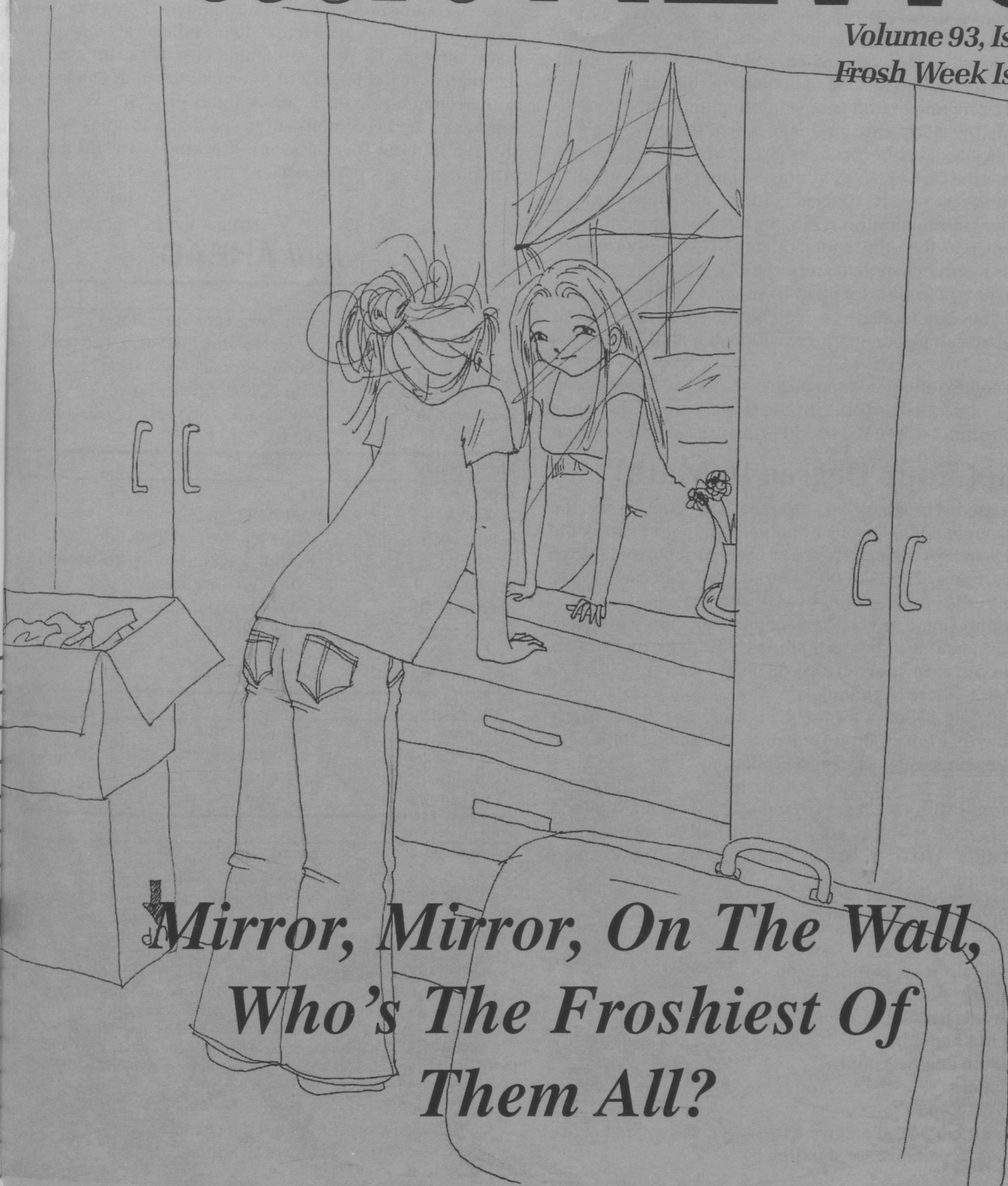


# math NEWS

Volume 93, Issue 0  
Frosh Week Issue!!



***Mirror, Mirror, On The Wall,  
Who's The Froshiest Of  
Them All?***

500

## Crash Course in UW Computing

Some of you might look at the UNIX system available to you in the labs and think to yourself, "Scary, I have never used this before." If that is what you think, this article is for you. If you have recompiled a Linux kernel in the last few weeks, then probably not. Here is some info and commands to get you started.

**.forward** is a file you can put in your home directory if you want mail send to you at your University account forward to an account you more commonly use. To set this up type 'cd' to make sure you are in your home directory. Next type 'echo myperferedemail > .forward' where you type whatever e-mail you wish to forward to instead of myperferedemail.

**finger** is a program to find people information on the system. Yes you can finger that cute girl (or guy) over there. No not like that, silly. People can choose to published any amount of contact information on the UNIX system. When you first log in it probably will ask you for information. At any time you can change your information by typing in the command 'chfn', it will prompt you for information. Having finger information available is handy when that cute girl (or guy) is trying to track you down, or you friends for get your phone number and want to contact you. You type 'finger searchterm' where searchterm is a user id or a single name, finger will match all the results is can.

**msg** is a command for text messaging across the unix system. Like ICQ, but so much older. If you type in 'msg userid@machine' where the userid is the user id of the person

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So sign up now and receive a free key chain valued at over four dollars. Operators are standing by.

Simon L'Avier

you want to talk to and machine is the server they are on, then you will have a blank line to type your message into. Once you press enter the text you have written will go to the person you specified. But who do I know what machine they are on? Simple, **finger** them. 'msg -r' send a message to the last person who sent you a message.

**man** is a command to look up commands. Really useful to learn more about what you can do. If you type 'man commandname' where commandname is the name of a command you will get a screen that display the on system doc about that command. The man command also works for a set of topics. 'man -k searchterm' will return all the man entries related to the searchterm you enter. A interesting one is 'man password-cracking' gives information about how to crack passwords. You can find out that password-cracking is a valid man topic by typing 'man -k password'.

userid: amjocconn  
finger me ... you know want to

## lookAHEAD

### mathNEWS

September 2	Frosh Issue cooks up a storm
September 11	disORG Meeting, MC 4059, 4:30 pm
September 15	Issue #1 Production Night 6:30 pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
September 19	Issue #1 takes one last glimpse at summer

### Math Faculty

September 4	ELPE
September 8	Lectures Begin
September 8	Math Preparedness Test (don't waste time studying, have fun during frosh week instead)
September 19	Course Add Deadline
September 26	Course Drop Deadline
October 31	WD Deadline
December 1	Lectures End
December 4-19	Fall Exam Period

### MathSoc

First Week	Locker sign-ups
First Week	Mathletics registrations
Thursdays	Movie Nights
October 4-5	EngScunt

### MGC

Wednesdays	Mmm...pizza
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ISSN 0705-0410

*mathNEWS* is normally a fortnightly publication funded by and responsible to the undergraduate math students of the University of Waterloo, as represented by the Mathematics Society of the University of Waterloo, hereafter referred to as MathSoc. *mathNEWS* is editorially independent of MathSoc. Content is the responsibility of the *mathNEWS* editors; however, any opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of MathSoc or *mathNEWS*. Current and back issues of *mathNEWS* are available electronically via the World Wide Web at <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca/>. Send your correspondence to *mathNEWS*, MC3041, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, or to [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) on the Internet.

Louis Mastorakos - Editor-in-Chief

Chris Harsemchuk - Supreme Editor for Life

Ian W. MacKinnon - Editor of all Editors

## Jump Up and Down and Quack Like a Duck

It will be very funny to see 1200 frosh jumping up and down and quack-like a duck simultaneously.

Hello, and welcome to the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Waterloo, quite possibly the best place on Earth (other than home, this is your home now). Whether you're an aspiring Java programmer, a hardcore accountant, or a genius number cruncher, you are part of a family with more than 6000 family members at any particular moment.

You, the math student, is represented by the Mathematics Society, the student body's faculty student government. No, it's not what you think. We don't have a budget around buying \$1,000 toilet seats and \$5,000 wrenches. We actually do some real work around here.

Well, Sure, MathSoc offers inexpensive photocopying and our infamous math bank, but what we're also known for is our awesome social events, organized and executed by our crack squad of savvy individuals known as MathSoc volunteers. No, they're not on crack, they're just a crack team lead.

You must be wondering, "what can MathSoc do for you?". Well, you know you are such important people that you have an entire committee that organizes activities tailored for the frosh committee. The First Years Affairs Committee, made up of your class representatives (who you'll vote for when your class begins, so start eyeing who you'd think will do a good job) and MathSoc volunteers, is here to listen to your suggestions and to organize kick ass events YOU'LL enjoy.

Just to get your imagination running, here's a list of events MathSoc has run in the past (I'm also doing this because I like lists):

## VPAS SEZ

LAN parties at the Cove

LaserQuest Night

Wasaga Beach Trips

Ski Trips

Now you have a good idea of what MathSoc does, turn to the guy next to you, and say "Purple Monkey Dishwasher". Alright, now turn to the guy on the left and say "I like shoes". Alright, now we're done with that irrelevancy.

Who am I, you ask? Well, I'm the man that holds everything together. I'm the Vice President, Activities and Services. That long title boils down to "VP of making your life fun". I run the day-to-day services, and with my directors and volunteers, we're here to serve YOU the students.

MathSoc is not a large bureaucratic government you'll find in, let's say "Ottawa". I don't have fourteen levels of cronies to protect myself from the students. In fact, you'll probably find it hard to get rid of me. I love listening to suggestions and opinions on how to run the Society better and make the Society work for you. I have an open door policy, so feel free to come to my office (MC3038) and have a friendly chat with your fellow Mathies in the Math Society!

With that, I bid you all a wonderful Frosh Week, and I look forward to meeting each and everyone of you this coming term. In fact, I'm so looking forward to it, the first person who finds me (you HAVE to be frosh, and it has to be Tuesday September 2nd) and shakes my hand gets a prize! Quick, FIND ME NOW AND GET A PRIZE!

Welcome to UW, Probably the Best Place on Earth,

Raymond CT Lai

Vice President, Activities and Services

Math Society, Fall 03

## VPA Reloaded

### The Academic Powerhouse

Although the premise of University life is similar to that of high school, (i.e. Studying, ignoring assignments, cramming for exams the night before all in the pursuit of a piece of paper you'll probably lose anyway) however there are some differences in the ways things operate. You're bound to come across a couple of concepts that you won't understand right away, so here are a few definitions that you should know about Faculty life.

**Chancellor** - You can think of this person as like the principal of a school, but then you'd be wrong, he doesn't give a rat's ass if you skip class or not. The only official duty of the Chancellor is to preside over convocation. Aside from that he doesn't do much. The current Chancellor is Mike Lazaridis, the RIM guy. Interesting note: he never actually finished his undergrad.

**Prof** - If a Prof is at a University long enough and prove to be of some use, they eventually can apply and get this. It basically means that they can't get fired. Usually awarded after years of teaching and research excellence, it was originally given to a prof so they wouldn't have to worry about their jobs if they were studying something controversial, like Artificial Intelligence that results in machines taking over.

**Tutorial** - There is no real High School equivallence to a Tutorial. A Tutorial is where you have better interaction and get to ask questions about what are on assignments and whatnot.

Ian W. MacKinnon  
Vice President, Academic  
Math Society, Spring 03

## VPF Controls the Universe

### Bling, Bling!

Hi! I'm Phil Weiner, the VP Finance for Fall 2003. With all of MathSoc's events, publications and services money is moving around all the time. I basically keep track of it all and make sure that the students' funds get spent efficiently.

Phil Weiner

Vice President, Finance

Math Society, Fall 03

## Difference from High School #1

For those male students coming from an all-boys school, you'll notice that the school admits female students. And for females from all-girls schools, you'll notice that there are boys in your classes ... lots of boys.

Your old uniforms are no longer required (except shirts and ties for interviews), but feel free to wear your sexy kilts if you really want to.

## Proof that Math is Math

Applied math is physics.  
Applied physics is engineering.  
Applied engineering is art.  
Applied art is business.  
Applied business is math.  
Therefore, math is math.

Colan Schwartz

## Baby Got Rack

~Talking~

Oh my god  
 Becky, look at her laptop  
 It is sooo big  
 She looks like one of those geek guys' girlfriends  
 But y'know, who understands those geek guys?  
 They only talk to her because she looks like a total nerd  
 I mean, her laptop, it's just sooo big  
 I can't believe it's so square, it's like out there  
 I mean -- it's gross  
 Look, she needs some... sun!

Rapping~

I like big procs and I cannot lie;  
 You other coders can't deny  
 That when a girl logs in with a Gigafloppin' RISC  
 And solid state for its disk  
 You get sprung  
 Wanna pull up tough  
 'Cause you noticed that rack was stuffed!  
 Deep in the slots, it's RAID 5  
 And a T-3 just to stay live  
 Oh, baby I wanna log in ya  
 And scan your picture.

My yuppies tried to warn me  
 But that rack you got  
 Makes me so horny  
 Case paint of smooth tan  
 You say you wanna get in my van?  
 Well use me, use me,  
 So long as I get an I.D.

I've seen her typin'  
 On azithromycin.  
 She's a shrill pill,  
 Got it flowin' with the VapoChill.

I'm tired of magazines  
 Saying minitowers are the thing.  
 Take the average tech man and ask him that;  
 She gotta pack much rack.

So Fellas (yeah) Fellas (yeah)  
 Has your girlfriend got the proc? (Hell yeah)  
 Tell her work it (work it), work it (work it),  
 Work that beefy proc;  
 Baby got rack.

Mini-Rap -- (HP case with a liquid coolant)  
 I like 'em big, and square,  
 And when I'm throwin' an error  
 I just can't help myself  
 I'm actin' like my manager  
 (Now \*he's\* a scavenger!)

I wanna get you home  
 And mount, double-up, mount, mount!  
 I ain't talkin' Playstation  
 'Cause silicon chips are made to run!  
 I want 'em four to a module:  
 So find that MP backplane;  
 Stronae's had some eyestrain  
 Goin' for the shortest path endgame.

So I'm lookin' at users' woes:  
 Pointy-haired techs talkin' through their nose?  
 They can have Bill's Windows;  
 Unix better works our egos.

A word to the goth and geeky  
 I wanna get with thee  
 I won't demodulate thee  
 But I gotta be straight when I say I just need [video game explosion]  
 'Til a quarter past three  
 Baby gotta keep it real  
 Corporate Veeps won't like this peal  
 'Cause them suits just like to abuse it  
 But I'd still support your port  
 'Cause I ping, on token ring,  
 And I'm down to get you networking!

So Honeys (yeah), Honeys (yeah)  
 Wanna roll my Town and Country? (yeah)  
 Then hook it up --  
 Blow it out --  
 Even rednecks got to shout:  
 Baby got rack.  
 Baby got rack.

Yeah baby,  
 When it comes to females,  
 Cosmo ain't got nothin' to do with my selection.  
 36-24-36?  
 Only if she's got a P-4...!

So your girlfriend wears green lipstick  
 Playin' songs by some grunge beatnick.  
 That maverick ain't got the bandwidth to support her toy NIC;  
 My Wingman joystick don't want none unless you got hubs, hon!

You can do installs or backups, but please don't lose that proc.  
 Some gamers wanna play it solo  
 And reject your parallel flow,  
 So they clock it, and unlock it,  
 And I pull up quick to resocket.  
 So Cosmo says you're weird  
 Well that ain't to be feared  
 'Cause your specs are large and your box is hummin'  
 And I'm thinkin' about comin'  
 To your home with UPSes  
 (The power's yours, my Miss!)  
 With an admin I can't react when  
 She privileges my login.  
 Some businessman tried to spam  
 'Cause his girls were on my LAN.  
 He had 'net but he sniffed their session  
 And I show 'em how to V-PN.  
 So ladies if the case is square  
 And you wanna dirty chat room lair  
 Hash s-t-r-o-n-a-e  
 And type them nasty thoughts  
 Baby got rack.  
 Baby got rack.

Pale in the vale but she got much rack...  
 Pale in the vale but she got much rack...  
 Pale in the vale but she got much rack...  
 Pale in the vale but she got much rack...

## Directorships

So what are all these Directorships anyway? Here's a list of all the directors we currently have and what they do.

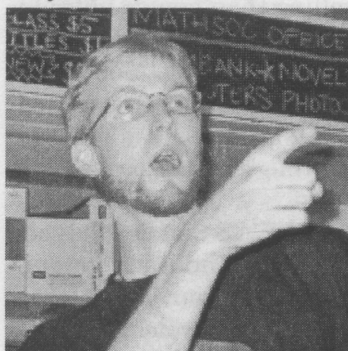
- **Charity Ball:** Runs a formal charity ball in the fall term. A great chance to have a fun night out and help the community.
- **Computing:** Makes sure computing services are available for the Society, and keeps the mini computer lab in the Soc Office running smoothly.
- **External:** One of the President's directors who helps with relationships between MathSoc and other Socs and the FEDs.
- **Internal:** Another one of the President's directors. Communicates with the clubs under MathSoc.
- **Mathletics:** Organize sports teams of mathies to compete in various on-campus leagues. This term will support soccer, ultimate, basketball, volleyball, and inner tube waterpolo teams in the recreation leagues. There will be 7 games per team during the term, and the cost per player will be \$2. We are also supporting soccer, basketball, volleyball, ball hockey, ice hockey, and broom ball teams in the competitive leagues. In the competitive leagues each team gets 6 normal games, plus playoff or spirit of competition games. Cost for these will be \$5 per player.
- **Movies:** Runs a weekly movie night. Two movies, two dollars. Yes, we are that crazy. We even offer movies before they are available for rent.
- **Novelties:** Organizes the buying and selling of nifty Math merchandise. You can get your very own cheat shirt in the Soc Office.
- **Office:** Runs this Soc Office I have been speaking of (MC 3038). The Soc Office depends on volunteers to keep it running and a skilled office manager to make sure everything is covered. More on the office later.
- **Postings:** Makes the rounds of the MC and DC putting up posters on MathSoc's posting boards as well as making sure they are clean.
- **Publicity:** Has the huge task of making sure you know what is going on in the Society. Making signs and posters is a must, with tonnes of creativity as well.
- **Resources:** Keeps the exam bank full (online and the one in the Soc Office). Needs your finals and midterms to keep offering this great service.
- **Social:** Like to have fun? It is the job of the social director to run events for all math students.
- **Website:** The Soc website is being redeveloped, and this director will be coding those changes over the term.

## Kampfus Kwestion

What was your favourite part of first year?

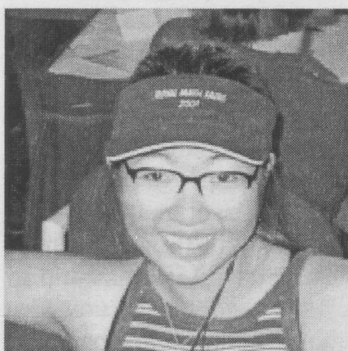
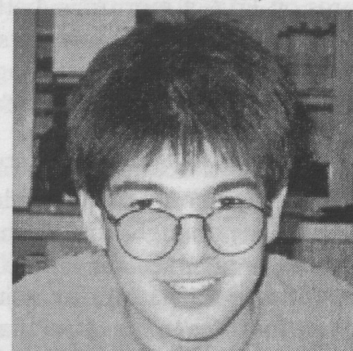
"Godzilla, at the Calculus Party."

Tyler Slijboom, 3B



"Full contact duck duck goose."

Daniel Redelmeier, 3N



"Doing it twice."  
Soo Go, 2A



"The Concerts."  
Bradley T Smith, Grad

## SE Student Not Actually Studying Shannon Elizabeth

SoftEng student Tee Oh cannot believe that he was not studying Shannon Elizabeth in SE 112 this year. Tee Oh chose his major based on the premise that he would be studying S.E. with great detail. He has since entered a deep state of shock.

"The material we cover is so dry, in SE class. *Requirements* and *Customers*. Yech!" cried an outraged Oh.

"What I *require* is more Shannon Elizabeth, and I'll be her *customer* any time," continued Oh.

Sentiment among the rest of the SE students was similar. Most were baffled that other students did not share their dismay.

"For one thing, how come AM classes don't study Alyssa Milano?" asked Yudub Yu. "I was really surprised that the Alyssa Milano with Physiques Electives program had such low enrollment. I mean anyone can do math like 36 - 24 - 36," explained Yu.

Finally, the majority of first year SE students also complained about the over abundance of David Hasselhoff in the halls of MC.

"We're just not used to this little Katie Holmes," said Oh.

Kev "Kaydot" (o)

## Difference from High School #2

Due to the enormous waste of paper, late slips are no longer printed on paper. Your professors should know your name and be able to make note of your tardiness themselves.

Absences will be recorded on your subdermal implants.

**mathNEWS Advice: DON'T PANIC**

This is the story of a publication, a publication called *mathNEWS*. Not only is it a wholly remarkable publication, it is also a highly successful one — more popular than most lectures on Friday mornings, better selling than course notes for STAT 231, and more controversial than Skip's trilogy of research papers 'Where Davis Centre Engineers Went Wrong,' 'Some More of Engineering's Greatest Mistakes,' and 'Who Are These Engineer People Anyway?'

The Imprint defines *mathNEWS* as 'rough-edged, put together by people unconcerned with layout.'

Curiously enough, an edition of *mathNEWS* that had the good fortune to fall through a time warp from a thousand years in the future defined Imprint as 'just another campus publication,' with a footnote to the effect that editors would welcome inquiries about any of the vast number of campus publications that started publishing after *mathNEWS* was established back in 1973. In fact, *mathNEWS* has been publishing and parodying many times over many years and under many different editorships. It contains contributions from countless numbers of mathies and professors. Your introduction begins like this:

'University,' it says, 'is big. Really big. You just won't believe how vastly hugely mindbogglingly big it is. I mean you may think it was a long way down the hallway to the high school cafeteria, but that's just peanuts to University. Listen ...' and so on.

(After a while the style settles down a bit and it begins to tell you things you really need to know, like the location of the Math Tutorial Centre on the fourth floor, the fact that you can reach the DWE building without ever going outside, and how to find any room on the sixth floor of MC by using the map which can normally only be read by someone with the mental

*Seriously though ... what's this mathNEWS?*

Well, *mathNEWS* is the University of Waterloo Faculty of Mathematics Student Newspaper. (Or publication, or magazine, or newsletter ... whatever the editor feels like calling it.) We publish about every two weeks, usually on Friday, and contain articles written by people just like yourself! Being student funded (some of your MathSoc fee goes here) and a volunteer publication, we are always in search of people who can write. Or draw. Or proofread. Anything, really. We'll even bribe you to come out to Production Nights every other Monday with free food. You don't need any experience, just interest. Plus you'll get to see your name in print!

The content of *mathNEWS* itself will vary from term to term depending on who's editing. However, there is usually a *mathNEWS* quiz, a *gridWORD*, and *profQUOTES*. The former two offer prizes for correct solutions. The *profQUOTES* are a collection of actual quotes as uttered by actual professors during actual lectures. Look for those elsewhere in the issue. In terms of other articles ... well, have an opinion you want to express? A weird proof you thought up? Something that you think is funnier than what we're printing? A solution to one of our puzzles? Then if you're too shy to come out to an actual Production Night, submit such things to us by emailing [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) or by dropping your submission into the **BLACK BOX** on the third floor (between the C+D and the lounge).

capacity for calculating probability forecasts based on improbable data: something which even most of the statisticians who have offices up there are still pretty hazy about.)

*mathNEWS* also has a few things to say on the subject of pink ties.

'A pink tie,' it says, 'is about the most massively useful thing a Waterloo Mathie can have. Partly because it has great practical value — you can wave it in the air to help get you noticed in a crowd; flick it at people who invade your personal space, use it to hold open doors as is done in MathSoc; tie it over your eyes in the hopes that if you can't see the professor he won't call on you for the answer; tease the squirrels with it; employ it as a gag or rope to restrain someone who may be particularly annoying you; and, of course, wear it to public functions if it still seems to be clean enough.'

'More importantly, a pink tie has immense psychological value. For some reason, if a potential employer discovers that a Waterloo graduate has a pink tie with them, they will automatically assume that s/he is also in possession of a mechanical pencil, ballpoint pen, calculator, palm pilot, library of textbooks, laptop, web access, caffeine supplement, copy of *mathNEWS* etc, etc. Furthermore, said individual will then happily hire the Mathie, providing them with any of these or a dozen other items that the Mathie might accidentally have 'lost.' What the employer will think is that any person who can survive three, four, five or more years in the Math Faculty at the University of Waterloo, obtain their degree, and yet still know where their pink tie is, is clearly somebody to be reckoned with.'

*mathNEWS* sells rather better than the Co-op Work Report Guidelines. In these enlightened days of course, no one believes a word of it.

In the past, *mathNEWS* has on occasion gone nuts and put out a parody issue like the recent-ish Toronto Moon and  $\bar{y}_m$ , the not-so-recent-ish Daglobenpost, Mathim, and Combinopolitan and the out-of-spare-copies Impotent. It doesn't happen often because those things take a lot of time and effort, but if you're nice to the editors they may give you a complimentary copy. Oh, and yes, *mathNEWS* really has been around since 1973 (Issue 500 was another issue that took time and effort.) Free to drop by our office (MC 3041) when it's open to look at our *mathNEWS* Gallery/Shelf o' Memorabilia, which includes among other items: a piece of Red Room panelling, an EMS Library Sign dating back to before the books were moved off the fourth floor of MC into the "new" DC building, and a silkscreen from Math Frosh Week 1979. You can even just come by to say 'hi' or drop off an article in person.

Oh yes, and we have a web page, <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca/> You can find past issues there and maybe learn more about us. So enough rambling ... the *mathNEWS* DISorganizational meeting will be held during the first week of classes in September. That's when we see about getting our act together for another term. Hope to see you there too!

Greg Taylor  
Past Editor

## The Frosh Cornered

### *All I Need To Know I Learned In Frosh Week*

There are several things that one must remember from Frosh Week. Unfortunately, most of these things will be forgotten for various reasons. Below are a list of things frosh should learn over the course of the week.

- In a pinch, protractors can be used as spoons.
- On the move-in day, if you let your parents go through your orientation kit first, there is a VERY uncomfortable silence when they see the condoms.
- People in the Columbia Lake Townhouses do not like you taking the abbreviated version of their residence's name and trying to sound it out.
- You should do your best to get on the Dean's List, because then you are allowed into the Dean's office, and let's just say there's a big bowl of candy to take from there.
- Telling jokes you heard at 5:00 am during tie guard will not help you pick up, as what was funny then is incoherent rambling now.
- A good pick-up line is, "What's your co-op stream?"
- Through an odd warping of space-time, profs are able to talk for 2 hours in a 50 minute period.
- The more you learned in OAC, the more you have to unlearn in MATH 135 and 137.
- If your roommate is an engineer, you had best sleep with your tie on to protect it. Much in the same way (s)he will sleep with their hardhat on.
- Hypnotized jocks are more fun than a barrel of monkeys.
- Imprint absorbs twice as much liquid as the other leading brand of paper towels.
- Software Engineers do not like being called "Softies", but that's what they're called.
- You can easily tell who is paying their own tuition instead of their parents because they tend to be the people who wear bike helmets. It doesn't seem so dorky when you have a fixed dollar amount as to how much your brain is worth.
- There is nothing that your frosh leaders can tell you that you can't learn from this issue of *mathNEWS*.
- You must either be a fan of Dave Matthews Band, hip-hop, or techno. There is nothing else playing in the residence.
- Assignments that take 3 days to do a week before the deadline can be done in half an hour the night before.
- You should have taken the blue pill.

That's enough rambling for now. For all you frosh who think you have what it takes to be a writer here at *mathNEWS*, be sure to watch for dis-org meeting signs the first week of class. You never know, you may be the next Cornered Frosh.

Ian W. MacKinnon  
The Cornered Frosh V2.0

## Difference from High School #3

Contrary to high school, being sent to the principal's office does not have a negative connotation. Mainly because there is no principal. However, being sent to the Dean's Office usually means he has a present for you. Otherwise the police would be called.

On a related note, detention begins at 10 pm after the last night class.

## Ten Alternative Uses for Textbooks

So you were all excited and bought all your textbooks during Frosh Week. Now the day of the exam, you say to yourself, "I spent \$150 on that book, I really should open it at least once."

So here's a list of some things you can do with textbooks:

1. Assault weapon: some textbooks weigh several kilograms and are easily thrown.
2. Weight training: Books are heavy, weighing quite a few pounds each, and are easily lifted.
3. Look Smart: Books are a means to show off the fact that you are educated and usually weigh less than a stone.
4. Fly Swatter: Once, during a lecture, Prof. Jackson took his backpack and threw it at a wasp on the ceiling. Do you really think that it would have killed the wasp without a textbook in it which weighed more than 2 newtons? Really?
5. Money: If you kept the receipt, you can take your book back to the Book Store for a refund so you can buy tons of candy from Sugar Mountain.
6. Building Cardhouses: Textbooks are sort of like big cards. So you can make really big cardhouses. Though most people won't have enough books to make a really kickass cardhouse. So get your entire class involved: you know you have enough books when you are counting the books by the tonne.
7. Hammer: Textbooks can bang things just like a hammer; they may even weigh many karats more.
8. Screwdriver: To put a screw in the wall, line it up where you want it and bash away. Works better if textbook exceeds 12 troy ounces.
9. Lullabies: The best way to fall asleep at night is to attempt to read a textbook. Or perhaps have someone bash you over the head with a textbook. (Crap I can't think of any mass unit to provide the necessary cohesion to this article ... ABORT ARTICLE!)

*[Damn, and he was just about to mention how balancing textbooks on one's head can improve posture — TaxiEd]*

Dave Nicholson

## Smurfysics

Smurfessor: "So, according to Newton's Second Law of Smurfing, the sum of the forces is equal to mass time Smurfation. Now, we must keep friction in mind, otherwise, we sometimes think things are a little smurfy, and we second guess our smurfysics."

Student Smurf: "So, like how things tend to stop smurfing?"

Smurfessor: "Exactly. That is why a long time ago, some of the oldest smurfs thought that the motion of a smurf was related only to the forces on the smurf, and if the forces were removed, it would stop smurfing. Really, the objects simply had a frictional force smurfing them down."

Student Smurf: "Wow! Smurfysics has come a long way."

Smurfessor: "Wait until your upper smurf courses. You'll get to take courses on quantum smurfysics, quantum smurfputing, General Smurfativity, and Non-Linear Smurfamics."

Student Smurf: "Smurftastic, I love smurfing about smurfysics, Smurfessor."

## Why you should write for mathNEWS

Why should you write for *mathNEWS*. Yes, you, the one reading this right now. No, not someone else who might happen to be reading *mathNEWS*, just you. I really think you should write for *mathNEWS* "But why?" I hear you wonder. Yes, I heard that, I hear all. Well there are many reason to write for *mathNEWS*.

- **Fun.** This cannot be overstressed. It is fun, or at least it should be. If you're writing for anybody at any time and it is not fun, then something is wrong, or maybe it is the ELPE, or a Work Report, or ... fine. But writing for *mathNEWS* is fun. Whether you just have your own personal fun at home and e-mail the article in to us, or come out to Production Night and have some free food fun, it's all really quite a lot of fun.
- **Rewarding.** In so many ways. From e-mail from 14 year-old boys who use AOL to letters from Iran, your material can generate a response. There is also the rewarding feeling of creating a piece of writing and knowing it will be published. Some also find the free food a kind of reward.
- **Looks Good.** On say ... a resume. Employeers always want good oral and written skills; what shows that better than contributing to a bi-weekly publication? You don't have to answer that.
- **Getting Published.** *mathNEWS* is an official publication with an ISSN number. Two copies of every issue go to the National Archives. Beyond being released to the entire campus every other Friday, and mailed to our subscribers, your work will also be published online on our website ([www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca](http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca)), which is pretty highly rated on Google.
- **People Read It.** Lastly people will read it. At least people pick it up. Some might try and tell you no one reads *mathNEWS*, but after a few week of distribution detail you discover just how many people read *mathNEWS*. Late in the afternoon when I return to campus to clean up at the end of the day, I see people walking home with *mathNEWS* in their hand. I see both students and faculty picking up copies. Some profs get issues mailed to them. People at bus stops waiting to take the bus home have copies in their hands. Look — right now you are reading *mathNEWS*.

We give you the opportunity to be published. You have the chance to make people, your fellow students, laugh and/or think on Friday mornings. You can rant, point out what you find funny about life, or just express yourself however you like. Anyone can contribute to *mathNEWS*. So please, send us an e-mail at [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca).

Phat Albert

## Difference from High School #4

The giant bell for indicating the beginning and end of classes had to be removed from Dana Porter Library's roof because the building was not designed to support such a weight and was sinking.

Instead, students are invited to rudely interrupt lectures that go past twenty after to remind the professor that it's home-time.

## 6 Ways To Learn Your Professor's Name

1. Go to your first class. Typically your Prof will introduce themselves within the first five minutes of class. If you're five minutes late, that's poor but don't worry: I have 5 other ways for those of you who love hitting the snooze button.
2. Ask a friend. Other people in the class will know the professor's name. Though if you have not made it to a class yet, it may be difficult to know who is in your class. As well, after a month or two you might be too embarrassed to ask.
3. Check out the course calendar. There is a schedule online which has all the classes listed with their number, time, place, prof, room ... This provides a good check, especially if you have your timetable. What if you lost your timetable already?

All right I was bluffing. There are only five ways to find out your prof's name. But good luck in the constant struggle.

It is very important to find out your professor's name, especially in first year. At your exam you may have to circle your professor's name and that may mean that you don't have to do some of the questions. I would strongly recommend knowing your prof's name (I have known many who have ignored this advice), if nothing else, do it because you can.

Dave Nicholson

[Actually, I can come in handy here, you could always ask your prof what their name is. — Pete Love]

## Feed Me!

Faithful Readers,

It has come to my attention that I am hungry. It has been more than a month since I have been fed. I'm usually stuffed full of Mathie goodness, but I was abandoned for most of the month of August. Now that all you Frosh have arrived, perhaps you'll be so kind as to feed me.

You can feed me most anything. I'm not very picky. Some of my favourite foods include: Squiz answers, Crossword solutions (those cryptic ones are especially nummy), *profQUOTES* articles, and money. Especially money. Of course I'll eat other things too. If you'd like to feed me some comic strips or restaurant reviews or Panama, I'd love to have those too.

Please send all food to me courtesy of my slot. It can be found on top of me. I can be found between the Comfy Lounge and the Math C+D. And now you can feed me online too! I can't use the Internet myself (as I have no opposable thumbs — or hands in general), but if you e-mail the nice people at [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) they'll feed me at no cost to you! Please don't send in food as attachments though as they give me gas. Just stick it into the body of the e-mail and it'll be scrumptious!

Sincerely,

The *mathNEWS* BLACK BO



## profQUOTES

"One, zero, zero, zero, one, zero, zero, zero, one spans  $R^3$ . Obviously! Just ... look at it!"

Andre, Math 136

"Ignore your other courses! Fail everything else!"

Bell, CS 488

"I should stop bashing Microsoft, because there are so many other bad programs out there."

Biedl, CS 134

"No pez dispensers in my class, just text-books."

Biedl, CS 134

"Everybody knows what polymorphism is, right? 'Poly' comes from the Greek word meaning 'deep fried' and 'morphism' means 'running shoes.'"

Buhr, CS 342

"Most consumers of porn are not discriminating consumers."

Charters, CS 494

"Let's assume 10 is an integer."

Gittens, CS 134

"If anyone wants to go to see Harry Potter, but is too embarrassed to go on their own, I've got a seven or ten year old child to lend you, as long as they come back in one piece, and well fed!"

Hewitt, AMATH 250

"Satisfiability. Sounds like a sex manual, but it's not."

Hoffman, PMATH 330

Prof: "... cryptology at this school is the cat's ass."

Student: "Is the 'cat's ass' a good thing?"

Prof: "A cat's ass is a beautiful thing."

Irving, MATH 239

"That's a sexy curve."

Mammon, MATH 137

"I'm so unintentionally cool!"

McKinnon, PMATH 464

"At this point in the course it's traditional to assume that you don't know how to read."

McKinnon, PMATH 464

"I don't care how you find your formula. You can use the posterior extraction method for all I care."

McKinnon, PMATH 334

"One person handed it in 7 minutes late and lost the marks. Yeah, we're real assholes."

Phillips, CS 241

"That's the only way you can make money in CS, by suing."

Phillips, CS 241

"What we have here is proof by complicated picture."

Ragde, CS 341

"You mathies might protest against the purity of this, but the constant  $K$  is not really a constant, it varies a bit."

Smith, ECON 102

"You can go to the Bank of Canada website and look up these numbers [about forms of money]. It's more fun than visiting a porno site."

Smith, ECON 102

"Money. Some of you will spend your lives trying to earn it. Some of you will spend your lives trying to steal it."

Smith, ECON 102

"Alan Greenspan is as old as God."

Smith, ECON 102

"You think that you can turn Canadian Tire money into a lawnmower."

Smith, ECON 102

"Back to abstract and more useless things ... no I'm just kidding. This is not completely useless, just mostly."

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

[Pulls out coloured chalk]

"This is as multimedia as MATH 235 gets."

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

"Why do we care about graphs? Here's a pragmatic reason: Assignment 2."

Vasiga, CS 240

"I'm not going to teach you all of CS 246. That would take me 15-20 minutes or so."

Vasiga, SE 240

"What if this whole software engineering thing doesn't work out and you have to work at McDonald's?"

Vasiga, SE 240

"Some search engines use the concept: 'Pay me money, I'll put you first.' But this is not a data structure."

Vasiga, CS 240

"What is a word that starts with f and ends in u-c-k? Firetruck."

Vasiga, CS 240

"Whenever you hear 'yadda, yadda, yadda', you should think 'Induction!'"

Wagner, MATH 239

We always need people to submit more *profQUOTES*. So if you prof says something funny, write it down and either put it in the *mathNEWS BLACK BOX* or e-mail it to us at [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca). But please don't print out your *profQUOTES* and then put them in to the **BLACK BOX** because that would just be silly!

## How To Feed Yourself

So, you've finally moved into rez. If you're lucky, you'll find yourself living in Village One, and, if you're really lucky, you'll find yourself living in a single room. However, if you're like I was last September, then you'll be living in a closet in Ron Eydt. (But, not to worry. If the noise gets too extreme, you can always escape to the Great Hall in Ron Eydt's main building. It's much quieter there.)

However, wherever you're living, you'll eventually encounter something called "UW cafeteria food." Be warned! This "food" is not really food, but a mixture of meats and frozen vegetables drenched in gravies and sauces of unethical origin. If you eat that stuff for one whole term, you'll end up causing extreme damage to your gastrointestinal system. But fear not! There is an alternate food source!

"And what's that?" you may ask.

Squirrel.

That's right. Nowhere else in North America will you find squirrels with even half the succulence, or one-quarter the charisma, as the ones that you'll find here. And, with it being Fall, the time is ripe for the harvest.

Now, before you bolt outside and give chase to these four-legged delicacies, allow me to give you a few instructions on how to catch and prepare them properly (employing mainly legal and entirely realistic methods).

First of all, in order to catch a squirrel, you'll need a means of "bagging it," so to speak, and what better thing to bag a squirrel with than that handy-dandy laundry bag that came in your frosh kit? Don't worry. So, grab your bag and head out!

As a beginner, you'll want to start hunting in the squirrels' key feeding grounds. And, by key feeding grounds, I mean the green by the path connecting Village One and Ron Eydt. It's a virtual buffet on weekday mornings. The main reason for this is its close proximity to the squirrel population's primary food source — the stream where Ron Eydt dumps its leftover cafeteria food (which, incidentally, is leftover cafeteria food from Village One — pay close attention to their menus).

Anyways, back to the squirrels. So you've scanned the horizon and found the perfect, mouth-watering morsel. Advance without mercy and bag it swiftly. As you do so, however, be careful not to trip over any of the other lesser squirrels that may be standing between you and your main course.

Now here comes the hard part. Since the majority of squirrels tend to become quite uptight when wrapped in unfamiliar linen, your bagged creature will likely start flailing up a storm. Now is the time to take a heavy object and end its anguish, if you get my drift. This is where your MATH 137 textbook comes in handy, although an anvil will work just as well. Just remember, wipe the stains off of your book after you're done or you'll frighten your TA.

Now that you've got the messy part over with, it's time get even messier by skinning your entree — see "The Joy of Cooking" for full instructions. No, really, I'm not kidding about this one. After that's done, you're ready to cook. Sure, you could cook on a measly Maytag four-range, but why do that when you can cook it twenty-three times faster in the searing waters of fire in the bathrooms of MC? Last I checked, it's the only place on earth where water leaves the tap at 150°C. All you have to do now is clog the sink, fill it with water, stir it a bit, toss in your squirrel, stir it a bit, maybe add a few herbs and spices, stir it a bit, and voila! Pure taste-bud debauchery! Flash-

boiled squirrel!

Of course, with hibernating season coming up and all, your squirrel will be relatively fat. Did I say relatively? I meant to tally. And, since it's been busy gorging on leftover cafeteria food you're still technically eating cafeteria food through a bizarre twist of the food chain. Come to think of it, killing three squirrels a day is really tiring, not to mention extremely inconsiderate of the squirrel community. And what about class? Logically speaking, your homework isn't going to do itself. And, before you know it, midterms will be ... Hey! Isn't that the Math C+D over there on the third floor of MC by the Comfy Lounge? Why yes! [gasp!] No way! Oh, yes way, my friend, yes way. They have the cheapest food on campus, an assortment of caffeinated beverages, and, best of all, they don't serve squirrel! What?!! [splutter splutter] Then why are we still standing here? Let's go!

Soooo, now that this article has conveniently morphed into an advertisement for the Math C+D, there's only one coherent thing left to say: first year is really fun! You'll have an awesome time! Just don't "forget" to do your assignments. Oh yeah, and try to get some sleep once in a while. Also, if you'd like, come out and write some articles for *mathNEWS*! [First Production Night is 6:30 pm on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>! — KreasEd] It'll be great! Enjoy your term!

Angela

## So your parents are paying

*The finest dining someone else's money can buy*

Let's say your parents want to take you somewhere really fancy to celebrate, or maybe you don't believe K/W has any really nice restaurants. Here are a few places where the entrees can cost more than twenty or thirty bucks — so get someone else to pick up the bill.

- *Bihma's Warung*: South East Asian fusion cuisine. King north of University.
- *King Street Trio*: Live jazz and excellent steak. My roommate loves going there. University and Weber.
- *Hannah's Belle Bistro*: An up-scale Raintree Cafe. King near Bridgeport.
- *Charbries*: They change their menu to match the seasons. I enjoyed their winter. King near Erb.
- *Janet Lynn's Bistro*: Very classy, very pricey. King across from Waterloo Town Square.
- *Ali Baba's / Krebs*: Two storeys of dining, a steak house and a fancy restaurant. King and William.
- *Marbles*: Homemade pasta and amazing French onion soup. King and William.
- *Solé*: Wide variety of entrees in the former Seagrams buildings. Not too pricey either. Erb and Euclid.
- *Casa Rigantino*: Hailed as the area's best pizza. Belmont Village (Belmont and Union).
- *20 King*: Jazzy exterior, and what must be the area's second best pizza. King and Frederick.
- *Da Costa*: Mediterranean fusion, but part of a chain (boo!) Charles across from the bus terminal.
- *Melange Wine Bar*: Simple, intimate, out of the way. My favourite place in the region. Market Square behind the Kitchener Farmer's Market.

TaxiEd, with a couple reviews from Amadaeus

## Where to Eat, 2002 Edition

*Without Getting Poisoned ... Again*

You'll be surprised that there's real food outside the Village cafeterias, whose novelty should wear off by the time you've eaten Salisbury Steak for the fourth time in a week. These eateries are ranked from 1 to 10, 1 being completely poisonous to 10 being deliciously palatable. Prices are based on relative averages from restaurants surrounding the one being reviewed. Prices range from \$ (it won't break your bank), to \$\$\$\$ (prepare to apply for a mortgage).

### *Location: University Plaza*

- *Mongolian Grill* (7.5, \$\$\$): The Mongolian Grill serves a good array of dinner and lunch cooked on a huge slab of a very hot rock. You choose what you want to eat from a large selection of uncooked food items (like a buffet), then you bring it to the huge slab of hot rock for the "Rock Artists" to mix and grill them into satisfying bowl of hot food. Very appetizing, and it's quite fun to see the rock in action.
- *Vietnamese Place (there's only one in the Plaza)* (2.0, \$\$\$): Please do be careful if you eat here. This place has been closed several times for health violations, and has been closed at least once in the past year. The food portions are small compared to Vietnamese places in Toronto, and the prices don't match it's portions.
- *Front Row McGinnis* (7.0, \$\$\$): Good burgers, sports on screen, beer on tap. This isn't just a simple sports hangout, it's a sports hangout with decent food. Prices are decent as well, and the food is again quite decent. This place is usually packed on Sunday nights for pay-per-view events. If so you're lucky as to be here for the Winter term, Leafs Playoffs are always a scene to be seen at Front Row. They eliminated the 2-for-1 burger deal on Saturdays, so it slips down .8 points. Good burgers nonetheless.
- *Pita Factory* (7.4, \$\$): If it's health food you're craving for, get a pita stuffed with veggies from The Pita Factory. Pita experts are friendly, and the menu is even friendlier. Carnivore? Don't worry, there are plenty of meat options to satisfy even the meatiest of eaters.
- *Williams Coffee Pub* (7.5, \$\$): Coffee prices are comparable to other chains, but the quality is really determined by your tastes. Prices are reasonable for the liquids, but quickly get ridiculously expensive once you move onto the solids. One commendable thing about Williams is the atmosphere: It's always packed and a great place to meet new friends and gather with the old. It gains a few points for the ever-changing menu.
- *Campus Pizza* (9.5, \$): They used to be called Gino's Pizza, but when the its head office decided to force its chain to use carrot juice instead of tomato sauce and processed cheese instead of real cheese, Campus pizza decided to go independent and became an instant success. Known for its great pizza with uncompromising ingredients and good prices, you can't go wrong with Campus Pizza. They offer free delivery to holders of the "Feed Me Card," and deliver well into your late night Calculus cramming session. If you work on the Hong Kong time standard and crave good authentic Italian pizza with real cheese and honest-to-goodness meat and fresh veggie options, Campus Pizza is the way to go.

- *East Side Mario's* (7.3, \$\$\$): If you've eaten at East Side Mario's, you've eaten at all East Side Mario'ses. Waiters/waitresses are friendly, and the food is always hot and fresh, and with unlimited soup, salad and garlic bread, you can't lose. Nothing much to say about East Side Mario's other than it's good food in a good distance.

### *Location: The Other Side of Phillip Street*

- *Mel's Diner* (8.0, \$\$): Good olde time fare. Well, not quite olde time, but it's themed on the Marlon Brando era (before he got fat). Try to recall the diner seen in Grease and you've hit the mark. Good burgers, good sandwiches, good shakes, and even better breakfasts, Mel's is the gathering place for all-day breakfasts after a full night of partying. Open late on weekends, Mel's is a popular choice for all UW students and staff. You never know, you may even bump into your TA there. If you're going to invade Mel's with 10 people, its better you call first your you'll insult the staff by arriving as unannounced guests.
- *Second Cup* (8.0, \$): I'm biased towards Second Cup because I've been addicted to it since High School, but it is marginally better than most of the other chains out there (Starbucks is disqualified because their coffee stinks). They rotate their blends on a daily basis, and they always have 4 blends on tap while they keep a good amount of backup that can be brewed on a moment's notice. Snack foods are also sold and are fresh, but tend to be a little pricey. Atmosphere is a little more mellow than Williams, so this is a good quiet place to study or as a good end to a date.
- *Sunshine Express* (7.0, ½\$): Relatively cheap Chinese food, although the quality is passable, and cleanliness varies depending on the week you visit. Bottom line: Cheap Chinese Food. Don't expect chicken balls there, because they do sell the real stuff.
- *Weaver's* (7.5, \$\$): A co-operatively owned project between the management and residents of WCRI (Waterloo Co-operative Residence Inc.), Weavers is a traditional-looking pub that serves cool beer on tap, incredibly good wings, and a decent slice of beer pizza. Specials are available on every night except Fridays and Sundays, and there's domestic micro-brewery beer in stock. They also serve meals outside normal pub fare, as 'fake' Chinese food, pastas, burgers, steaks, chicken, etc. is also available on their extensive menu.

### *Well Worth the Trip*

- *Viet Thai Veitnamese Cuisine* (10, \$): Its Vietnamese name translates to "Border City," Viet Thai is located beyond the end of Highway 8 (338 King St E). Reason for the perfect 10: Huge portions, low prices, and excellent authentic food. You can't go wrong with a place operated by Vietnamese owners serving Vietnamese food. The beef rice noodles come in huge bowls, and the curry crab is irresistible. It really is worth the trip down King Street, fighting the traffic in Downtown Kitchener, to reach this tiny little restaurant. There's limited parking at the rear, but ample parking space on the streets around the restaurant.

Amadaeus

## The Frosh Cornered v1.0

*Cornered ... For the First Time*

Ahhh, to be Frosh again.

The Frosh Cornered originated in Fall 2000 from a very naive frosh with way too much time on his hands, and it evolved into a 72-week writing marathon that ended with threats from over-worked editors and the Waterloo-Quebec separation movement. Since then, my evil incarnate, Ian the Frosh Cornered v2.0, has taken the reigns of the Frosh Cornered by winning a fifteen-day battle royale in Fall 2001 that concluded with a disqualification of his competitor due to the illegal use of a beach chair.

Wisdom, like cheap wine, pretends to get better with age (but it really doesn't). Yet, people take it anyway because the good wine is too expensive. So, I bring you the leaves of Wisdom, as transcribed from the book of the Frosh Cornered v1.0. Yes, you can purchase this book at the nearest Laymond Gift Shop for \$250 U.S. (VISA and Mastercard accepted)

- **Tutors don't bite ... hard:** Swallow your pride and ask for help if you need it, that is why we have professional tutors paid to help you with your problems. If you know everything already, ask your tutors about LP relaxation problems. You'll learn to maximize your winnings in Pro-line in no time.
- **Take advantage of your prof:** When we say take advantage of your prof, we don't mean it in the way you see it in Boston Public. Unlike high school, UW profs have out-of-class office hours where you can go and ask them questions on topics relating to class or otherwise. Most profs are friendly and willing to answer questions. Some even go the length to make office hours an event to attend: Professor Ragde actually announces the weekly "Office Hour Soundtrack" in the beginning of his class, and Professor Troy Vasiga makes funny faces when you frustrate him enough.
- **Neverwinter Nights and Warcraft3 are your friends:** With CS and Calculus assignments due on the same day, you'll want to relieve the 'stress' you've accumulated once you've shoved your assignments into the boxes. What better way to relieve stress than to hack Orc peons in little bits? All work and no play makes Homer something something, so make sure you don't end up like Homer and trash the house in search of the sweet glow of the TV.
- **Making friends actually requires effort:** In a school in which almost 4000 mathies can roam free at any one time, making friends in these faceless hallowed hallways is a difficult feat. You have to take the initiative and introduce yourself. Maybe stop programming in front of your terminal and turn to the person next to you and say "Hi," or join one of the many clubs here at UW. There are clubs for everything, right from DEX (the University of Waterloo's version of DECA), to The Buffy Watcher's Club (they watch Buffy the Vampire Slayer as a hobby); there's bound to be a club that fits you. You'll enjoy the events, and you'll meet excellent friends.
- **Anything composed by Hans Zimmer is good study music:** Jerry Goldsmith of the Star Trek fame comes in a close second. Prime examples of excellent motivational music are the soundtracks to Gladiator, Crimson Tide, and the Peacemaker. The music is so compelling, energetic and

uplifting it almost makes you want to get up at 4 am in the morning to understand those proofs you need to know for your midterm. Emphasis on 'almost.' Essential tracks: "Barbarian Horde" from Gladiator, "Trains" from The Peacemaker, the main theme to The Hunt for Red October, and "1SQ" from Crimson Tide. You'll get the urge to find chain mail armour and a bronze longsword and run up and down your residence hallway in no time.

- **Learn Unix, stat:** Soon, you will understand the infinite pain and torture that is Windows, and you will be begging for a release from the hell that is the NT software. Besides hell is the Unix Lab, your salvation to digital sanity. Get a friend to give you a quick tutorial on how to run Unix, and you'll be doing your assignments without having to jump down the third floor balcony because your Java compiler crashed on your Windows system. The best way to learn unix is to write for *mathNEWS*, so become a *mathNEWS* code monkey and be saved!

- **NEVER use the toilet paper in the third floor washrooms:** That one-ply stuff isn't even suited for that bear featured in that Bud Light commercial. Either bring your own or hold it until you get back to your place. In any case, keep a nice soft roll of two-ply tissue hidden under your bed. Why under your bed? It's a commodity! There will be people caught unprepared, and they will pay a premium to use toilet paper that won't cause a paper cut on their behinds.

UW is going to be what you make of it. Put some time into meeting some friends, eat well, and make sure you don't go insane is a good thing. About that insanity part, you'll be insane beyond help soon, but keeping that sanity for as long as possible is important.

I guess that's it from the original Cornered Frosh and you've already heard from my evil lacky, version 2.0. Muhahahahahahahaha ... \*hack\*\*cough\*

Raymond CT La

The Cornered Frosh v1.0

*I'm getting too old for this... not really ... meh*



### Difference from High School #5

PhysEd is no longer a required course for your degree, unless you are in AHS, of course. To supplement this, first-year courses will be placed all across campus to maximize the amount of exercise you will receive. Also, there is a gym in the PAC, but it's usually filled with PhysEd keeners and nerds.

## mathNEWSquiz 0

Welcome to the University of Waterloo! Just to explain what's going on here, usually in the back of *mathNEWS* we present a little game known as the Squiz, designed to test your general and esoteric knowledge in all sorts of areas. Ordinarily, these questions are reasonably difficult and frequently obscure, but the one who submits the most correct answers wins a \$5 gift certificate to the Math C&D. Isn't that wonderful? Owing to the fact that this is a special issue of *mathNEWS*, we (Craig and Eric) are pleased to bring you a special Squiz. Sorry, no prize this issue. Once you've been here for a week, most of these questions should be fairly easy, but let's see how much you know about your University right now. And if you get stuck, your friendly Orientation leaders will probably know the answer and if they don't, shame on them!

### Orientation Week

1. Where should you go if you're ever lost, need to know where something is, or even don't want to go home just yet and instead want to hang around a while?
2. Why does this aforementioned location exist in the first place?
3. How big is the Pink Tie?
4. What are the name of the three Orientation directors for Math?
5. What fictional constellation was invented for this year's Orientation Week and is modelled after a former MathSoc president?

### Math Society

1. What item of clothing, sold in the MathSoc office, would be very helpful (but probably illegal) to wear during an exam?
2. What is the cost of a large bowl of soup from the student-run Math Coffee and Doughnut Shop?
3. Which MathSoc club sells pop for 35 cents to members, 50 cents to non-members, and maintains a library of books about mathematics?
4. Suppose you had a 10-page work report that you wanted to bind with a front and back cover. How much would this cost if you did it in the MathSoc office? How much cheaper is this than if you were to have it done at Kinko's?
5. Which MathSoc club can burn free software (such as Linux) on to CD's for you?

### Campus Buildings

1. In what building would you be able to buy coffee at four o'clock in the morning?
2. What campus building is named after a former Ontario premier?
3. According to popular myth, what building is sinking and for what reason?
4. What new campus building has been nicknamed the "Buzzword Building?"
5. Which building features a labyrinthian top floor, which makes it difficult to find the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science?
6. What building has walls that you can climb?

### Math Cheers

- Just give the name of the cheer
1. We're Waterloo mathies  
We're far from our homes

2. The biggest tie  
I ever say  
Was hanging on  
The MC wall
3. Mary had a little lemma  
Little lemma, little lemma
4. Row, row, row reduce  
Madly down the page
5. Ra ra ra ree  
Math will kick you in the knee

Eigenvector and Eric the (!frosch)

## How to Survive Your First Year

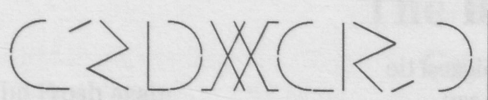
### or How to Keep Yourself from Going Insane

Welcome, frosh, to UW and the famous Math Faculty. There are so many things to do, people to meet, different menus to try, and wacky games to play. First year is the time for experimentation, exploration, and expedition. I'm sure you will enjoy this ride of fun and challenge.

Of course, for the majority of you, this is probably the first time you'll live outside your home for an extended period. University goes at a faster pace than high school (I don't know how different it is, even though I've already spent three years here). The workload and activities here may overwhelm you. Here are a few things that will keep you level-headed:

1. **Get enough sleep.** If frosh week teaches you anything, it will be that one can survive without sleep. Well, that's partially true; sometimes you do need to stay up late to finish that project or to recover from a party, while at other times, staying up til 3 am is a bad idea. In the summer, it may not be a big deal to stay up late, but during winter, with nights starting at 5 pm, where's the fun in staying up late? Besides, who likes to stay up in the cold?
2. **Do your assignments in advance.** By "advance" I mean two days. If you start doing an assignment the night before it is due and you are stuck, then you'd be, well, stuck. The only help available then would be your roommate, but they might be the type that gets agitated when they're awakened from their sleep. Why two days? Because you would still have one full day to leech (or ask) for tips from others.
3. **Prepare to answer the question "Are you planning to be a teacher?" a zillion times.** Back in my first term here, I believe this question was presented to me 20 times. I don't think the alternatives I gave were that great. The standard response is "No, I can be a..." Of course, these days there are plenty of ways to complete that sentence, from "movie consultant" to "game designer" to "book reviewer." Just don't say "financial consultant" (you may see their wrath).
4. **Write for *mathNEWS*.** I know. It IS a shameless plug for *mathNEWS* [*Hooray for shameless plugs! — AbsentEd*], but we always need new perspectives on silliness and craziness (besides, we need another feud among *mathNEWS* staff). We welcome anyone, even if you can't spell or write in competent English (if you do, that's a big plus). And for you 8-streamers, you are in for a treat. *mathNEWS* will turn 30 in January. Join us and be a part of this momentous occasion.

Jason "the Screamer" Lau



## gridCOMMENTS

### Get Griddy Child

Linda: Welcome to UW! Because it's your first term, I'm going to give you a break. I've already filled in the first letter of every answer. (Now, hey, all you veterans, this advantage is for frosh only. Get a friend to white out all those first letters before you even think about starting to solve the *gridWORD!*)

Are you totally new to cryptic crosswords? It all looks like gobbledy-gook, doesn't it? Well, each clue is a separate little word puzzle. For a tutorial, check out [www.guardian.com](http://www.guardian.com) and look for their terrific daily cryptic.

Oh yes, and before I forget (again), here's the *gridQUESTION* (a silly question the GridMasters use for settling ties ... the funniest answer usually wins): *What did you forget to do during the summer?* Good luck, and get those grids in the **BLACK BOX** or mail them to [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) by our first Production Night which is coming up on September sixteenth.

### The Cryptic Clues

Linda and Brad

#### Across

- 9 Bet big that old neighbour not crazy (6,2,7)
- 10 Give up credibility to move inventory (4,3)
- 12 She leads in hem pressing (7)
- 13 Vacationer sounds like poor finisher (9)
- 14 Mysterious sounds of great lake (5)
- 15 Sounds like growth in butt helps (7)
- 18 Where wet criminals want to stay when charged (3,4)
- 21 Dorks that fix stuff (5)
- 23 One hundred most craggy, most cold (9)
- 25 Grand metric of gold in the back of the car (7)
- 26 Upsetting "no-go" mod: when Diana changed sex (4-3)
- 29 Rolled Bluebeard about with shotgun (6-9)

#### Down

- 1 Chances of leading oral dentist (4)
- 2 Yank influence (4)
- 3 Panties with flowers (8)
- 4 Planted seedlings of grass, Edward (6)
- 5 Buried in manure, they say (8)
- 6 Plain pets come back before gym class (6)
- 7 Plant in spinet reeked (4,4)
- 8 What separates a chick from a hen? (8)
- 11 Sweetheart spends a penny for swords (5)
- 15 New style diet, taut pose (8)
- 17 US backer sees crazy bums, gives in (8)
- 19 Off-colour shout deserved (8)
- 20 Rope ring behind girl (5)
- 22 Waves to dandies (6)
- 24 Immature? Heartless? Put behind bars (6)
- 27 Bird hoax (4)
- 28 Parties make something extinct (4)

### The Conventional Clues

#### Across

- 9 Hi-res digits (6,9)
- 10 Laying turf (7)
- 12 Allowing (7)
- 13 Wrongdoers (9)
- 14 Fling (5)
- 15 Without curves (7)
- 18 Like June, July, August (7)
- 21 Net (5)
- 23 Unfeigned (9)
- 25 Chucking (7)
- 26 Rhyme writer (7)
- 29 Prejudicial ethics (6,9)

#### Down

- 1 Likelihood (4)
- 2 Obscure red fishy critter (4)
- 3 Coalition (8)
- 4 Culmination (6)
- 5 Musicians (8)
- 6 Repeats (6)
- 7 Fine twisted wire (8)
- 8 Cubbyhole (8)
- 11 Proposal (5)
- 15 Posture (8)
- 16 Goliath (8)
- 17 Most cosy (8)
- 19 Bad acts (8)
- 20 Spins (5)
- 22 Wickedly (6)
- 24 Seem (6)
- 27 Strays (4)
- 28 Lip (4)

