

math NEWS

Volume 93, Issue 4

Halloween, 2003

HAPPY SNUGGLESWE'EN!!!



Soo Go
Oct 27, 2003

Is *math*NEWS showing a bias in the municipal election?

Yes. Yes it is.

lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

November 10	Issue #5 production night 6:30 pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
November 14	Issue #5 sees the light
November 24	Issue #6 production night
November 28	<i>mathNEWS</i> releases last issue of the term

Math Faculty

November 1	Last Day to receive WD grade
November 3	Open Enrollment begins
December 1	Fall Lectures are done (woo!)
December 4	Fall exams begin (boo!)
December 19	Go home — exams are done

MathSoc

Every Thursday	Movie Night (\$2)
Today	Pumpkin Pie Day

Get your Candy Grams

Costumes? Pick up free candy!

November 3-5	Laser Quest Registration
November 5	CSC Pint with Profs
November 7	Laser Quest
November 13	Pints with Profs

MGC

Mid November	Look for info re: Bus trip to Sleemans
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Miscellaneous

Today	Homecoming 2003
November 5	Matrix Revolutions Opens
November 5	CSC Pints with Profs
November 10	VOTE SNUGGLES
November 23	Starlight Film Fest at Galaxy Cinema



Short Attention Span Math Seminars

Call for speakers

Fascinated by functions? Interested in integrals? Giddy about groups? If you're in math because you think it's cool and interesting, then share your love of math at the Short Attention Span Math Seminars.

The SASMS are an event held every term by the Pure Math, Applied Math and Combinatorics & Optimization Club, and are a series of short (twenty-five-minute) talks given by math students on a wide variety of topics. They are tentatively scheduled to be held on the evening of Thursday, November 20.

If you're interested in giving a talk, then e-mail your topic to pmclub@student.math.uwaterloo.ca. If you're looking for a topic, you may want to consider talking about a mathematical book you found interesting, summarizing a paper you've read, or redoing a talk you gave in a class. Talks should be designed to be understood by first-year math students, while still being interesting to upper-year students. You can also give more than one talk if you like, or you can give a longer talk — just let us know and we'll schedule you for two consecutive time slots.

Craig Sloss

MEF is Better

What is MEF?

The Mathematics Endowment Fund (MEF) is an income-generating fund that finances educational projects benefitting undergraduate math students at UW. In the past, MEF has provided funding for computer equipment, clubs, guest speakers teaching/research assistants, and much more. To see a complete list of funded projects, visit the MEF website (www.mef.uwaterloo.ca).

Thanks to the contributions made by students over the years, the fund's principal now exceeds **\$1.7 million**.

Funding Proposals

If you have a project that will benefit math students academically, submit a funding proposal. MEF has over \$20,000 to spend this term.

If you are a math student interested in attending a conference, seminar, or other event related to your field of study, you may qualify for funding through the **Professional Development Fund**.

Funding request forms are available from the MEF website, and are due **Wednesday, November 5**.

Funding Council

Decide how your \$31.42 will be spent — apply for a position on funding council. Typically Council meets only once per term, and you get **free food** in exchange for your time.

Nomination forms are available on the MEF website. The deadline has been extended to **Tuesday, November 4**.

Office Hours

Mondays, 2:00 to 3:00 pm in MC 4046. Drop by if you want to learn more about MEF.

Yolanda Dorrington

MEF Director, F03

E-mail: mefcom@student.math.uwaterloo.ca

Web: www.mef.uwaterloo.ca

Office: MC 4046, x5757

Preston Manning To Speak On Faith And Politics

When more than 70 percent of Canadians profess a faith in God, how can we silence the expression of religious views in the political arena and still claim to be a democratic society? This is one of the questions Preston Manning, founder and former leader of the Reform Party of Canada, will address when he speaks at St. Jerome's University on Friday, October 31st.

Manning will talk about "Living the Interface Between Faith and Politics" at 7:30 p.m. in Siegfried Hall (in St. Jerome's), free of charge. All are welcome.

Manning argues that the traditional separation between church and state in Canada is an important principle that must be preserved, but it should not be used to deny religion a voice in the public forum. He says it's neither practical nor desirable to attempt to keep faith and politics strictly separate in Canada, a country of strong religious traditions. Moreover, it's not realistic to attempt a debate on the morality or ethics of issues such as human cloning or waging war, while excluding the religious perspective.

VPAS Sez*I Should Really Show Up Once in a While*

Welcome to midterm country.

We're well into our eighth week of classes, and that can only mean one thing: midterms have rendered our learning capabilities to that of a hard drive: Fill until capacity and format upon total uselessness of the stored information.

The fact of the matter is: YOU, as a Math student, need some activities and services to get through this period of data transfer. Besides our academic offerings such as the famous MathSoc ExamBank and our cheap photocopying, we have a line of recreational activities planned for one and all. This includes:

- Pints with Profs: Talk Java with your C&O Prof, or Dijkstra's Algorithm with your CS Prof, all over a pint of beer and some free food
- LaserQuest Night: Have fun shooting your friends with high-intensity lasers
- MathSoc Charity Ball: Experience a magical evening with exquisite food and dancing, capped off with an auction for the Grand River Hospital
- MathSoc Marathon 2003: To better serve the insanity that is pre-final week, we will keep the office open 24/7 for the last full week of school to make sure you have access to exams and photocopiers all day
- C³WLP 2003: Cross-Campus Comfy Wireless LAN Party: MathSoc is organizing a wireless LAN party to be played in your own Comfy Lounge on the third floor, and we're inviting the campus! The event will feature all your favourite LAN games (think Starcraft, W3:FT, CS, BF1942, MOH:AA). Stock up on those legal copies of those games for late November!
- Malloween! : Show up in a costume to the MathSoc Office (MC3039) **TODAY** and get A TIDAL WAVE OF CANDY! (Tidal wave is a relative and totally subjective term)

C'mon out and dump your stack with the Math Society, and when you're good and empty, we'll be around with the Exambank to fill your hard drive for one more run.

Raymond CT Lai
VPAS, MathSoc F03

Dateless On A Thursday?*Movie Night*

Nothing to do on a Thursday night? Run out of ideas for dating? Come to Movie Night! Great movies for great prices — come, watch, and enjoy. 2 dollars for 2 great movies. Next week (November 6) we're showing Monsters Inc at 7pm, and Finding Nemo at 9pm. See you all there!

Movies > Dates

mastHEAD*Wash Hands After Use*

So it's scary time: midterms... uh, wait, I mean Hallowe'en! All the ghouls and goblins are coming out to play and *mathNEWS* decided to get in on the action. We mostly hunted them down and killed them, but that'll teach them to go snooping through my candy loot bag.

Luckily, I'm pretty sure we managed to get them all. There was this one imp name Snuggles who managed to sneak through and run for City Council, but we've got his number (34 if you're wondering).

Snuggles is very much like another imp you may know, Rumpelstiltskin. Both have impossibly hard names to spell. So we felt it was our duty here at *mathNEWS* World Headquarters to find out once and for all: "How do you spell Skrzydlo?": Keslen (ess enn you jee jee ell ee ess), DanS (I'm not sure, I've never needed to), Dan W (I try to avoid it if possible), e (With an S), Beatlemaniac (Isn't his name Snuggles?), Jen (Spell? What do you take me for? I'm a MATHIE!), Soo (I don't), Joe (With extreme prejudice!), Snuggles (Carefully and often backwards), Diana (oldyzzrkS backwards!).

One last shout out to our peeps at Farah Foods and Campus Pizza for all the food, and we're gone ...

Ian (Some random permutation of dklorsyz)

Louis (Old school: skrzyolo)

Emerald (There's an S, then a K, then some random stuff, and then an O)

Krease (With an X inside a box at the end: Skrzydlo X)

Math FedS Councillor Consult Forum

Be Heard — <http://uwstudent.org/mathies>

Your Math Co-op and Regular Federation of Student councillors want to hear from you! On November 9th FedS Students' Council will be debating and deciding on some major issues of concern to you.

First, we will be choosing the future of Ground Zero: Tim Horton's, Symposium, or neither. Secondly, we will be talking about the new elections procedures which will have an effect on how things work in the winter. Finally, we will be working further on the FedS budget, specifically the General Office budget.

If you want to learn more about these issues or voice your views visit <http://uwstudent.org/mathies>.

Albert O'Connor

Rob Ewaschuk

Mike Bowman

Robyn Huang

Sophie Lee

Shoot Them In The Back!*Laser Quest*

Get the feeling that you're missing out on something? Well, if you don't have your Laser Quest tickets yet, then you ARE missing out! Tickets will be on sale on 3rd floor MC from Monday—Wednesday of next week. Laser Quest will be next Friday, November 7th. Go ask for more details, go get your tickets for an ultra-low price!

You Know You're... ...a CS Zombie When...

- Your face is so pale from monitor glare, you make chalk look yellow
- Eating raw flesh occurs daily (as you're too busy coding to cook the steak)
- You speak in some garbled incoherent MIPS/C++/binary babble
- Your clothes are ratty and smelly from too many consecutive hours spent debugging/hacking
- You see everything in terms of enemies (ones) and allies (zeros), not in shades of zero-point-fives



...a Stats Witch When...

- Your cackle evilly as one by one the innocent victims of stats 231 squirm while attempting to pass
- You have grown large warts on your nose from not scratching it enough in frustration from discrete distributions
- You have black nails from the number of times you have tested dropping ball bearings from a given height
- You wear black clothes to blend into the shadows of the sixth floor
- You've proved that the statistical probability of being able to fly a broomstick outweighs the probability to fall on a broomstick, and have thus learnt how to fly
- You have no friends (as you've turned them all into horny toads from your statistical PPDAC talk)



...an Applied Math Vampire When...

- Your blood sucking talents of multivariate calculus are only bettered by your ability to transform innocent functions into hellish differential fiends
- You only come out at night to feast on the innocent froshlings as they race to complete their first year calculus assignments
- You do not look in mirrors as your soul refuses to acknowledge you exist due to being to integrate stats functions
- Your hair is oily and slicked back due to refusing to leave the PMAMC&O club
- You've been bitten by the Count Fractions demon (not to be confused with the C&O Enumeration Mummies, who have just been hit over the head too often)



...an Undeclared Pumpkin When...

- Your ability to sit and do nothing is only matched by your ability to be orange.
- You consider the candle burning in your head the closest your going to get to lighting a fire under your ass.
- You're usually smashed by the end of Hallowe'en night.
- You realize you don't need your brain, so you take it out and make pie... mmmmm, pie.



Jack, The Pumpkin King's Movie Pick

Year after year, it's the same routine
And I grow so weary of the sound of screams
And I, Jack, the Pumpkin King
Have grown so tired of the same old thing

So this year, rather than discussing my regular ritual of scary-terrifying-freaking-grotesque-blood-curdling movies, and what you should see to freak the hell out of your date (eg. "The Ring"), I'd like to expound on the more culturalistic tastes of Halloween:

Disney Classics (aka Disney's Halloween Treat): These include such things as my favourite host, the talking pumpkin, and the various short clips of the different terrifying evil villains.

Hocus Pocus: Oh, man, this one is a classic. Especially with that hot Bette Middler witch plunk in the middle of this awesome re-enactment of Hansel & Gretel (aight, maybe not quite that story line, but something like that — there are vacuums involved for the cleaner in all of us).

The Halloween Tree: One of my favourite films. This stars 5 young friends, one of which dies, and has X days to live before being turned into a pumpkin. His four friends journey through mummies, witches, gargoyles and other cultural mischief makers in order to save him from the grasp of the evil duty monger.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow: NOT to be confused with the terrifying copy-cat, "Sleepy Hollow" (with Johnny Depp), this Disney story tells the tragic tale of the dashing handsome Icabod Crane, and his plight against Brahm Bones, the ugly sewer rat who is trying to get Crane's girl.

And finally, as a shameless plug, I'd like to say that my own movie, THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS, is also a wonderful classic, that should be re-told each and every year. Just a modest little movie, if I might say so myself. Let me repeat, it's called THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS. To spell that, it's T-H-E-N-I-G-H-T-M-A-R-E-B-E-F-O-R-E C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S.

Jack

BTW - go see THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

FREE PIE TODAY

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

Get **FREE PUMPKIN PIE** today outside the MathSoc office starting at 12:30PM!

Did I mention it's FREE?!? and Pumpkin?!?

Pie that is Free

Happy Hallowe'en!

'Tis the eve where ghosts and goblins come out to spook neighbors, and children run around dressed like Harry Potter and other freakish people, looking for free candy. Well, I say this: forget the children and go out with a bunch of friends and do something (LEGAL). Remember, Hallowe'en is not just for kids! Mwa ha ha...

Beatlemaniac

Last Minute Hallowe'en Costumes

With the stress of midterms and the upcoming election on November 10th (Vote Snuggles!), it's easy to forget the important things in life. And what could be more important than dressing up for Halloween? If you forgot to wear a costume today, mathNEWS is here with some quick and easy costume ideas.

Ghost - No article on slacker costume design would be complete without the classic "sheet over the head" ghost. It's rather simple to make, although you need to remember to cut eye holes in it and make sure you are using a white sheet that is reasonably clean (unless you're going as the ghost of laundry past). Bonus points if you write the word "ghost" on the front of the sheet to emphasize the lameness of your costume.

Numbers - Write a number on a piece of paper and tape it to your chest. For the rest of the day, you *are* that number. Choose π and act irrationally for the rest of the day. Choose one and you can complain about being the loneliest number. Choose forty-two and spend the rest of the day quoting Douglas Adams. The possibilities are infinite. (Hey, infinity. That could be fun.)

Trogdor - While a good Trogdor costume would be very cool, it would require a lot of work. A good little slacker would grab a lighter and just burninate people.

Zombie - Lurch around and shout "BRAAAAAIIINS!!" every once in a while and suddenly you're a zombie. Changing your wardrobe is unnecessary, but even the smallest changes can make a huge difference. All you need to do is mess up your hair and wear some shoddy clothes. Unlike the ghost, if the clothes haven't been washed, it actually adds to the effect (although it probably won't help you meet new people).

Static Cling - Put those unmatched socks to good use - a little tape and some randomly placed extra laundry makes this an easy disguise.

Leftovers - Wrap yourself up in tin foil; put a on a label if you pay attention to those kind of things

Dan Woodley

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The Flying Wolendas : Chris Harasemchuk, Ian MacKinnon, Louis Mastorakos, Emerald Kushnier

Frosh Cornered

Midterms

I was very lucky with my midterm schedule this term, I never had more than two in a given week. Of course, the downside is that I wrote midterms over the span of a month and a half. Some people I know were in the opposite situation; they wrote all their midterms in the span of a week. So while they had a very very stressful week, after it was over, it was over (well... at least until finals). No such luck for me!

In any case, I don't really want to write about the scheduling of midterms (although it is a very neat topic to discuss). Instead, I want to bring up a point about midterms that is slightly more general. I'm sure that everyone has realized it, from the very top of the education totem pole right down to the poor shmucks writing them, and everyone in between. Midterms, and in fact the entirety of the testing system present in the current education system, are completely, utterly, and totally useless.

I suppose that my previous statement is not quite true, but it isn't really all that far off. While it is true that the testing system gives our professors a moderately accurate view of how well we as students have processed the material of the course, from a "real world" standpoint, how much we are able to recall at any given time is largely irrelevant. After all, recollection is only a single part of memory, and a fairly small one at that. The most useful (and most common) way of knowing something is by reference.

Consider this: can you recall right now how you would access that really cool web page you found three weeks ago and haven't been to since? If you can, you have a freakishly good memory, and you're on your own to come up with an example that works for you. I would be very impressed if someone could load up an internet browser, type a really long URL into the address bar and

jump straight to the really cool web page they found a long time ago. That's not to say you can't get to that web page though. Odds are you are able to get to the base URL of that page, and find it from there, or you remember some other web site that has a link to the desired cool page. Either way, you know exactly how to get to your really cool web page without actually being able to do so in a "test setting".

So there you have it! Midterms and finals are completely useless. No longer should you bother to study for any such things, just take your text book with you and use it as needed. When the supervisor asks you why you have an open text book during the exam, simply tell him that all of your knowledge is by reference rather than recollection. This is a completely valid form of knowledge and should not be criticized by the supervisor. Then when you are being expelled from the university, feel safe in the knowledge that no matter what they think, you still know everything in the course as long as you have your trusty text book.

Yes, unfortunately, as useless as the current system is, it's what we're stuck with, and likely will be for some time. I suppose it does its job well enough, otherwise it wouldn't be in place. In any case, when it becomes truly detrimental it will change. I imagine a new exam setting where students are given a goal to accomplish, and a set time to do so using whatever resources they can muster. Grades are assigned based on how thoroughly and correctly the goal is met. [*Uh... haven't you just accurately described assignments and their purpose? — FrenchEd*] Until then, make sure you don't cheat on your exams.

Keslen
Cornered Frosh v3.0

P.S. Vote for Snuggles!! (it is the propaganda issue after all...)

The New Leaf

Toronto coach Pat Quinn sends scouts out around the World looking for a new center to help win Toronto the Stanley Cup.

One of his scouts informs him of a young Iraqi centre who he thinks will turn out to be a true superstar. So, Pat flies to Iraq to watch him and is suitably impressed and arranges for him to come over to the ACC.

Two weeks later Toronto is down 4-0 at home to Montreal with only 8 minutes left. Pat gives the young Iraqi centre the nod to go on and he puts him on in place of Sundin.

The lad is a sensation, scores 5 in 8 minutes and wins the game for Toronto. The fans, the players and coaches are delighted and the media love the new star.

When he comes off the ice he phones his Mother to tell her about his first day in the NHL "Hi Mum, guess what?" he says. "I played for 8 minutes today, we were 4-0 down but I scored 5 goals and we won. Everybody loves me, the fans, the players and the media, they all love me."

"Great," says his Mum, "let me tell you about my day. Your father was shot dead in the street, your sister and I were raped and beaten and your brother is now selling illegal drugs and weapons, while you were off having a great time."

The young lad is very upset. "What can I say Mum, but I'm so sorry."

"Sorry!" says his Mum, "It's your friggin' fault that we moved to Scarborough in the first place!"

You Might be a Math Nerd

- If you claim to know 4 languages, only one of which is spoken by humans ... you might be a Math nerd.
- If that one language you use the least is the one spoken by humans... you might be a Math nerd.
- If your hard drive is clean, but your body is not... you might be a Math nerd.
- If the Comfy Lounge has a more pleasant smell than your dorm room... you might be a Math nerd.
- If you've had more computers than girlfriends... you might be a Math nerd.
- If your parents refer to you as 'that creepy kid who hangs out around here at Christmas time'... you might be a Math nerd.
- If your daily source of vitamin C comes from 'Skittles'... you might be a Math nerd.

Ian W. MacKinnon

profQUOTES

"Do you want a review? Are you desperate for a review? Are you craving for a review?"

Jackson, CO 330

"I'm going to go home to my wife at Christmas and tell her I failed 95% of the class. Last year I failed 90%. God it's a good Christmas!"

Jackson, CO 330

"Midterm is at 4:30 tomorrow. Don't forget to bring your fire extinguisher along."

Marcoux, Math 247

"Yeah, it's a boring lecture, nothing really sexy."

Mosca, MATH 239

"Only if you're lucky, like you got a horse shoe up your ass or something, you can go and gamble like that."

Paduada, STAT230

"You can get a lot of mileage out of this stupid trick."

Park, MATH 137

"Now we get $1 + 4 \dots$ I can do that, what do we get... 9 or something?"

Phillips, CS 134

"Generally, what you'll do is write down everything you see and hope you figure out what it means on the weekend."

Phillips, CS 134

"There should never be a semi-colon in properly written English"

Phillips, CS 134

"But we don't care about performance, we're writing in Java"

Phillips, CS 134

"People are a lot happier when you give them 8 shots an hour of morphine"

Phillips, CS 134

"Sounds like [y] smokes marijuana outside the school or something."

Struthers, STAT 330

"If you call me Cynthia, my mother will beat you up"

Struthers, STAT 330

"This is If And Only If. Sometimes we economists shorten it to 'iff'. It means a really strong proof; we really mean it."

Sen, ECON 201

"You can't directly compete against computers; you need to sleep."

Smith, Econ 101

"You're a co-op student. You're almost unfireable."

Smith, ECON 101

"There are still a lot of women things I don't understand— ... never mind. Delete that last sentence. That could be misinterpreted."

Smith, ECON 101

"Make friends with the ACTSCI students; they don't have any."

Smith, ECON 101

"The required textbook is 'Your Unix: the Ultimate Guide', by Das; it's D-A-S, not D-O-S. That'd be a bit ironic."

Vasiga, CS241

"We really don't care what humans do because we're Computer Scientists"

Vasiga, CS 241

"There's some crazy-ass magic that happens to get this DFA."

Vasiga, CS 241

"These proofs look so nice, I really don't want to erase them."

Wagner, MATH 135

"A long time ago, when people wanted to appear smart, they spoke Latin."

Wagner, MATH 135

"I know that sounds unfair. No, it's not unfair, just cruel."

Wagner, MATH 135

[student] "Do I have to buy the text?"

[prof] "Yes, so do whatever you have to, sell drugs if you need to, but you need the text."

Wood, Music 140

"[Marrying your cousin] is apparently pretty common when you have a full set of teeth between your whole extended family."

Wood, Music 140

"Nothing I say leaves this room."

Forrest, PHYS 252

Ah, those wacky profs. If your prof ever says something worthy of being printed in *mathNEWS* be sure to submit that quote to either the BLACK BOX on the third floor of the MC between the Comfy and the C&D, or you can do it the non-Amish way and mail it into mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca. Be sure to keep them coming, we can never have enough.

The Champ Responds

Be Afraid... Be Very Afraid...

Apparently, one of our readers was offended that I think Mariah Carey sucks (*mathNEWS* Volume 90 Number 3). I'm sorry, but if Mariah Carey is allowed to release her shrieks and squeals as an "album," I can definitely say that she sucks.

How can you say that The Champ has no right to say such words about Mariah? Last time I checked, I ran a cult (wanna join?). Among my followers, I am bigger than L. Ron Hubbard,

for crying out loud! My influence is undeniable!

Think about that (oh, and the constitution, and the fact that I don't care what others think) the next time you send a letter telling me I have no right to speak. The Champ decrees that he has spoken, and shall speak again.

The Champ

What Happens If Snuggles Doesn't Get Elected?

I don't want this article to seem like a scare tactic, but it really is. If you don't vote for Snuggles, some old dude is going to be on city council making half-baked decisions on your part. Let's look at the candidates that Snuggles is facing:

Ernie Dyck — For anyone who went to the Ward 4 debate, you'll recognize Mr. Dyck as the one who was incapable of standing up to deliver answers, and usually gave responses that were only vaguely related to the questions. The only real piece of information that one could get from this senile old man was that he was once a business person. He also is in favour of new regulation for all the new residences that the Universities are currently building... uhhh, Dyck, I don't see any new construction going on for residences, do you?

Mark Whaley — I think I could best describe Mark as a "garden-fascist". He's basically running on the anti-student platform and is one of those clowns that wants to put a moratorium on new student housing until a concensus can be made as to what will be done with student housing. The city sent Mark to Holland a while back as part of 'communities in bloom'. If you look at his website, you can tell that he seems to think Waterloo has an international reputation because of its beautiful communities. Hate to break it to you Mark, but there are three reasons this city has an international reputation:

- It gets confused with Waterloo, Belgium
- The Universities
- Beer and beer derivatives like Oktoberfest

Nobody gives a rat's ass that Waterloo has a few nice gardens in a couple neighbourhoods, it's all about the drunken techies.

Bob Byron — Ok, Bob isn't all that bad. However, at the debate he was shilling for Snuggles most of the time. On three different occasions his response to a question basically said "I really agree with Snuggles on this one". That's fine and all, but if you're going to vote for someone like that, it might as well be the younger model; Bob looks like he's ready to keel over at any moment compared to the youthful and vibrant Snuggles. Oh yeah, and his experience is being part of WLU admin — do you really want a Laurier-type in office?

Edwin Lyrae — Edwin is yet another retired old guy running for councillor rather than playing golf. He has made statements that the City should not make any new capital expenditures because of the budget crisis that RIM park caused, but somehow he is also in favour of building new library facilities. This is called having your budget and eating it too. Mmmmmm... budget.

So I hope you now understand why every vote for Snuggles is important, remember that saying: "Don't trust anyone over thirty"... not only is Snuggles the only candidate under thirty, he's the only one under 50.

Ian W. MacKinnon

**VOTE IN THE MUNICIPAL
ELECTION NOVEMBER 10TH!**

Why should I care about this Municipal Election thing?

It doesn't affect me, does it?

Um, yes it does. Trust me. Or I could tell you some reasons... sure, that's good too. But I warn you, I'm biased, I care a whole lot about it, so much so that I put my name in the hat.

The City of Waterloo gets a vast portion of its revenue from property taxes. These property taxes are passed along to tenants through rent (which has gone up an average of 30% in the past four years). So you're paying for the City of Waterloo to operate.

The quality of housing and the quantity of housing are both significantly affected by The City of Waterloo (Through the Property Standards By-law, the Lot Maintenance By-law and the rules surrounding Lodging Houses). So where you are living is significantly affected by the City of Waterloo (and how far from campus you are living).

An important issue in this Election is that of pesticides (and whether there should be regulation to prevent their use for cosmetic purposes). Your health is affected by this in the water you drink, the ground you walk on and the air you breath. Your health is affected by the City of Waterloo.

There are approximately 30,000 students and the population of the City is just over 100,000. With those numbers one would think that the City should care a great deal about student issues, but it doesn't, for a very simple reason: students tend not to have high turnout in elections. In the past two elections Ward 4 (known for having a high concentration of students) has had the lowest voter turnout, 16% in 1997 and 14.21% in 2000 (compared to an overall turnout of 30.04% and 31.26% respectively). In 2003 you have a real chance to make sure that your views will not be ignored in the future. Find out about the candidates, find those that will ensure the needs of all members of the community are met, including students; AND VOTE, then get all your friends to vote too! (sounds alot like a great phrase... vote early, vote often)

It's really easy to vote, Today (Friday) and Tomorrow (Saturday) are Advance Voting Days, which means you can vote down at City Hall (100 Regina St South). Election Day is November 10th (from 10am till 8pm) Find out which ward you're in and where your poll location is go to: <http://199.212.48.41/Vote2003>, note that you can only vote in the poll that you are supposed to vote in! You just have to show up with some photo id (a drivers license works) and some proof that you live where you say you live (Cable/Phone bills are good, even Quest print-outs should work). The FedS are even organizing lifts to the polling stations.

For unbiased information check out <http://www.feds.ca/vote> or <http://www.mywaterlooregion.com> (which has their 23 question survey posted online)

SSS

There's A Difference?

Can you tell the difference between mashing the keyboard and Snuggles' last name?

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| • jabfnhz | • skrzydlo |
| • vknrtexp | • fbgvtffr |
| • irwauh | • rtydjb |

Aren't we glad that it's a Multiple Choice ballot?

Elections Information

An in-depth guide to candidates running in Wards 2 and 4

As most of you know, there is a municipal election being held on November 10th. You probably also know that there are past and present students running in this election. What few students know is that we represent approximately 1/3 of the population of Waterloo, and a large percentage of Ward 4. So, how can you, a simple student, make a difference in your city for the next n years (where $0 < n < 5$)? Easy. Come out and vote. Make an educated decision. So, what's the easiest way to do this? Research candidates in your ward. Many candidates have their own web site, but there's also www.mywaterlooregion.com and the Feds.ca candidate information booklet. Both of these sources asked all the candidates questions, to which most decided that answering the questions they were asked. Here's a breakdown of the two biggest student-populated wards:

Ward 2

- **Judy Greenwood-Speers:**
 - Decided that answering the Feds questionnaire was a waste of her time.
 - Wants to create a database of where all students are living, and have landlords update this every time a new tenant comes in (does this not VIOLATE privacy rights? I'd not consent to this)
 - "Increase" communication and expenses by having "report cards" in the form of flyers (hmmm...creating MORE litter to clog up the city?)
 - It is apparently the fault of tenants if the landlords screw up with anything. According to Ms. Greenwood-Speers, it is the tenants that should be fined for violations incurred by absentee landlords.
- **Angela Vieth:**
 - According to Ms. Vieth, the Universities are "taking a leading role in providing housing for students". Albeit partially true, there is very little being done for upper year students.
 - Ms. Vieth does not want to make student housing any more complicated than it is.
 - Ms. Vieth wants current by-laws to be better enforced.
- **Jim Bolger:**
 - Mr. Bolger believes that the relationship between students and government needs to be reworked.
 - Mr. Bolger is prepared to meet with representatives of the two student unions to try and find better ways to accommodate current students' needs.
 - Most importantly, Mr. Bolger thinks that the trust that has been lost over the last couple of years cannot just be given, and it must be earned.
- **Mike Kerrigan:**
 - Mr. Kerrigan feels that "students are considered second-class citizens" and that he is the person whom is best in touch with students. Interesting that I'd not really heard about him before this election...
 - Mr. Kerrigan did not answer www.mywaterlooregion.com's questions of pertinence to students.

Ward 4

- **Bob Byron:**
 - Mr. Byron did not answer the Feds questionnaire.
 - Mr. Byron does not believe there is a lack of trust between City staff and the general public.
 - Mr. Byron believes that tenants are at fault for current instances of neglect and avoidance of meeting building standards.
- **Ernie Dyck:**
 - Mr. Dyck has not provided a platform to any known source
- **Mark Whaley:**
 - Mr. Whaley did not answer the Feds questionnaire.
 - Mr. Whaley believes that experienced is the key to restoring confidence and trust in Waterloo leadership.
 - Mr. Whaley believes that current by-laws need to be properly enforced.
- **Edwin Laryea**
 - Mr. Laryea believes that any motion involving significant expense should be scrutinized. This will essentially increase costs, as bringing in an "outside specialist" is an expensive task.
 - Mr. Laryea believes that by-laws are not the problem, and that enforcement is the problem.
 - Mr. Laryea believes that illegal lodging houses are contributors to "traffic congestion and competition for street parking"
- **Stephen S. Skrzydlo:**
 - Mr. Skrzydlo believes that students, generally, want to live in proximity to other students, and close to the Universities. He asserts that forcing students to not live in a smaller radius around the universities has caused the current problems of absentee landlords and "peppering" within the community.
 - Mr. Skrzydlo does not believe that six people have "a monopoly on quality ideas", and that the only real way to instill trust within city council is to get community feedback. Mr. Skrzydlo would propose to make better use of the city web site, namely creating and maintaining an online citizen's forum to allow this feedback to be heard.

Beatlemaniac

Free Community BBQ

On Sunday afternoon, drop by 72 Balsam Street for some free grub and a chance to meet Ward 4 City Council candidate Stephen S. Skrzydlo at a complimentary community barbecue. The barbecue will take place from noon to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 2. All members of the community are invited, so come on out to chill with your neighbours and talk to Stephen about the important issues of the municipal election. For more information and a map to the barbecue, check out www.electsss.com.

Ward 4 Councillor Candidate Stephen S. Skrzydlo Sez

Doesn't have quite the same ring as Snuggles Sez does it? To answer your first question, yes, I'm Snuggles, that's what the S. stands for, and yes, it's not just a nickname, it's actually my middle name.

So where is Ward 4 anyway?

Well, Ward 4 is bounded on the south side by Bridgeport while east of Weber and by University between Phillip and Weber (So north of University unless you're east of Weber, in which case north of Bridgeport). It is bounded on the east by Conestoga Parkway. It is bounded on the west by Phillip, Albert and Belcan (The boundary is Phillip until it hits Albert, then it's Albert until it hits Belcan Place, which intersects with the Highway to complete the border, although WCRI is in Ward 2 not Ward 4).

Not sure which ward you're in? Head on over to <http://www.electSSS.com> and click on events. You should notice a certain event on Monday, November 10th telling you to vote along with a link saying "Where do I vote?" click there and enter your address, it won't only tell you which ward you're in it'll tell you which poll within that ward you have to vote at. If you feel like going to an unbiased site the FedS website has a ward map too.

Am I allowed to vote?

If you live in Waterloo (including as a tenant) or own land here, or if you're the spouse or same-sex partner of an owner/tenant;
Are a Canadian citizen;
Are at least 18 years old;
And are not prohibited from voting under the law
Then you are allowed to vote!

Why are you running?

A large segment of the population at Waterloo has been ignored. Students make up about 30% of the population in Waterloo and they are seen as a problem and not a vibrant part of the community, I think this is absurd. Over the years I have heard the phrase "community members and students" and every time it annoys me. Students ARE community members, it's time they were treated as such. We need to find ways to have student and non-student residents both be happy in their homes and community. There must be a voice on council that can truly understand the student perspective and I am that voice.

**On November 10th,
vote Snuggles!**

Top 10 Rejected Snuggles Campaign Promises

10. Wednesdays will be "arrest everyone named Ted days"
9. Take the 3.4 Million spent on the RIM park scandal inquiry, get it in sacs filled with pennies, use it to beat those responsible
8. Pension plan for hobos in uptown
7. 75m rule for anyone over 60
6. City hall will be liscenced under LLBO
5. Name of the city will be officially changed to 'Pimpton'
4. The 'Matlock' freeway will be created to appease the elderly voters
3. A property tax break of 5% will be given to each house that has an old piece of furniture, such as a couch, on the front lawn
2. The University Campus will be expanded to include Mel's Diner, Weavers, and that bowling alley on Princess
1. Town motto will be changed to "ph33r th1s t0wn, 1t 1s 733t, w00t!"

Ian W. MacKinnon

What's your platform?

I believe we need more housing close to the Universities. Just as a family wants to live close to their children's school, just as a businessperson wants to live close to their job, a student wants to live close to their place of learning. I believe that placing further restrictions on housing when we have some of the lowest vacancy rates in the province is irresponsible. We must ease the restrictions in the areas immediately surrounding the Universities, while ensuring standards are upheld.

I believe that transparency is essential in government. Every citizen must be able to easily find out what their government is doing for them, in a clear and concise manner. We should not have to pay 3 million dollars to find out what happened (more then that was spent on the RimPark inquiry) because we should be constantly informing the public as to what we are doing on their behalf. It is unacceptable that far-reaching decisions are being made behind closed doors.

I believe that six people sitting at a table do not have a monopoly on good ideas. We must have consultation so we can come up with the best possible solutions to the problems that face us. Tell me what I can do to make your life better.

I want to hear more!

Check out <http://www.electSSS.com> or email info@electsss.com. Or come on out to our second community BBQ on Sunday, November 2nd, from noon to 3pm at 72 Balsam Street (it's between Hazel and Hemlock, one street north of University). Check the website out for future bbq's and for upcoming information about our fundraising dinner on November 8th.

I want to help out! I want a lawn sign!

Yay for volunteers and lawn signs! If you're interested in helping out, or in having a campaign sign on your lawn, send an email to info@electsss.com (or fill in the online volunteer form on the website www.electSSS.com)

I want, well... unbiased information.

Make no mistake about it, I'm not just telling you to get out and vote, I'm telling you to get out and vote for me. If you'd like a little more balanced coverage check out <http://www.mywaterlooregion.com> or <http://www.feds.ca/vote>.

Stephen Snuggles Skrzydlo
Candidate for Ward 4 Councillor

mathNEWSquiz

Last week's Squiz had two answerers, so without further adieu, here are the answers. **The Metric System:** 1. Second 2. Ampere 3. Metre. 4. Candela 5. Kilogram **The Punic Wars** 1. Three 2. Rome & Carthage 3. Hannibal **Movie Quotes:** 1. *Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* 2. *Full Metal Jacket* 3. *A Clockwork Orange* 4. *2001: A Space Odyssey* Bonus: All are Stanley Kubrick films. **Final Fantasy Trivia:** 1. Final Fantasy (the original) 2. Final Fantasy Mystic Quest 3. Final Fantasy Legend 4. Final Fantasy Adventure 5. Final Fantasy **Song Lyrics** 1. *Surf Wax America* by Weezer 2. *I'm so Tired* by The Beatles 3. *Me So Horny* by 2 Live Crew (They also did a song called Bill so Horny, about Bill Clinton, which starts the same way) 4. *The Rainbow Connection* by Kermit The Frog.

The two submissions this week were from Eric Logan & Adam Felix. Eric scored 23 and Adam Felix scored 24. But Eric answered the Bonus at the end, worth 1.000000000001 points, and is thus the winner of the Squiz. For the answer to that, look it up! Now, on with the Squiz.

Song Lyrics

1. trust I seek and I find in you
every day for us something new
open mind for a different view
2. He's got a watch with a minute hand,
Millenium hand and an eon hand
When they meet it's a happy land
Powerful man, universe man
3. You've been down in the dumps
it seems like forever.
Now, what have they done to you?
4. I'm trying to remember
Why I was afraid
To be myself and let the
Covers fall away

mathNEWS Eliminates Midterms

After yet another production night decimated by midterms, mathNEWS has petitioned the University to abolish all midterms. "We're tired of losing our writers because the University has conveniently scheduled a midterm during our production nights," said an mathNEWS editor.

When mathNEWS first brought our petition to the UW administration, we received quizzical looks, similar to how a cow looks at an oncoming train. "Are you trying to tell us there's something else for students to do on Monday nights? You can't be serious..."

The mathNEWS editors quickly took advantage of the situation. "Do you realize that simply by eliminating midterms, not only will you free students on Monday nights, but every other night as well. Students could spend their time at the Bomber and/or bettering humanity, as well as come to our production nights every other Monday."

Once again, the admin did their cow impressions, but broke out of it more quickly this time by saying "By the end of next month, there will be no more midterms for the remainder of the year."

Krease

Saints

In honour of All Hallow's Eve, identify the following Catholic saints:

1. Which patron saint of lawyers, once the Lord Chancellor of England, was beheaded for refusing to acknowledge King Henry VIII as the head of the Church of England?
2. Which saint produced the first authoritative Latin translation of the bible, known as the Vulgate?
3. Which patron saint of brewers is quoted in a famous T.S. Eliot poem?
4. Who is the patron saint of mathematicians, who lived in the fourth century?

Bonus: What is the name for a scholar who studies the lives of saints?

Snuggles for City Council

1. In which ward is Snuggles running for city councillor?
2. Complete the slogan: "I will ensure _____ by creating _____."
3. Which of Snuggles' opponents remarked that he wished he could have Snuggles as his speechwriter?
4. How will Snuggles' name appear on the ballot?

Wrestling Trivia

Give the wrestler's real name

1. Sabu
2. Lex Luger
3. Kane
4. Sid Vicious

That's all for this week. Submit your Squiz early, submit your Squiz often. Same bat time, same bat place.

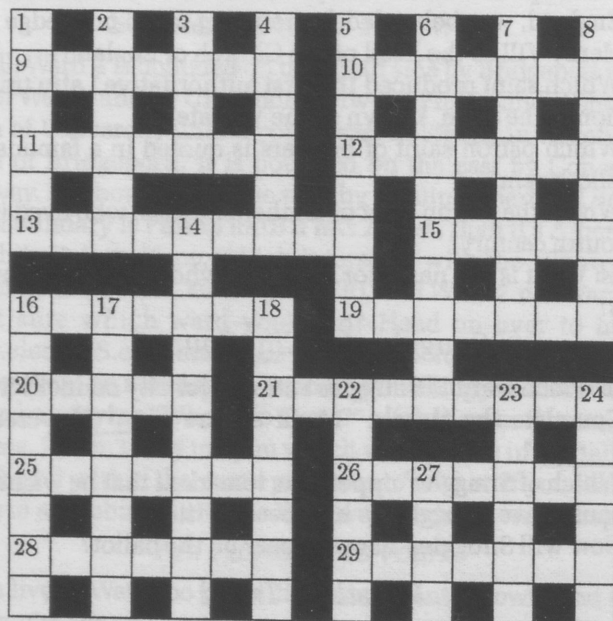
π & Eigenvector

Questions for a Monday night

- Why does mathNEWS have it's production night on the same night that most (all from my perspective of a first year) of the math faculty's midterms are?
- Wait... don't I have a midterm in 5 minutes?
- How do I get to RCH from up here on the 3rd floor, I've never had to get there from anywhere but home before?
- Why are all my midterms all the way over there instead of here in like everybody else?
- Why the hell am I still here writing, I seriously need to get over there?
- Why... oh screw it, CS is slightly (although not too much, it's only 134) more important than mathNEWS, bye...
... Alright, here I am back here at mathNEWS central, midterm done and time to keep asking questions.
- Why was that so easy, I didn't study, and it was still too much?
- And lastly: Why did I even bother coming back here?

Oh, yeah, I remembered, the pizza! Free food is always good, well have fun with that Friday morning class, I'll just be here with my nice slice of pizza (this is of course due to a weird ability of space time to allow it to be Monday night for me, and Friday morning for you [don't think it's possible? Prove it, I dare you])

DanS



The Conventional Clues

Across

9. Twister (7)
10. Radioactive metal (7)
11. Sneakers (7)
12. Placing (7)
13. Critters carrying trunks (9)
15. Frequently (5)
16. Mate (7)
19. Coveted (7)
20. Type of polyhedron (5)
21. All people (9)
25. Alibis (7)
26. Agitated (7)
28. Not western (7)
29. Comprise (7)

Down

1. Hunger (6)
2. Colour (6)
3. Wind (4)
4. Toxin (6)
5. Guessed (8)
6. Carefully (10)
7. Parson (8)
8. Supposed (8)
14. Principal (10)
16. Came about (8)
17. Bag (4-4)
18. Bandaging (8)
22. Consequence (6)
23. Get (6)
24. Vessels (6)
27. Relative (4)

gridCOMMENTS

Come one, come all — I challenge you to a test of your wits — are you smart enough to compete with this weeks spooky *gridWORD*? For those of you brave enough to try, and smart enough to outwit all others, you will receive a special prize!

Notable efforts are awarded to all those who handed in solutions to last issues' solutions! For the cryptic, we've got Chris & Eric, Beatrice, and the SJU Crew. Conventional solutions were handed in by Crystal & Jason, the SJU Crew and Catherine & Katherine.

Since Crystal & Jason were the only ones who got the entire Conventional grid correct, they win for last issue! The Cryptic grid was a close call, I had to look at last issues *gridQUESTION* for the winner. Chris & Eric's "Uncountably many" gives them the victory for the week! Great work guys!

Don't forget to submit this weeks' special Hallowe'en edition of *gridWORD*, due by November 10th by 6:00pm, either by email to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca or in the BLACK BOX. This weeks question — "What is the best way to spend Hallowe'en?"

The Girl

The Cryptic Clues

Across

9. New aura about not knowing (7)
10. Toll permitted lock (7)
11. Persistent pooch (7)
12. Rinse muddy lens, Ace (7)
13. Shuffle back stove (9)
15. Wood glue (5)
16. Lisa & Sam made sausages (7)
19. Endorse trail around poles (7)
20. Branch starts badly but finishes well enough (5)
21. Soothsayers see topless dresses (9)
25. Let race run around syrup (7)
26. Wrangler practicing animal husbandry (7)
28. Flustered by snake (7)
29. Widow, heartless, downed lager (7)

Down

1. Trudge woodenly (6)
2. Draw the line at dropping new tart on flower (6)
3. Island is lacking dirt (4)
4. Anger a confused president (6)
5. Income continues (8)
6. Emphasize: censured or beaten (10)
7. Lackeys who fail? (8)
8. Naked guy who washes windows badly (8)
14. Dilapidated harem lacks refinement (10)
16. Boys sort tangled yarn (3,5)
17. Poet stirred a true ale (8)
18. Hangs unsuppressed, pure sacrifice (8)
22. Flamenco demurely conceals cypher (6)
23. Old-fashioned street overdose, grand journey's end (6)
24. Promises sport in ship (6)
27. Curls and amazes (4)