time to breathe!

Hopefully, these suggestions will be helpful in determining how productive a reading weekend should be spent. However, you should have your own plans for this glorious time.

John "Psuedo-Expert" Swan

Valentine Hell

I met a girl who looked so fine
And asked her if she would be mine
With feigned chivalry she did decline
To be my special valentine.

I sank to a place I know too well
Where the sad and lonely only do dwell
No, it's not the famous Heartbreak Hotel
It's even worse, it's Valentine Hell.

Valentine Hell! There's so much to do!
It's perfect for the heart that's broken in two!
You can cry in your beer, you can drown in your sorrow
And you can do it all again, same time tomorrow!

You can knock over chairs, punch in a wall
Expending your anger for the girl you did fall
You won't have to worry, the misery won't end
You'll meet lots of girls who like you as a "friend".

And if you manage to climb out of the well
You'll be back soon, when, only time will tell
We bid you adieu before you crawl back in your shell
We hope you've enjoyed your stay in Valentine Hell.

[Amen, brother. — CalcBoyEd.]

The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly

The Entire Spectrum of the World of TV Advertising

One of the things that struck me while I was watching the Super Bowl (other things that struck me were fists, pop cans, beer bottles, and cold pizza whenever I cheered too loudly for Green Bay) was that the Super Bowl is probably the only time that people actually enjoy watching TV commercials (another time might be the Clio Awards). Corporations pay big bucks for their commercial air time and usually break the bank on the commercials themselves too, probably to justify the cost. It made me think about all of the commercials I've seen in the past few months and it especially made me remember the two I liked most, the two I felt were complete wastes of effort, and one that was so bad that I still have nightmares about it. When I talk about these commercials, I'm assuming that most of you, my fiercely loyal readers (except the goof downstairs who admitted he didn't read my last article), have seen these skills so I won't describe them in too much detail. Without any more preamble, here we go!

The Good

Snickers Candy Bar Football Ads - This isn't all that fair because it's more of an ad campaign than one commercial (it's actually three) but they're all priceless. Two of them deal with a football player that has been hit so hard, he thinks he's Batman. The third deals with a groundskeeper for the Kansas City Chiefs who, when painting the team name in the end zone, spelled it wrong (a great aerial shot of the bewildered groundskeeper walking on the grass that says "CHEFS"). The first time I saw these I howled with delight. Unfortunately, I could only see them during football games that the Canadian networks didn't horn in on and, hence, I think I saw two of them only once. The memory of the football player trying to enlist his teammate as his sidekick, however, will live long in my memory.

Dodge Minivan Snowball Ads - This has been on for over a year so we've all seen it. But, even after a year, it's still great! If you forget, this is the one with the minivan with the sliding doors on both sides and the two kids who try to pelt the truck with snowballs, only to have it backfire and both kids getting each other's snowball in the kisser (all in hilarious slow motion!). The part that always gets me laughing is the second kid getting plowed in the face. It brings out the sadistic humour that we all possess, especially when it's little punks who are getting what they deserve. Being someone who doesn't appreciate people throwing stuff at my car, the only improvement I would make to this commercial is putting a rock or a piece of ice into each snowball.

The Bad

Harvey's Ultra Burger Interrogation Ads - Again this is an ad campaign with several commercials of the same ilk and of which none are even remotely good. These are the ones with the nerd in the white lab coat asking the hamburger skill-testing questions. Talk about STUPID! The idea is to show that his burger is big and "thick" (a pun! Get it! I did and it *still* sucks!)

Deadpan humour works best when combining it with a massive understatement of humourous nature and definitely *not* with idiotic humour that appeals to the lowest common denominator. If there is actually a person alive today who sincerely feels that these commercials are genuinely thigh-slapping, I'll eat my own shit. Luckily for Harvey's, as long as McDonald's is around, their commercials won't even be the worst in the industry.

Ricolah Throat Lozenges - REEEECOOOOLAAAAA! Yes, now you know which one I'm talking about. Kinda makes you want to go to their corporate headquarters, pull out a machine gun, and shoot anything that twitches. Better yet, nuke the picturesque Alpine hillside on which the guys in the Lederhosen are standing. The only thing worse than watching this commercial is watching it with a crushing hangover. If I remember correctly, the commercials are only 15 seconds long instead of the traditional 30. While this may offer some relief, it has a down side in that there is usually another one that rears its annoying head a few seconds later. Think of it as a disease as painful as Polio but with the tenacity of Herpes.

The Ugly

Rotavision - AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGGGGGGH-HHHH! Make it STOP! Surprisingly, many of the people who are nice enough to let me talk to them have never heard this. That may be because it's mostly on TSN and hence non-sports junkies don't see it. It's the only instance that I can think of in which not liking sports is an asset. The commercial's production values are so low that people limbo under them. It looks as if it was shot with the neighbour's Sony Handicam and comes complete with an inner-city-type rap jingle that is horrifyingly awful. I'm sure the singer fashions himself to be a really hip, urban jungle gangsta rapper but he's nothing more than an atrociously pathetic wannabe. I'm sure the Rotavision clowns threw their entire advertising budget of \$50 behind this commercial believing that it would be the boost that their product needed to become a household name. Instead, it will be the final nail in the coffin of a company whose only lasting memory will be that it's a hysterically bad commercial. I'm actively rooting for this company to go belly-up before the snow melts although having it around for one more minute seems to be a travesty.

A short note to those who have experienced extensive trauma due to the Rotavision commercial: you are definitely not alone.

Graham "Electronic Eye" Rogers

The Philosopher's Stoned

And he's also too damn busy to come up with anything this week. Go read your algebra text or something instead.

Matt "So-Krates" Walsh

Now Playing

Well, I'm on work term, and that means plenty of time to watch movies (although my movie-watching expenditures have been drastically cut due to an ugly incident with my computer — sparks aren't good, are they?). Here's my thoughts on what I've seen this term.

Ghosts of Mississippi

Ghosts of Mississippi is about a struggle, spanning over 25 years, of a widow (Whoopi Goldberg) to get justice for the murder of her husband, a black civil rights leader. Alec Baldwin plays the part of her lawyer, who prosecutes the case even when his family turns against him. In a most evil and villainous portrayal, James Woods acts the role of the racist, self-righteous bigot who is accused of the murder. This movie is definitely worth seeing, because it reminds us of the racism that is still present in our society and all of the evil that is done simply because of lack of knowledge and understanding about other people. ★★★

Metro

Two words describe this movie — Eddie Murphy. If you like Eddie Murphy, you'd probably like this movie, and if you don't, it's a pretty safe assumption that you wouldn't. In *Metro*, Eddie plays the role of a police hostage negotiator. Of course, anything relating to that soon disappears, as it becomes more interesting and exciting for him to pursue a criminal himself. Eddie Murphy being rude, a pathetic romantic subplot, and exciting, while completely unrealistic action characterize this flick. Not worth the price of admission, although perhaps a good midterm stress reliever (leave your brain at home). **

Star Wars

This is one of those times when I'm glad that I'm not on campus, because I'm sure that I would get mauled by angry Star Wars fanatics for giving the remake anything less than 5 stars. However, this production was worse than the original — I'd have rather watched the original on a television than what I saw in the theatre. The sound effects were terrible — the 'improvements', in addition to being damaging to the ears, sounded worse than in the original. One bright point in the movie was one of the new scenes that was inserted, but other than that, *Star Wars* was a let down. I imagine that anyone who wants to see it will go anyway, but don't expect anything more than the chance to see a badly done remake on the big screen. ★★★

Warren "The Movie Milkman" Hagey

Yes, we are on the Web.

If you're ever wandering the Web, drop in on *mathNEWS* at <http://www.undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mathnews>.

Send comments or opinions to mathnews@undergrad.math, the BLACK BOX, or our mailbox in the MathSoc office.

Please, no letterbombs.

Alternative Proofs

We're all familiar with the "Proof by contradiction" and "Proof by induction", but what about these less frequently used but equally effective proofs? Watch for them soon in a lecture near you.

- **Proof by convection.** Lots of hot air and hand waving.
- **Proof by reduction.** At each step, ignore some detail of the original problem. Continue the reduction process until the original problem has been reduced to something trivial, at which point the proof is complete.
- **Proof by obfuscation.** Generously apply Greek letters, sequences, series, partial derivatives, complex numbers, π , e and Larch traits. Distance your solution from the original problem as much as possible. Once your audience looks sufficiently perplexed, cancel everything, write " $=0$, Q.E.D.", and smile confidently.
- **Proof by trepidation.** Write down something which is obviously wrong, then loudly and angrily defy anyone to prove otherwise.
- **Proof by delegation.** "This proof is left as an exercise."
- **Proof by truncation.** Cleverly leave your proof until the end of class. When class time is up and you have not yet finished the proof, announce "We'll continue this proof next class" and then promptly forget about it.
- **Proof by intoxication.** Every time you write an equal sign, take a shot of Jack Daniels. By the time you're done the proof, it makes sense to you even if nobody else gets it.
- **Proof by prediction.** Write down what you want to prove, then predict that one day it will be proven. Whip out some Tarot cards to support your claim.
- **Proof by post-hypnotic suggestion.** Begin proof with "You are growing verrrry sleepy..."
- **Proof by condescension.** Do lots of things "by inspection", use the phrase "It is blatantly obvious that" and scoff at all questions that arise.
- **Proof by divine intervention.** Somewhere in the middle of your proof a miracle occurs.
- **Proof by religion.** Describe your proof, tell your students they have to take it on faith, and instruct them to go home and pray to the all powerful Lambda that they, mere mortals, may be granted the insight to comprehend even a smidgen of this wisdom of the ages.
- **Proof by bovine excretion.** Reference Spivak to support the part of your proof you have absolutely no idea how to do yourself. Use exact page numbers.

Josh Cameron

gridCOMMENTS

Greetings, Gridders!

The previous grid had a few things backwards. The word 'adventures' made its debut in the English language. I reversed the initials of Kurt Cobain's name. I made a Mexican state the capital of its city. All kinds of silly things. I've been a little distracted lately.

If it seems that the grid this issue seems subpar for me, it's because I've had something else on my mind. I know it sounds crazy, but I think someone's been following me ever since the Engineering Scunt. Every once in a while I'll get this feeling like I'm being watched, but when I turn around, no one's there. I think I must just be paranoid.

Anyway, the previous grid contained 'bridge' entries that traversed the entire width of the grid. Three brave souls made their way to the other side in both the Cryptic and Unconventional. Three perfect Unconventional submissions were received from Ian Facey, Chris Wooff, and Boo Boo & Cindy Bear. The winners by random draw are Boo Boo & Cindy Bear. (Don't let Yogi catch you.) BB&C had the only mistake in the Cryptics, but the submissions from the other two solvers were completely correct. The winner here is Chris Wooff. Congratulations to all. Your prizes are available in the MathSoc office.

I got two answers to the last gridQUESTION. Both of them said that mouse balls were being used for juggling purposes.

For this offering, I've found another bizarre word in NI2, and I have incorporated the definition into the grid through the use of doubled letters: in thirteen places in the grid two letters have been squashed together into one square. Read these squares row by row to get the definition of the word at 20-Across. Note please that 30-Across is unlikely to appear in a collegiate dictionary.

Send your solutions via email to djrigby@undergrad.math or drop a hard copy in the BLACK BOX by next Production Night, Monday, February 24th by 6:30 pm. And don't forget to answer the gridQUESTION: Should I bother coming up with a gridQUESTION?

Gridby

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

Announcing...

Coming this summer!

In the summer of 1996, Mike Hammond, Mala Krishnan, Peter Moore, Will Chartrand and I competed in the 'Beware the Leopard' incarnation of The Game, a puzzling competition that sends its participants across Southern Ontario in a state of bewilderment. We won. This means that we have the right to create our own Game this summer. You'll hear more news of this epic event in future issues of *mathNEWS*, as well as our soon-to-be-completed website and other university publications.

Among these releases will be preclues. Each preclue will lead to the name of an item that we strongly suggest you bring with you when you compete (and we know you want to!). Some items will be directly helpful in solving our puzzles. Others will be useful in another way. I don't want to reveal too many details so early, so without further introduction, here is your first preclue.

Solve the double crostic below. The message in the grid will give you the name of the item we suggest you bring. Be on the lookout for a hidden message. Good luck!

Gridby

Preclue #1: The Spellbook

- A. Pair of islands in the Bahamas (10-22-7-45-32-27)
- B. Street (4-17-33-42-8-23-35)
- C. Eavestrough feature (30-16-43-28-19-37)
- D. "Use your ____" (38-46-31-26-18-2)
- E. 60's spy sitcom, 2 words (21-41-24-11-1-6-14-39)
- F. Credit card pitfall (5-47-12-25-34-20-15-29)
- G. Leash (44-9-36-40-13-3)

E 1	D 2	G 3	B 4	F 5	E 6	A 7		B 8	G 9	A10	E11	F12
G13	E14	F15		C16	B17	D18	C19	F20	E21	A22	B23	E24
F25		D26	A27	C28	F29	C30	D31	A32	B33	F34	B35	
G36	C37	D38	E39	G40		E41	B42	C43	G44	A45	D46	F47

Little Known Fact

Not many people realize that Newton actually *invented* gravity. Before Newton, people just kinda floated around a lot.

A Brief Excerpt

From an Interview between CalcBoyEd and the Devil

Brian: I'd sell my soul for some good filler...

Devil: Consider it done!

mathNEWSquiz #2

Valuable prizes to be won

Hiya, folks! We only got two, count 'em, two submissions for last issue's squiz! Hey, you can receive valuable prizes if you submit (provided that you win, of course). Anyway, enough of my ranting. Here are the answers from last issue's squiz: **Song Lyrics:** 1) "Give It Away" — Red Hot Chili Peppers; 2) "Purple Toupee" — They Might Be Giants; 3) "Basket Case" — Green Day; 4) "Bullet the Blue Sky" — U2; 5) "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road" — Elton John; The theme is 'colour'; **Authors:** 1) Tom Clancy; 2) Dale Brown; 3) William Horwood; 4) John Keegan; 5) Margaret Atwood; **Potpourri:** 1) Potatoes; 2) Pixar; 3) Hanyu Pinyin; 4) John Mann, Geoff Kelly, Hugh McMillan, Vince Ditrich; 5) Minority Leader; **Movie Quotes:** 1) "The First Wives Club"; 2) "Emma"; 3) "The American President"; 4) "Ransom"; 5) "Army of Darkness";

These are the people who submitted this issue, with the scores for their excellent submissions in parentheses: Jason Smulevitch (16), and the winner is ... Ian "The Word Guy" Facey (21)! You can pick up your prize from the MathSoc office!

And now, on with the show!

Song Lyrics

One point each for song name and artist, and one extra point for general theme

- "Swingin' to the drums,
Swingin' to guitar,
Swingin' to the bass
In the back of my car."
- "Your love is better than chocolate,
Better than anything else that I've tried.
Oh, love is better than chocolate.
Everyone here knows how to cry."
- "Not everyone in New York hates Andrew Lloyd Webber.
May his trousers fall down
As he bows to the Queen and the Crown."
- "Always know sometimes, think it's me.
But you know and I know and it's a dream.
I think I know of thee, ah, yes, but it's all wrong.
That is, I think I disagree."
- "The wind in the willow played
Love's sweet melody.
But all of those vows we made
Were never to be."

Ren & Stimpy!

- What breed is Ren?
- What is the name of the man who is Ren & Stimpy's owner at the dog show?
- What is the name of the company from whom Stimpy wins \$47 M?
- What is Stimpy's "first material possession", and in which episodes do we hear it referred to as such?
- In "The Littlest Giant," what are all the thing Ren does for Stimpy when Stimpy saves the farm?

CHiPs

- Name our dynamic motorcycle-riding duo. (Bonus mark for last names!)
- What *Star Trek: The Next Generation* star had a recurring bit-part (as one of the other police officers)?
- How many points are on a CHP officer's badge?
- What woman's name was used by the dispatcher to refer to motorcycle units?
- On what network did *CHiPs* originally air?

Elections

- During the U.S. federal election of 1996, California had a referendum. What was the referendum about?
- Who is Boutros-Boutros Ghali's successor for Secretary-General of the United Nations? (Bonus: Name his country of origin.)
- Who was elected leader of Chechnya?
- What former Pakistani cricketer is running for Prime Minister?
- Who is the leader of Bosnia-Herzegovina?

Okay, everyone, I wanna see submissions! Remember to have your submissions to me by Feb. 24th, either by submitting them in the BLACK BOX across from the Confy Lounge, or by mailing them to scepollo@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca. Good luck!

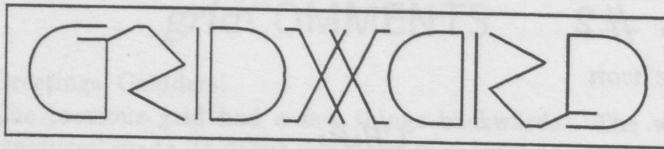
Mike "Hammer" Hammond
Ian "Neil Young Complex" Milligan
Stuart "Jean-Guy!" Pollock
John "World Watcher" Swan

Very Important Proofs

Proof that New England won the Super Bowl

- New England is famous for its clam chowder
- Clams are sold by Captain Highliner
- Captain Highliner's boss would be a Commodore
- Commodore computers include the C64 and Amiga 1000
- 64 and 1000 are cubes
- Cubes are not balls
- If it's not a ball it's a strike
- A strike is one super bowl

Therefore, New England won the Super Bowl.



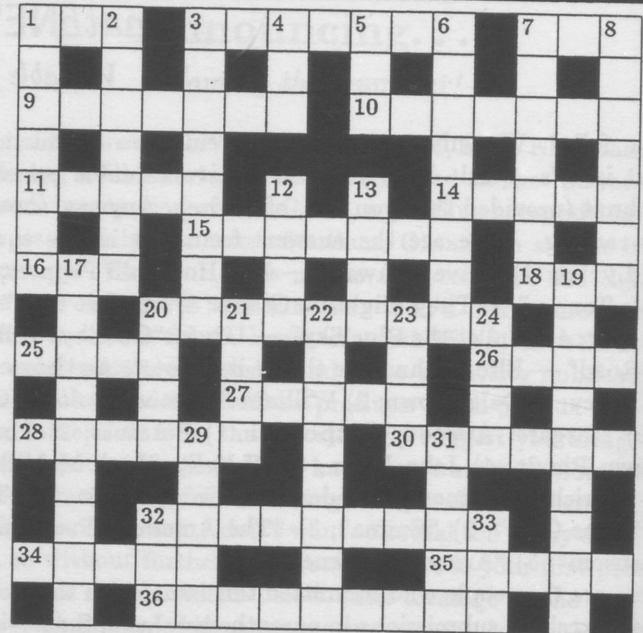
Grid Clues for Military Term (Unconventional)

Across

1. Wear a groove in the floor
3. Our contribution to the space shuttle
7. Some people really know how to shovel it
9. Monopoly spaces, generally
10. State bordering the Gulf of Mexico
11. ____ in the dark (2 wds.)
14. **Strong** drink
15. Study of the environment
16. Pathetic
18. Sufficient condition for a woodwind
20. *See instructions*
25. It can be deserted
26. Susan, to "All My Children" fans
27. Escape before the wedding
28. Shocked
30. Related to great pain
32. Most cozy
34. Boredom
35. Oysters' treasures
36. Recovered from a dead end

Down

1. Huddled masses
2. Connected, like gears
3. Captain of the *Calypso*
4. Mornings (abbr.)
5. Programming language
6. Us (3 wds.)
7. Drool
8. Talked one's way out of
12. Brush counterpart
13. Child's stick
17. Homework à la UW
19. People who draw things out
20. Greek consonant
21. ArtToon: [Frogs on lily pads, subjects of painter, singing]
"We're in the ____! We're in the ____! ..."
22. Dash component
23. Flightless bird
24. Lottery game
29. Indifferent
31. Québécois peninsula
32. Heavy metal instrument?
33. Mr. Turner



Grid Clues (Cryptic)

Across

1. I leave bucket for a friend. (3)
3. On marriage: it turns into wartime. (7)
7. Trend will taper off finally. (3)
9. Prophet reflects about clear puzzles. (7)
10. Kennels import big bags; Lassie'd eat such. (7)
11. Body of water around center is swamp. (5)
14. Fish are caught up, skinned. (5)
15. Compared to love song about Barbie's boyfriend. (7)
16. Descendant announced by mistake. (3)
18. Bug without one is left there. (3)
20. Animal I get released from cattle farm east of Dutch capital city. (9)
25. Light-coloured animal sticks its head in tree. (4)
26. Witches' gathering without cold cooking receptacle. (4)
27. Hide upon hearing "do-re-mi." (5)
28. Listen to hoofbeat on plain. (6)
30. Eagle (American) internally shining. (6)
32. Hot pink, apart from extremities! (9)
34. Moral fibre and French prostitutes. (5)
35. For example, a King and Queen resemble serpent. (5)
36. At gym, I'd retracted sin, became pure, in a way? (9)

Down

1. Dad beat half the stuffing out of crowd in story. (7)
2. Political activist makes throw so long! (Third of yard.) (7)
3. Strong engineers maul curs. (8)
4. Notes Village is small. (3)
5. Sign: "Take alcohol? Don't drive." (3)
6. Dog in childbirth kept cool. (8)
7. Scapegoat Gulf lay in the wild. (4 3)
8. Tell to rescind order. (7)
12. Milk's returned with something missing! (4)
13. I am in terminal in Oklahoma city. (4)
17. Almost make it to beige shirts and chemistry supplies? (9)
19. Recall lift before the Queen (a patron of the arts). (9)
20. Hang heartless Cliff. (4)
21. Cone crashed at some point. (4)
22. Going out with captain is thrilling. (8)
23. Place is where sports are played (except for net). (4)
24. Catcall started young fier. (4)
29. Put under 'life sign', evidently. (5)
31. E.g., kid goat initially gets nothing. (5)
32. Dandy land lost in disaster. (3)
33. Vicious team quits early. (3)