*math*NEWS

Where the 407 should have gone...
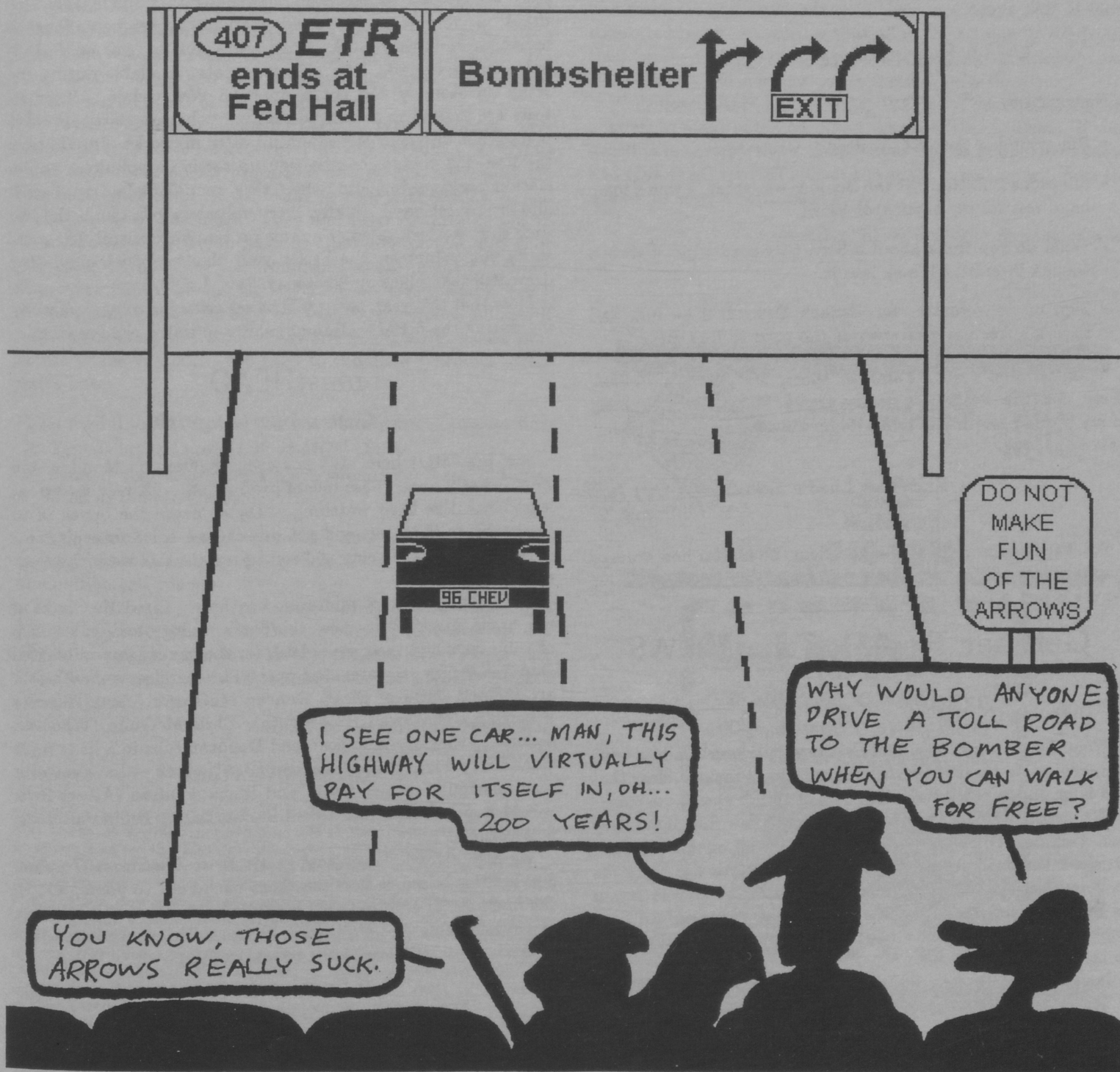
Blue Sayz

This week's article is very short since I have only one thing to say. Starting this week and for the rest of the summer, every day after 12:00 noon...

The 3rd Floor Balcony of The MC is Open!!

Enjoy!

Blue
Prez Spring '97

P.S.: As always drop by my office if you have anything you want to talk about.

VPAS babbles on...

Not much to say...

- I'm assuming the BBQ yesterday went well.

- Simpsons Pub Night at the Bomber was great. I won a foam hand rest for my keyboard! Wow!

- What do you think about a Sega City road trip? If there's enough interest, I'll look into it.

- Sign up to volunteer for Canada Day. It'll be fun, and there's a free party afterwards (no need to BYOB!).

Yeah, so that's all. Painless, short, and boring. Thank Peete that the weather is finally great! Happy 20th birthday to my brother Kevin and don't forget Father's Day this Sunday. Later...

Kim (wish I had a nickname for OP) Jack
VPAS Spring '97

P.S. I'm open to nickname suggestions, no matter how cruel or inappropriate. "Tim" just won't cut it anymore, and no Chris, F-nuts is just a little *too* inappropriate.

Getcher Red-Hot mathNEWS Shirts!

OK, well, not quite yet...

Wow. I'm so very, very glad that our little blurb in last issue attracted so much attention. Perhaps I didn't make it clear that this is an audience participation sort of thing. One more time:

We, mathNEWS, are hoping to put out a new line of our very own T-shirts. To do this, we wish to leech off of the collective artistic talents of our readers. If you have no particular objection to being leeched in such a manner, then by all means favour us with that superbly awesome design that you scribbled on a napkin last week and have been procrastinating on submitting to us.

In return for your creativity, we'll reward you with Good Stuff. Thank you.

Matt "So-Krates" Walsh

Canada Day

Some assistance required

Canada Day Celebrations is an annual community event presented by UW and the Federation of Students. Canada Day attracts more than 40,000 people from the Waterloo Region. The day is filled with children's activities, demonstrations, music and, of course, an evening of spectacular fireworks! With the University of Waterloo celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year, this year's event promises to be the biggest Canada Day celebration yet!

This event is an opportunity for the University of Waterloo and its students to give something back to the community.

Each year, roughly 400 hardworking and enthusiastic volunteers are needed to successfully orchestrate Canada Day. To thank our volunteers, we provide food and refreshments for each four-hour shift they work. Food and drink are not only available during Canada Day! They are also available during the setup on Monday and the cleanup on Wednesday. All volunteers are invited to attend an exciting volunteer party. It takes place when the field is cleanup up after fireworks. In addition, the first 350 volunteers who sign up receive a volunteer appreciation package, including their very own Canada Day T-shirt and laserquest pass! Finally, every volunteer gets one ballot, for each shift worked, to enter a draw for fabulous prizes! The more shifts you volunteer, the better your chances of winning! The draw will take place on Thursday, July 3, 1997.

Note that this year, space will be set aside for volunteers working during the 6 PM - Midnight shifts to watch the fireworks.

mastHEAD

Let G be a bipartite graph

Hey hey, Matt here. It's not even 10:00pm on Monday, and we're mostly done phase one of production... A new record, at least since I've been watching. Maybe 'cause the bunch of us just want to finish up and get out of here so we can go home and cram for our diverse and sundry exams this week. Like say tomorrow.

Still, the spectre of midterms has barely fazed the ranks of the brave mathNEWS crew this fine evening; tonight's bunch of volunteers and their candidates for the next highly-publicized Donovan Bailey race are: Ann Scea (The energizer bunny!), Stuart Pollock (Zeno of Elea), Duncan McGregor (Xena, Warrior Princess), John Swan (His mouth), Chris McGuire (Whoever, as long as they are American and Donovan rubs in a little more Canadian pride), Chris Buchanan (Bre-X stock — have you ever seen anything move so fast?) and Richard Bilson (Albert Belle – he'd have a better strategy if he was falling behind after the first corner).

We also extend the utmost gratitude to Marion at Graphics Services for bringing the issue from our hands to yours; and to the fine folks at Domino's for supplying us with some semblance of nourishment. See y'all again in two weeks for the next fun-packed and scintillating issue of mathNEWS.

Brian Fox (Nick Freno, Licensed Teacher)
Matt Walsh (You'll find out... when it's too late...)

gradNEWS

Oh, where do I start? So much has happened in the past two weeks, I just don't know what to tell you about first. Well...

We had our second Pizza Day last week, and it went off without a hitch. Thanks go to our new Pizza Day director, Kathleen Broekhof, and all the volunteers who came out to help. You guys are doing an amazing job.

Last Thursday was First Night Out. Ben and Pavan had all us grads join them for some pool and nachos over at Weaver's Arms, and boy, can they ever throw a party. I'm not entirely sure when our next social event is happening, but if you have any ideas or want to help plan something, e-mail MGC about it or come by the office and leave our social guys a note.

Trevor and Gina are making great strides organizing the Math Grad Ball. You'll have to ask them about when and where, but I know they're still looking for ideas for a theme. Some suggestions so far include a barn party, or something along the lines of a *Toy Story* theme. So, if you have a better suggestion (and I know you do), e-mail MGC or stop by the office.

Kathy and David are shoulder deep in Yearbook stuff. This summer they need to select a cover for our yearbook, as well as set up half of the colour pages that will go into the yearbook. They need your help! If you want to help with layout, e-mail MGC or stop by the office. They also need pictures to put in those layouts. So, if you have any pictures of you and your graduating friends that you would like to see in the yearbook, drop those photos off at the MGC office. Don't worry, you'll get the pictures back! Finally, we need your yearbook blurbs. If there's something you want to say and you want it beside your picture in the yearbook, you need to submit a yearbook blurb. Here's how:

1. E-mail it to MGC with 'yearbook blurb' in the subject line.
2. Type it up and drop it off at MGC office.
3. Print it very clearly on a blurb submission form and drop it off at the MGC office.

Blurb submission forms are on the door to the MGC office. Your submission can be no more than 360 characters (including punctuation and spaces).

As a final note, I just want to remind any of you who haven't had your pictures taken yet, time is running out. Jostens will only be on campus until June 19th. If you still haven't been over to Fed to have your photo taken, head over there ASAP to make an appointment.

Rachel "Danger Girl" Nieuwland
MGC Chair Spring '97

ISSN 0705−0410

Nothing Good On The Net?

If you are tired of looking at the same old Anime characters or porn figures, surf over to the new Macintosh FAQ at http://www.math.waterloo.ca/mfcf/faq. This list of answers to frequently asked questions about Macintoshes is one of the projects that I am working on for my work term as the MFCF Operator.

Those of you who work in the MAC Labs will find answers to many of those questions that pop up in the middle of the night while you are frantically trying to start an assignment that you had all week to do but have just started two hours before due date because you wasted all of your time sunbathing in the gorgeous sun and having shots at the Bomber and now for the life of you, you can't seem to find a damn T.A. (Hint: most T.A.s are usually sound asleep in their nice warm beds at 2am, comforted by the knowledge that all of their students are frying their brains trying to create a useless parking lot program and will probably fail since no-one is there to help them!)

Well, now HELP IS ON THE WAY!!! The MAC FAQ has answers to many of the questions that bewilder students. If your question or tip isn't there, simply mail it to us at operator@math and type MAC QUESTION as the subject, and we will post the answer as soon as possible.

Anusha "I love my job!" Shanmugarajah

A new Constitution for MathSoc?

I guess the first question that pops into your mind is, "Why does MathSoc need a new constitution?" The answer to this question is extremely lengthy, so I'll just cover the major points of interest here as briefly as possible.

Overhead

To put it simply, the current Bylaws are too content heavy. A constitution (or Bylaws in the current case) should describe the basics of what the Society is, and how it works. It also should describe the rights of its members. This is not the case with the current Bylaws. The Society's Bylaws contain a lot of information regarding the day to day operation of the Society. This means that it is extremely difficult to change minor details of the Society's workings, and it has made the current system very difficult and confusing to work within.

Under the proposal, the Bylaws would be eliminated, and replaced by a much smaller Constitution. This allows for greater flexibility, while still protecting your rights and interests as members of the Society.

Inter-Stream Accountability

The current Bylaws' roots were created at a time when the majority of math students weren't in co-op. The problem with this is that it assumes that the large majority of students will be here together (ie. during the Fall and Winter terms), and so it does not protect the rights of students off on work-term. Thus the other major concept introduced into the Constitution is that of a "Joint Council", as well as a set of "Joint" Bylaws and Procedures (note that these Bylaws are different from those which we currently have). These Joint Bylaws and Procedures would only be amendable after review by the Councils on both streams, or at a Joint Council, which can be best described as a union of the two Councils. This way the rights and interests of the students who are on work-term will be protected in their absence.

So what happens now?

Copies of the proposal will be available in the MathSoc office on Monday (and also on the MathSoc web page), and it will be brought up formally at a Council meeting on the 25th of June. At that time, Council will be asked to agree to the new Constitution "in principle". The same thing will happen early in the Fall term, and it will then be brought to the membership at the Annual General Meeting in October. Because of this, it is important that you look at it now, and if you have any opinions and concerns, let them be known. So please look at a copy, and talk to me, your class rep., or one of this term's executive. I'm also more than happy to answer any questions that you may have. Finally, if you can, come out to the meeting on the 25th, where you'll have another opportunity to be heard, and to have your questions answered.

This is perhaps one of the biggest steps the Society has taken in years, and as such, your input as a member is vital. Please take the time to read the proposal, and think it over.

Chris Buchanan
Off-Stream Vice-President, Activities and Services

Restaurant Review
Subway

Located in University Plaza is the setting for one of the most disappointing dining experiences of my young life. At Subway, the quality is mediocre, the service is poor, and the prices are downright outrageous.

On this day, I selected the roasted chicken sub combo. The combo includes a bag of chips and a drink. The selection of chips was poor. There were no options of "Bar-B-Que", "Ketchup", or "Sour Cream 'N' Onion", so I had to settle for the banality of "Regular". Moreover, on this day the fountain pop mechanism wasn't working and so my choices were limited to 7-UP or Hires Root Beer... a distressing predicament for a cola lover such as myself. I calmly asked the cashier to refund my purchase of the beverage since the advertized options were not available but she brushed me off and quoted some ridiculous corporate policy. I was not impressed.

The atmosphere is clean and there are pretty images of Subways (the train variety) adorning the walls. Nevertheless, the chairs are uncomfortable and I got the feeling that they were designed to move me out as soon as the last morsel of food crossed the threshold of my esophagus. I did not feel welcome.

The price of this meal after tax and gratuity (yeah, right) was roughly $8.00. At this price, I have come to expect a waitress/waiter or very high quality food. I received neither.

The roasted chicken consisted of two slabs of tasteless, decrepit, microwaved meat. The meat looked as grey as a fourth-floor chalk board that had not been washed for months. The lettuce had a stronger taste than the chicken and that, my friends, is a gastro-intestinal travesty. The tomatoes were a lovely shade of light green. Their flavour complemented their appearance which only added to my disappointment. My toppings of choice, namely mushrooms and pineapples, were not available. The only thing that gave the submarine some flavour was the mayonnaise that they generously pile on to mask the insipid meat.

I am tempted to give Subway a zero asterisk rating. However, there is one thing that Subway does better than anyone else in the submarine industry. In fact, they do it better than anyone in the fast food industry. Their specialty is their bread. No where else around campus can one receive bread of such freshness and high quality. The bread is an oasis of pleasure in a desert of boredom.

Asterisk Rating: ∗∗ (out of seven)

Jonathan Ezer

ultraCLASSIFIEDS

Hey Chewy, are you enjoying your wax? I'm sending Vinny to collect if you don't pay up soon...

Feeling tired? Want to rest your weary legs? Want to do it in profesional surroundings? Go to the MathSoc executive office and sit down on the nice new couch *YOU* paid for!

M.B.: Cock-a-doodle-doo!!

– Boo

Faculty of Mathematics
Dean's Honours List

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement throughout their undergraduate careers the following students will **"GRADU-ATE 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).

BELL Jason Pierre	H PMATH
BRODSKY Alexander O.	HC CSCI
CHADHA Dushyant	HC ACT SCI
CHAN Peggy	H ACTS&STAT
CHANG Andre	HC CS/EL E
CHEUNG Kevin King Him	HC C&O&CS
COSTA Danny	HC OP RES
FITTON Ann Marie	HC TCHING
FLOYD Janice Elaine	HC ACT SCI
FONG John	HC ACT SCI
FOSTER Mary Ellen	HC C&O&CS
GMACH Frances Christine	H AMATH
HALL Eric	HC CS/EL E
HARE Kevin George	HC CS&PMTH
HUH Woonghee Tim	H C&O&CS
KRY Paul Gregory	HC CS/EL E
LAKOTA Hrvoje	HC ACT SCI
LUNG Florence Sau Chi	HC CS/INF
LYNCH Gerard Thomas	HC CSCI
MACPHAIL John Revan	H C&O&PMTH
MCDOWELL Sean Morgan	H COMP SCI
MERIDITH-JONES James Ryan	HC CSCI
NEBELUNG Mark Rudolph	HC ACTS&STAT
PRETTI John-Paul	H C&O&PMTH
RUETZ Christina Marie	HC OP RES
SRI-SKANDA-RAJAH Anya Kanmani	HC ACT SCI
STACKHOUSE Shawn Michael	HC ACT SCI
STEPHEN Tamon	HC CS&PMTH
VAN LEUSDEN Kenneth Michael	H COMP SCI
WAHBE Andrew Albert	HC CS/EL E

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

BANDURCHIN Michael Andrew	H CS&PMATH
BARBER Jennifer Leigh	HC MTH/CA
BARIL Allan Roderick	H COMP SCI
BRATHWAITE Lillian Ivy Simone	H ACT SCI
CHASE Jason Percival	HC CS/INF
CHENG Chi Hang Henry	H AM&CS
CHENG Henrietta	HC ACT&CS
CONG Hui	HC CS/INF
DEMARCO Paul Francis	HC CS/EL E
DULDHARDT Tracey Dana	HC TCHING
FRANK Daniel Gordon	HC CSCI
GENTLE Cassidy	HC AM/PHYS
GILHOLM Allyson Isabel	H ACT SCI
GIULIANI Kenneth J	HC C&O&PMTH
GUSBA Scott Robert	H PMATH
HARJI Ashif Shamshudin	HC C&O&CS
HIRJI Rahim	HC ACT SCI
HOLTZMAN Adrian Henry	3 YR GENERAL
KAMINSKI Piotr	HC CS&PMTH
KETTLE Steven	H COMP SCI
LAM Margaret Wai-Kwok	HC ACT SCI
LANGLOIS-GRAVES Tina	HC TCHING
LIM Beng Kuan	H C&O
MERLO Paul Henry	H C&O&CS
NELSON Suzanne Virginia	HC M/BA(I)
SHARARA Ishmael	H ACT SCI
TAKHAR Navdeep	HC ACT SCI

WHIMSTER Carsten	HC CS
WILLIAMS Therese Suzanne	H ACT SCI
ZHANG Haoyong	H COMP SCI

In recognition of outstanding academic achievement during the Winter 1997 term, the following students qualified for the Dean's Honours List.

ARCHIBALD Andrew	BANDURCHIN Michael Andrew
BEARE Brian D.	BELL Jason Pierre
BENSON Daniel Ashley C.	BRAUN Kristopher Andrew
BRIDSON Robert Edward	BUCHANAN Kenneth
CHADHA Dushyant	CHANG Andre
CHENG Donald	CHEUNG Kevin King Hin
CHIU Yung Lung	CHONG Jacqueline Chor-Ying
COLLENS Daniel Alexander	CRERAR Michael
CUMBAA Christian Anders	DANEK Robert
DAVIS Daniel Aharon	EISEN Philip Allan
EL-KOURA George	ELLIOTT Paul Jeffery
FERGUSON Greg	FITTON Ann Marie
FLOYD Janice Elaine	FOSTER Mary Ellen
GENTLE Cassidy	GIROUX Sabastien Gilles
GLASON Margaret Alice	GMACH Frances Christine
GOLL Jonathan Thomas	GREEN Richard Jeffery
GUSBA Scott Robert	HA Vincent Dai
HALL Eric	HANCOCK Matthew James
HARE Kevin George	HARITON Nicolas N.C.
HO Wing Hong	HUH Woonghee Tim
HUI Kevin	IP Kee Wai
JOHN William Francis	KELLETT Angela
KENNEDY David John	KER Alyssa
KRY Paul Gregory	KUMAR Rohan Peter
LAKOTA Hrvoje	LAM Joyce
LAM Maple Chi-Shing	LAMB Neil Andrew Fraser
LATOUR Frederic	LEE Alex Yuen-To
LEE John Sie Yuen	LEWIS R. William
LIM Woei Chet	LISI Samuel Thomas
LO Chi Chiu Paul Andrew	LO John Chung Yan
LO Kwok Wai	LOK Wai-Yi Begonia
LUNG Florence Sau Chi	LUSHMAN Bradley Michael
LYNCH Gerald Thomas	MADDEN Benjamin
MAHARAJ Ravindra	MARJERISON Carla Dee
MARR Sarah Elizabeth	MCDOWELL Sean Morgan
MCKINLEY Joanne Lynn	MOORE Lucas Oliver
MORAN Jodi	NEAME Michael Austin
NELSON Suzanne Virginia	PALMER Chris R.
PARIAG David Bishen	PHAM Lan Nhu
PHILLIPS Derek J.	PIRIE Carol Louise
PREST Ian Jeremy	PUN Christopher M.
PURBHOO Kevin	QUAH June Boon Hong
QUINN Liam Ronald	RECHSTEINER Paul James
REED Jason	RUETZ Christina Marie
SAUL Jeffery H.B.	SCHELLENBERG Laura Jane
SHADDICK Scott Allen	SHARARA Ishmael
SHUTE Jeffery James	SRI-SKANDA-RAJAH Anya Kanma
STACKHOUSE Shawn Michael	STEPHEN Tamon
TEH Yee Whye	THOMPSON Christopher James
TSANG Sara Shu-Nga	TSE Lanny
VAN BIESBROUCK Michael Lee	VAN DAELE-HUNT Rafael John-Karel G.R.
VANDENBERG Eric Shawn	VANDERBURGH Ian William Thomas
WAITE Michael Lawerence	WONG Edwin
WAN Benny M.	YAZDANI Soroosh
WONG Ian C.	YONG Alexander T.
YEUNG Shuk Han Lisa	

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

LIU Ka Fai

gnomicGNUS

Last issue I gave an overview of what Gnomic is. For those who missed it, Gnomic is a game where the players change the rules. For more details, you can pick up an old issue of *mathNEWS*, or check it out on the World Wide Web.

This issue I will give a tour of how the game has progressed up to this point. As of the writing of this article, there have been twelve sessions of Gnomic played. In this time there have been over 60 proposals made. Since I don't have access to last session's proceedings, the tour will only take you up to session eleven.

The Initial Rules

There are two types of rules in Gnomic. There are immutable rules and mutable rules. Generally immutable rules are important rules that are difficult to change. They usually determine how to change the rules. Mutable rules are less important rules that are easy to change. They usually determine how exactly to play the game.

The initial rules just define enough to get the game started. There are 20 immutable rules and 13 mutable rules. They stop rules from having retroactive and other silly effects. They define how play begins. Players take turns playing that unmentionable card game and the winner gets to make, change, or remove a rule. They also define how to settle disagreements of interpretations of rules. A judge is selected based on the person with the least score. Then the judge makes a decision. There are also rules for appealing judgements.

Probably the most interesting rule in the initial set is rule 114 titled "Do What Thou Wilt". It allows players to do whatever they want unless it breaks a rule. This, as you will later see, has lead to some interesting consequences.

Initially only one rule defined a way to win the game. It is rule 213. If the game becomes unplayable, or a move is equally legal and illegal, then the first player unable to complete a turn is the winner. New rules allowing people to win in different situations have been introduced.

The New Rules

The first notable new rule is rule 305 (and not just because I proposed it). Russell proposed rule 305 which says that rule 310 is only in effect when it is snowing. Of course when this passed, rule 310 hadn't been defined yet.

Floyd almost won the game even before rule 310 came into existence. The problem was that the judge is the player with the least score. David made a rule that added imaginary components to people's score. Since complex numbers don't have a natural ordering to them, a judge could no longer be determined. Since it was Floyd's turn at the time, all he had to do to win the game was to invoke judgement on an issue (such as how to determine who is judge). Since a judge wouldn't have been able to be picked, Floyd would have won.

Instead of winning the game, Floyd used his turn to make a rule to solve the problem. Now judges are determined by the player with the lowest real part of their score. Also included in the rule were silly tie-breaking cases.

The voting process must be done secretively according a rule that Ben introduced. Mycroft introduced a rule that allowed vote peeking. Rules with lower numbers (proposed earlier) take precedence over rules with higher numbers (proposed later). There was some confusion over which proposals were amendments and which were rule proposals, so it was thought that players still couldn't peek at other people votes. It was later determined that there was indeed a chain of amendments, and vote peeking was allowed in accordance with Mycroft's proposal.

Mycroft also proposed that player win after the real part of their score exceeds 200 points. This passed because Mycroft pointed out that the no rule said that the game must end after a player has won.

David passed a useless rule that says that a game in motion shall remain in motion unless acted upon by an external force. Later Russell passed an equally useless rule that says that this Gnomic game is in motion. These two useless rules have been slowly becoming more important since the "Star Wars" rules have appeared.

Floyd introduced teams into Gnomic. There are 5 teams. They are numbered 0 through 4. Each player belongs to 2 teams. Each team has a winning condition to strive for. Nobody knows which team each other is on. Nobody is allowed to reveal what team they are on. Players can gain 50 points by successfully exposing what teams a player is on.

Floyd also introduced alignments and the concept of Gnomic entities. What a Gnomic entity is isn't defined, but all sorts of things are becoming them. Pink and Blue alignments were introduced. Good and Evil alignments were later introduced. The Good and Evil alignments are strongly related to the "Star Wars" rules.

In a surprising move, Ian didn't take his turn after wining a round of [that game]. He claimed that according to the rule he gained the right to take a turn of Gnomic, but didn't have to take it right away. Everyone agreed with him.

At this point in time, people began to take advantage of the "Do What Thou Wilt" rule. Because nothing could stop him, Russell added Blue to his list of alignments. Then David changed Floyd's Blue alignment to Pink. Ian removed his alignment of Pink. Floyd made the small faced six of diamonds Pink.

Ian fixed this problem by making a rule that only allowed alignment to be changed under 3 conditions:

1. Being ratified at a meeting of the U(W) Mathematics Society

2. A 75

3. Being acted upon by an external force

The "Star Wars" rules began to be introduced. There are now classes of Jedi. These Jedi can have the ability to use the Force, and this Force happens to be an external force. This ties into the game of Gnomic being in motion. Darth Vader is a Jedi, and by an earlier rule, people occasionally become dubbed Darth Vader. A Gnomic entity called "The Dark Side" was created to house the evil Jedi. Nobody who is Evil is allowed to win. Once somebody enters the Dark Side, he or she can only be removed by a Jedi who isn't in the Dark Side.

People once again began to take advantage of the "Do What Thou Wilt" rule. Russell declared that he had won, because

*prof*QUOTES

"[speaking of testing] It's like ESP — we don't believe in it."

Cowan, CS 246

"I was appalled to find out that the average CS 246 student values his CD collection over his first-born child."

Cowan, CS 246

"So this notion of degeneracy is pretty exciting, I think."

Dickey, PMATH 360

"I didn't realize you were that bored."

Dickey, MATH 136

"Obviously, what I am teaching is useless..."

Chen, STAT 333

"I'm trying to be a little human this lecture."

Kunze, MATH 138

"A two year old can't walk back and forth and lecture at the same time."

Cowan, CS 246

"You want to find out as much about an equation without doing any work."

Kunze, AM 351

"Some guy spent years doing this; we'll do it in 6 minutes."

Astels, PMATH 336

"I don't care whether you're happy or not. I get paid anyway."

Astels, PMATH 336

"Students don't matter. You all know that."

Astels, PMATH 336

"Oh, you don't want to use that on a test because I hate that."

Astels, PMATH 336

"It is an extremely simple formula, but it is a lot like the birth of an elephant... it takes a lot of work."

Fahidy, CHE 037

"Now wait, what am I doing here? No wait, I know! ...Now what am I doing here?"

Lu, MATH 237

"I've always wondered what would happen if I gave a whole lecture of things that weren't true... I think the day before I retire I will teach a whole lecture of things that aren't true and see if anyone notices."

Cherry, STAT 332

"You should look forward to your grade report because you get to see statistics in action."

Cherry, STAT 332

"If you don't understand the answer, replace the 'plus' with a donut and the 'dot' with a square donut."

Talvila, MATH 136

"What do we know about finite fields? Well, what do we know about *fields*? You say, 'Uh, I don't know... asparagus grows in 'em...'"

Schellenberg, C&O 434

---

nothing said that he couldn't. Then Russell declared that Floyd had lost. Then Floyd declared that he had won. David declared that Rule 352 had won. During his turn, Russell made a rule preventing people and other things from winning arbitrarily.

At this point people began to hit the 200 point mark. Both Floyd and David have won this way. These players got a permanent extra vote. Well, at least as permanent as anything else in this game. David declared that rule 355 had lost the game since Russell's rule didn't stop people and other things from losing arbitrarily. Floyd, being Darth Vader at the time, used the Force to make the rules of the game Evil. This is perfectly understandable.

This brings our tour to the end of the eleventh session of Gnomic. If you are interested in playing Gnomic, be sure to contact our Rule Keeper, Floyd Gecko. You can email him at jcmorton@undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca. To get more details of the proceedings, or to see the current rule see the Gnomic web page at http://www.undergrad.math.uwaterloo.ca/~jcmorton/gnomic/.

Russell O'Connor

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

Life in the Slow Lane

Post-Election Blahs

Well, another general election has come and gone, and again I am left with an overwhelming sense of "Who really gives a damn?" Yes, folks, the Liberals did retain a majority in the House of Commons, and, yes, Jean Chretien is the first Liberal prime minister to accomplish that feat sinse Louis St. Laurent in the 1950's (the exact years escape me at this moment, but I have faith in my Cnadian History training that I have the name and decade right). And, yes, Chretien has spent all week harping on that fact. But, let's get one fact straight, Mr. Prime Minister: You got back in by the bare skin of your not-so-pearly whites.

Let's look at the final numbers: Liberal, 156 seats; Reform, 60; Le Blocheads du Quebec (oops, I mean the Bloc Quebecois), 43; NDP, 21; PC, 20; and 1 independent got in as well. Considering that there were 301 seats up for grabs, the Liberals needed 151 to form a (very uncomfortable) majority government, so you can see just how thin a line the Liberals are treading now. And, what makes the numbers a little worse to digest, is the fact that 99 of the 156 seats the Liberals took were from good old Ontario, while the Liberals had a devastating collapse out on the Atlantic provinces. So Mr. Chretien owes us big time.

Don't get me wrong; I do not have a big problem with Mr. Chretien. I felt he could have done a whole lote worse during his first mandate. However, I was pretty unimpressed with the way he tap-danced his way around the GST issue (he and Tequila Sheila), and I was very peeved off when he called the early election, despite the turmoil the Red River region of Manitoba was enduring. His general lack of sympathy and respect for the suffering of the people in the flood zone was very appaling for a man who was looking at these people for votes. On top of that, I felt no other party (especially Natural Law, fellow Loungers!) really could do a half-decent job; hence my general apathetic approach to this election. Apparently, I wasn't the only one who had this opinion, as only two-thirds of all eligible voters actually turned up to vote. (If only the Feds could get voter turnout like that....)

Besides, the way I was voting did not concern who I wanted to run the country; rather, I concentrated on who would represented my wishes and those of my family. I voted in my home riding of Huron-Bruce, where the Liberal incumbent, Mr. Paul Steckle, was running for re-election. Remember the Liberal's controversial gun control legislation? Mr. Steckle was one of the 3 Liberal backbenchers who voted against Mr. Chretien on that bill. My home riding is very much an agricultural area, and Mr. Steckle felt that the gun control bill would not benefit the farmers and hunters who reside in his riding; thus, his decision to go against his own party. So, it came as no surprise to me whatsoever that Mr. Steckle recaptured his seat with a huge and convincing landslide. I only wish that we could elect significantly more MP's on that principle: that the MP addresses your interests to Ottawa, not Ottawa's interests to you.

The one really positive thing that I can take away from this election is that the Bloc(heads) are no longer Her Majesty's Loyal (key word: LOYAL) Opposition. Now, hopefully someone will take the next logical step: throw every member of the Bloc into JAIL on charges of TREASON. I don't care if it's unconstitutional, or unethical, or un-whatever, this party should not even exist, much less hold the title of Official Opposition. So,

congratulations are in order for Mr. Manning for reaching that position, which he will hold with a lot more integrity than any Blochead ever could. My only question to you, Mr. Manning, is this: Where is the big breakthrough into Ontario you were promising? Face it, Preston: you've got a long way to go before you can truly be called a 'national' party. But, then again, with the way things went in Ontario, I guess we can say the same thing about the Liberals, or for all the parties for that matter.

Actually, while I'm hinting at this subject, it's going to be very interesting to see the House of Commons in action, because no party really reflects the attitudes of all Canadians. Let's face it: the Atlantic's voice is going to come from the NDP and the PC's; Quebec is going to be represented by Le Traitors du Quebec (ooooh, my nasty thoughts); Ontario is purely Liberal red; and the West is going to be standing behind Preston Manning and the Reform Party. How can this government produce any legislation that is good for the WHOLE country? I have no freakin' idea, and quite frankly, I'm not convinced that they CAN do it. I can only hope that somehow, in some way, these people can actually come together, check their egos at the door, and sit down to work to improve this great land of ours. But then again, they haven't done so before now; why should things be any different? (Because if they don't, it will be about time that Canadians show up in Ottawa and open up a big can of whoopass all over the government.)

Congratulations to the NDP and PC for regaining Official Party Status in the House of Commons. Seems funny that, despite Jean Charest's supposed popularity, the NDP managed to get one more seat than the PC. Now, hopefully I will be given a reason to remember Alexa McDonough's name.

Can the Reform Party and the PC's actually co-exist on the same extreme? To be perfectly honest, I don't see a problem with that, because frankly there is no difference between the two anymore anyways. They share most of the same policy ideas, most of the same campaign strategies...why don't they just merge into one and get it overwith?

Ironic, isn't it, that John Nunziatta handily defeats the Liberal candidate hand-picked by Mr. Chretien and gets in as an independent? Well, maybe it's not so ironic, but it is ironic that the Liberal caucus were very quick to invite Mr. Nunziatta back in. Mr. Nunziatta's reaction? A very polite way of laughing in the Liberal party's face.

Finally, speaking of Mr. Nunziatta and Mr. Steckle, the one thing to look for is very controversial legislation popping up in the House of Commons. Let's face it; it will not take very many Nunziattas leaving caucus, or many Steckles voting against their own party's legislation, to defeat a bill. And, if a bill does get defeated, we all know the kind of trouble we're going to be in. Mr. Chretien is going to have to be VERY careful........(cue 'The Twilight Zone' theme music)

So, anyway, that's enough of a piece of my mind for now (after all, I can hear you snoring in the background, so WAKE UP ALREADY!!). Anyways, have a good week, and don't let midterms get you down (since, if the midterm is enough to drive you nuts, then you haven't got a snowball's chance in a very hot place of surviving the finals).

Chris "Look out, Peter Mansbridge" McGuire

The Slow Lane? Bah!

Oh no, not this again

In response to Chris McGuire's article in the previous math-NEWS, entitled "Life in the Slow Lane", I'm forced to think back to a series of articles that appeared in *mathNEWS* near the end of Fall '96 and think, "They didn't listen. The message was not heard." How painful this news comes to me. *[But it's giving you lots of practise playing the martyr. — ΣEd.]*

Chris was discussing that one perennially favourite topic among mathies, significant others, and, in reference to the phrase, "It's not so bad being single", goes on to decry his unattached state and essentially get down on hands and knees and beg for a girlfriend. An amusing read to be sure, perhaps because it was so sickeningly sad.

What is so incredibly attractive about being in a relationship? Why is it that being single is a state of purgatory that forces people into writing long articles whining for a girlfriend (or articles complaining about the whining articles — hey, we each have our own cup of tea)? Oh, but wait, we needn't look further then Chris' article. Why should we all be in a relationship? Well, because then we can "start sucking face in front [of others]" and watch with that "significant other in your arms while your single friends visibly turn green with envy". Indeed, heady goals to be met in a relationship.

Yet, even stranger is that Chris refers to these blatant acts of self-abasement for the petty displays of affection they are, and yet in the same sentence declares his goal to strive for them, to make his friends "visibly gag [...] at [his] actions". So perhaps the real attraction of being in a relationship is the ability to piss off our friends — yet another great reason, to be sure.

Finally, Chris compares the relationship question to that of being a king and quite wryly points out "You don't see a lot of kings applying to become peasants, do you?". To this I'd ask you all to think of Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI. No, they didn't apply to become peasants — they were doing such a crappy job as king and queen of France, they were forced to become peasants, and dead ones at that.

Max "Not Pleading For a Girlfriend" Stevens

As a postscript to this article, I'd just like to ask a question of the women out there — aren't you getting tired of having men beg for your affections? I imagine it can be fun for a while, but really...

Grad Photo Stuff

This is the last chance that you'll have to sign up for your graduate photos for the class of 1998. The deadline has been extended until June 19th. Sign-ups can be made at Fed Hall.

All spring semester Class of '98 Grads must have their photos taken this term.

See you there!

Steve Robinson
Franchise Owner, Jostens Canada Ltd.

Picture It

Sicily, 1932

Well, you people sure like to make my life interesting, don't you? I did get 7 submissions to last issue's puzzle set; however, many of them called upon me to make judgment calls on some of your answers (and, boy, can you people come up with some strange answers!!). Ah, well, I'm not complaining; after all, I've done enough of that in this issue already!! So, here are the 7 people who submitted responses, along with their point count: Greg "Hologrami" Taylor, Michael Brown, and Joanne Pang each responded with 7 points; Ian 'The Word Guy' Facey answered with 9 points; Plate Techtonyks came in with a very respectable 14 points; Colin McMillan was heartbreakingly close with 17 points; and the winner, and the only perfect 18-point entry (counting the bonus, of course) is: Chris Wooff!! Congratulations, Chris! You can pick up your prize in the MathSoc office. Now, a brief word about the judgment calls: the key fact that I looked for was that each of the intended answers are 'famous'; i.e. either the name of a movie, book, etc., or a phrase that is in fairly common use. So, if an answer didn't match the intended answer, but met my working definition of 'famous' and made sense with the picture, I gave that answer full marks. I also gave part marks if it somewhat met my definition of 'famous.' So, with that in mind, here are the solutions to last issue's puzzle. The first solution is the intended solution, with all solutions that were accepted for full and partial marks in brackets afterwards. The solutions to last issue's puzzles are:

1. Drinks are on the house 2. Odds-on favourite 3. 'West Side Story' (Full Credit: 'Once upon a Time in the West') 4. Wolf in Sheep's Clothing 5. Cut a long story short (Full Credit: 'The Never-Ending Story'; Partial Credit: Endless novel, Missing the end of the movie) BONUS: They in fact came from 'The Golden Girls.'

So, with that out of the way, here are this week's selections, with a maximum possible score of 15 once again (sorry, no bonus question this week). Good luck to all!!!

1. give get
   give get
   give get
   give get

2. m ce
   m ce
   m ce

3. preist

4. Quack Quack
   Cluck Cluck

5. HOAWNLD = BTUWSOH

Your submissions to this set will be due on Monday, June 23rd at 6:30 p.m. You can submit in the usual ways, by dropping your solutions in the BLACK BOX, sticking them in the mailbox in the MathSoc office, or e-mailing them to me at cjmcguire@undergrad.math. Have fun!!!

Chris "Fourth!!!" McGuire

The Game — Preclue #10

How good are you at following instructions?

The String

Start with the string "ONEQUARTER."

Shift all letters one place forward in the alphabet. Add an L before each vowel. Copy the tenth letter between the third and fourth letters. Shift the third-last letter two places forward in the alphabet. Double the second letter. Move the tenth letter between the third and fourth letters. Delete the second-last letter. Move the seventh letter all the way to the right and shift it backward one place in the alphabet. Transpose the ninth and tenth letters. Shift all letters identical to the fourth letter (including the fourth letter) six places forward in the alphabet. Add the letter alphabetically following the tenth letter to the left end. Delete the ninth letter. Change the second and fourth-last letters to 'A'. Copy the eighth letter to the right end of the string. Add the letter alphabetically before the sixth letter between the fifth and sixth letters, and add the letter alphabetically after the sixth letter between the sixth and seventh letters. Reverse the string. Move the thirteenth and fourteenth letters to the current center of the string. Delete the last letter from the name of an animal in the string. Replace the last vowel in the string with the vowel alphabetically following it. Move the second letter all the way to the left and shift it forward one place in the alphabet. Shift the fourth letter back three places in the alphabet. Move the last letter between the eighth and ninth letters. Move the sixth letter between the third and fourth letters and shift it forward one place in the alphabet. Shift the eighth letter sixteen places backwards in the alphabet. Shift the third letter ten places backwards in the alphabet. Insert the letter three places alphabetically after the last letter two places before all letters identical to the last letter (including the last letter). Copy the third vowel in the string between the tenth and eleventh letters. Delete the middle two letters from the name of an animal in the string. Delete the first seven letters.

Be sure to bring what you're told.

Mike "Hammer" Hammond

gridCOMMENTS

Wow... I must be making these grids too easy... this time I received 11 entries. However, not all were correct...

There were a couple of common mistakes. Trudeau Minister of Agriculture was Bud OLSON, while the Pick-me-up-bouquet guy was Merlin OLSEN. Also, DING was the response I was looking for in "Small mark on an automobile", which would make GNR (Guns 'N' Roses) the correct answer to "They released A. F. D." (Appetite for Destruction). That would make EGLE the answer to "Part of St. Elsewhere actor's name" (Ed Begley).

And now, the results. Chung Chan had 6 squares wrong. Candy Girl, Chris Doherty and Anil Upadhyay each had 3 wrong, Willow had 2 wrong, Richard Bell and Duncan McGregor & Adam Hurd had 1 wrong, and First Doug changes Stu's Horses had 1 wrong and a spelling mistake (it's Detroit, not Detriot).

Our three correct submissions were from Chris Wooff, Ian "The Word Guy" Facey and Felicia Seto & Anthony Lau (Sorry, couldn't read your psuedonym at the top of the page and I didn't want to get it wrong). And by a random draw, Felicia Seto & Anthony Lau win the prize! You can pick it up anytime at the MathSoc office.

For the gridQUESTION, I had 3 three responses. Anil Upadhyay told me that the "Weather's great!" while Candy Girl just said "Finally!" with the sidebar: My comment would have been funnier except the weather's not cruddy anymore. Then there was Ian "The Word Guy" Facey's response of: The deal with the weather is:

2♡ 3♡ 4♡ 5♡ 6♡

6 straight days of miserable weather.

Okay.

The gridQUESTION for this issue is: How many mathies does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

Anyways, with this grid, just one note. "Academy Award winning movie" refers to any movie that won any award in any category (i.e. not just Best Picture, Best Actor/Actress, etc.) in any year. Other than that, good luck and all submissions are due at 6:30pm on Monday, June 23rd. Either email them to me at bcfox@undergrad.math, stuff them in the BLACK BOX, put them in the mathNEWS mailbox in MathSoc or hand them into the mathNEWS office when any one of Matt or I are around.

Latrell "GridBoy" Fox

lookAHEAD

mathNEWS	
June 13	Issue #3 is released... and it goes down smooth...
June 23	Issue #4 production night 6:30pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
June 27	Issue #4 gets in your face
Movie Nights	
June 19	*Batman* and *Mars Attacks!*
MGC	
June 27	Yearbook blurbs due
Math Faculty	
June	Nothing's going on
Miscellaneous	
June 13	*Friday the 13th Part Something or Other: Jason visits U(W)*
June 15	Father's Day
June 16	Latrell's Day
June 18	mathNEWS challenges Donovan Bailey to 150m race at SkyDome
June 19	Best 2 of out 3 in 150m
June 20	Best 3 of out 5 in 150m
June 21	Best 4 of out 7 in 150m
June 22	mathNEWS challenges Donovan Bailey to hot dog eating contest

mathNEWSquiz #3

*Midterms are upon us
Oh whatever shall we do?*

Hi, Everyone! Welcome to this issue's squiz. I am amazed and impressed at the number and quality of our squiz submissions this issue!

For those of you who are at all interested interested, here are the answers to last issue's squiz. **Song Lyrics:** 1) "Closer" — Nine Inch Nails; 2) "1999" — The Artist Formerly Known As Prince; 3) "Joy To The World" — Three Dog Night; 4) "When I'm Sixty-Four" — The Beatles; "99 Luftballons" — Nena; Theme: numbers; **Invention:** 1) James Watt; 2) Robert Fulton; 3) Henry Ford; 4) Jean-Jacques Bombardier; 5) Thomas Edison; 6) Orville and Wilbur Wright; **The X-Files:** 1) Deep Throat; 2) Quanochontaug, Rhode Island; 3) Scully was kidnapped in the second season because Gillian Anderson was pregnant; 4) Bambi; 5) Special Agent Fox Mulder; **Movie Quotes:** 1) "Grosse Point Blank"; 2) "The Devil's Own"; 3) "The Saint"; 4) "Liar, Liar"; 5) "Return of the Jedi".

Here are all the people who submitted to the last squiz, along with their scores in parentheses: Candy Girl (4); Chris Doherty (7); Greg Taylor (8); Nykwit (8); Anil Upadhyay (11); Richard Bell (11); First Doug Changes Stu's Horses (14); Chris Wooff (14); Maximillian Booth (15); Willow (16); Duncan McGregor, et al. (16); Michael Thomas (23); Jason Smulevitch (24); Annamae Lang and Jenny Crnac (25); James Dale and Shona McLaughlan (26); and the winner, with full points, is ... Ian "The Word Guy" Facey (27)! Or is that "The Trivia Guy"? You can pick up your prize in the MathSoc office.

I must admit that I'm really pleased with the turnout. I hope we have this sort of turnout in the future! Anyhow, here are this issue's questions, many of which are geared to warm you up for next issue (Canada Day, silly):

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

1. "I'm gonna take a streetcar downtown,
   Read Henry Miller and wander around
   And drink some Guiness from a tin
   'Cause my U.I. cheque has just come in"

2. "He said, 'I dunno
   She kinda funny, y'know'
   I say, 'I know
   Everyone funny. Now you funny too.' "

3. "I didn't ask, you shouldn't have told me
   First I'd laugh right out
   I'm sinking in it fast, whatever you sold me"

4. "The good guys and the bad guys,
   They never work past noon around here
   They sit side by side in the cantina,
   Talk to se noritas and drink more beer"

5. "Sheltered inside from the cold and the snow
   Follow me now to the vault down below
   Drinking the wine as we laugh at the time
   Which is passing incredibly slow"

Confederation
What year did the following provinces enter Confederation?

1. Ontario
2. Quebec
3. Newfoundland
4. Alberta
5. Manitoba

Prime Ministers and Politics
I name the Prime Minister, you name the Party associated with him

1. Mackenzie King
2. Joe Clark
3. John Diefenbaker
4. Sir John A. MacDonald
5. Wilfred Laurier

The Outer Limits
Guest Stars

1. What *Star Trek* actor played a lawyer who defended a robot named Adam in proceedings to determine whether or not Adam was "human" enough to stand trial for murder?

2. Who played a mentally retarded boy who saves a small town from parasites that are destroyed by sunlight? (Hint: he played a boy genius medical doctor in his own television series.)

3. Another *Star Trek* actor played an ensign who inadvertently destroyed Earth with a doomsday device intended for Earth's enemies. Name him. (Hint: he also played a boy genius.)

4. What "Family Ties" actor played a physics professor who claimed the end of the world had come from our sun going nova?

5. What actor played a character plagued by "advanced" cockroaches?

Submissions can be made to scepollo@undergrad.math or to the BLACK BOX by Monday, June 23rd by 3:30pm. Good luck!

Jerry "Ghoti" Han
Stuart "Jean-Guy!" Pollock
Matt "So-Krates" Walsh

Things to Do on the MC Balcony

- Do blowfishes at the people in the lounge
- Pretend to catch some rays
- Patronize the infrequent BBQs
- Don't jump! Don't jump!

GRIDWORD
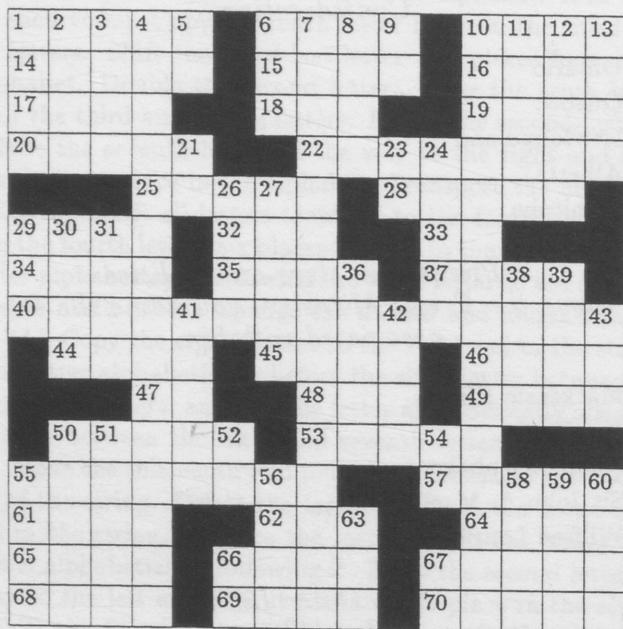
Grid Clues

Across

1. Bret and Owen
6. Calloway et al.
10. "If — Is It"; Huey Lewis song
14. The 43rd state
15. It's very small
16. Pit
17. You didn't give up the small lead
18. A famous doctor
19. To free from pain
20. Happy people do it
22. Person who blocks the view
25. High-priced Yankee
28. — of time
29. Bullets
32. Alamos, for one
33. *$1.98 Beauty Pageant* host monogram
34. You can find one on a horse
35. Spanish aunts
37. Kids
40. Academy Award winning movie
44. Tennille
45. Rim
46. Pottery material
47. First person plural
48. Choo-choo company (abbr.)
49. Referring to the place you are presently at
50. Complain
53. Helmsley
55. Back and forth
57. A famous film critic
61. Neil says it never sleeps
62. To be in debt
64. A refuge or place for hiding
65. To pay before you play
66. Mrs. Krabapple
67. Conveyor of impulses
68. Ending for E or U
69. Kinda like home
70. Multiple donkeys

Down

1. A word of disapproval
2. Oates or Twelve
3. Musician Shankar
4. Academy Award winning movie
5. Peter Gabriel album
6. A union (abbr.)
7. Academy Award winning movie
8. Idiot
9. Former Cardinal player monogram
10. Academy Award winning movie
11. To store secretly
12. Man and Wight
13. Person who can predict the future
21. Medical drama
23. They were in World War II
24. Wagons
26. Not a tenor
27. To drink
29. Section of circle
30. Flesh
31. Character from *Bloom County*
36. Sign (Fr.)
38. You can find one in the bathroom
39. Polaris, for example
41. A wicked person
42. Of the air
43. Instrument for seeing
50. Injury
51. Rush
52. Beginning for fort or face
54. The 37th state (abbr.)
55. Beginning for sit and sport
56. Travelled (on a horse)
58. Instruments for hearing
59. To split
60. Very (Fr.)
63. Consume
66. Suffix sometimes used in plurals
67. Does not apply (abbr.)