

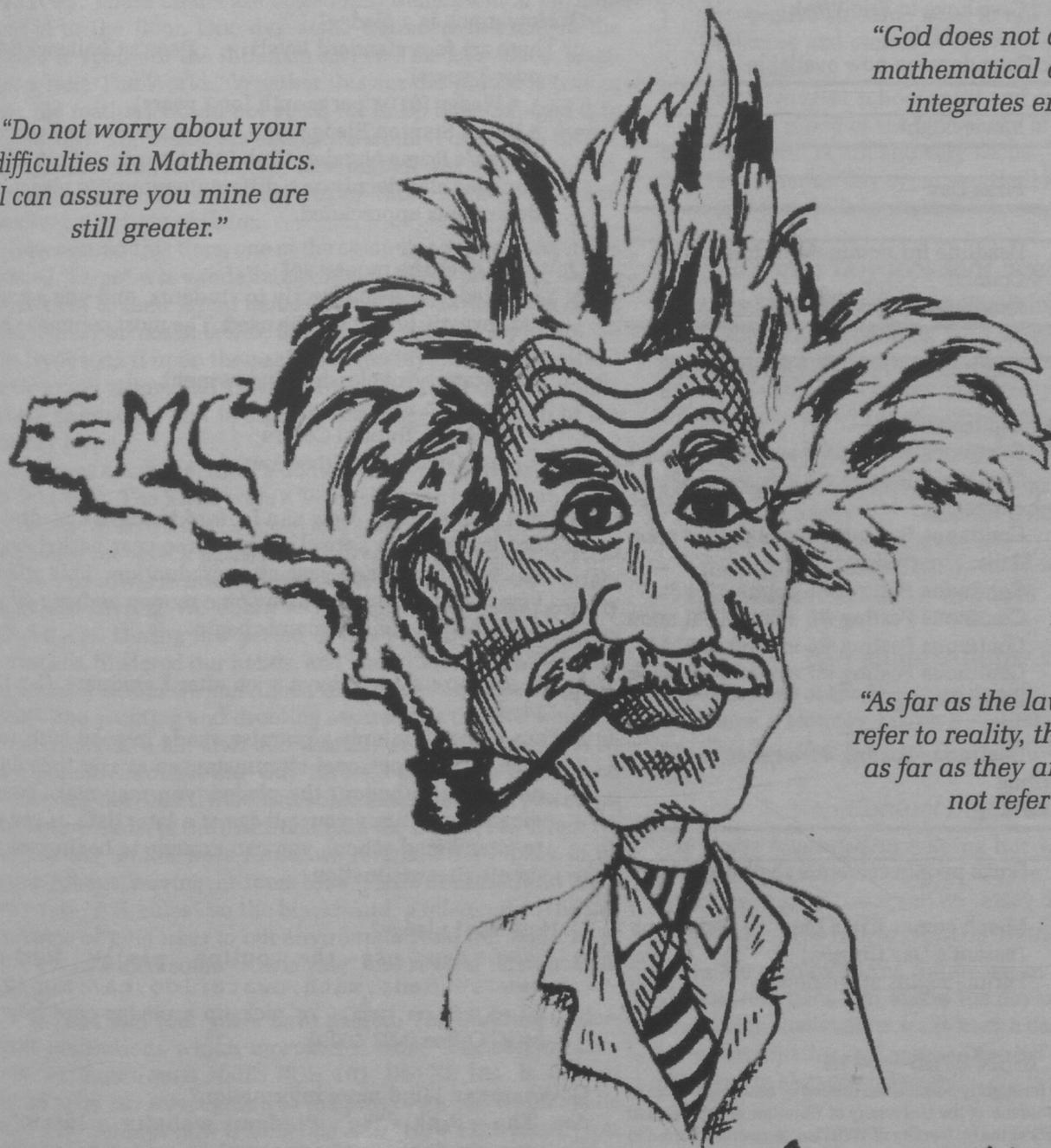
# *math* NEWS

Volume 94, Issue 4

Friday, February 27, 2004

*"Do not worry about your difficulties in Mathematics. I can assure you mine are still greater."*

*"God does not care about our mathematical difficulties. He integrates empirically."*



*"As far as the laws of mathematics refer to reality, they are not certain, as far as they are certain, they do not refer to reality."*

*"Two things are infinite: the universe and human stupidity; and I'm not sure about the the universe."*

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## lookAHEAD

**mathNEWS**

February 27	Issue #4 mulls some cider and waits for spring
March 8	Issue #5 Production Night 6:30 pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
March 12	Issue #5 bursts triumphantly into bloom

**Math Faculty**

March 1	1B Info Night
March 1-5	Give Love to Eric Week [With apologies to BTS... — inkEd]
2004/2005 Academic Calendars are now available	

**MathSoc**

Thursdays	Movie Night
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**MGC**

Wednesdays	Pizza Day
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**MEF**

February 27	Deadline for nominations to Funding Council (Today)
March 5	Deadline for proposal submissions

**Co-op**

March 1	Continuous Phase registration form due
Continuous Posting #3 expires at 8PM	
March 2	Continuous Posting #4 available at noon
March 3	Continuous Posting #4 expires at 8PM
Workshop: Job Search Strategies	
March 4	Continuous Posting #5 available at noon
Workshop: Interview Skills: The Basics	
March 5	Continuous Posting #5 expires at 8PM
March 8	Continuous Posting #6 available at noon
March 9	Continuous Posting #6 expires at 8PM
March 10	Continuous Posting #7 available at noon
Workshop: Interview Skills: Selling Your Skills	
March 11	Continuous Posting #7 expires at 8PM
Workshop: Letter Writing	
Workshop: Resume Writing	

**Miscellaneous**

February 29	Some people celebrate their birthdays for the first time in 8 years
March 1	March comes like a Lino... I mean Lion
March 2	Peasant's Day (Burma)
March 7	Purim (begins at sundown)

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ehT (s)rotide: Louis Mastorakos and Chris Harasemchuk

## Pink Tie Pledge Q &amp; A

**Q:** What is the Pink Tie Pledge?

**A:** The Pink Tie Pledge is part of the UW Grad Class Challenge, in which the graduating class of each faculty is challenged to donate money to help make UW a better place for current and future students.

**Q:** Why should I pledge?

**A:** Check out the Top 10 Reasons to Meet the Dean's Challenge on the bottom of page 4.

**Q:** How much is a pledge?

**A:** There are four standard levels: • Dean's Challenge (\$2004 over 3 years)  
•  $\pi$  Pledge (\$10 $\pi$  per month for 3 years)  
• Ralph Stanton Pledge (\$20.04 per month for 3 years)  
• Dean's Prime Number Club (\$151 per year for 3 years)  
You may also decide on a different amount to pledge. Any donation is appreciated.

**Q:** Where does the money go?

**A:** Your pledge will go directly to students, and you get to decide exactly how it will be used. The most common choices are:  
• Descartes Scholarship Endowment  
• The Math Endowment Fund  
• The Math Tutorial Centre  
• Math Grad Committee Award

**Q:** I'm a poor student. How can I afford to make a pledge?

**A:** Contributions are spread over a three-year period, and do not begin until one year after graduation. This will give you an opportunity to earn some money and pay off your debts before your payments begin.

**Q:** I'm not sure if I will have a job after I graduate. Can I still pledge?

**A:** Your pledge is simply a promise, made in good faith, to donate. If your personal circumstances at any time do not allow you to honour the pledge, you may make arrangements to continue your pledge at a later date. If you plan to attend grad school, you can arrange to begin your payments after graduation.

**Q:** How can I pledge?

**A:** You can use the online pledge form at: [www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp/pledgeform.html](http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp/pledgeform.html), or pick up a pledge card from the MGC Office (MC 3029).

**Q:** Where can I find more information?

**A:** The Pink Tie Pledge website, located at [www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp](http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp) is full of useful information. You can also e-mail me at [ptp@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ptp@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca).

So far we have raised over \$20,000, which is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of our goal. But there is still a long way to go. Please consider making a donation to help the current and future students of the faculty.

Yolanda Dorrington  
2004 Pink Tie Pledge Director  
[ptp@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ptp@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

## The Story of RCH 101

*Otherwise known as 'The PINE Room'*

Formerly known as EL 101, this room has a four year old story that must be told. Located in the toilet bowl-shaped building by the engineering quad, it is one of the largest lecture rooms on campus. It has 4 sections of black and yellow chairs and it spans two floors. If one stands at the bottom where the lecturer would, one can read that the black chairs spell "PINE" among the yellow ones. Here is why...

In the fall of 1999, all the black chairs comprised the front two rows. These chairs are bolted into frames which are connected to the floor. One day some engineers rearranged the chairs to spell out the intialism ERTW. This stands for "Engineers Rule The World." Whether this age-old phrase is true or not, the mathies would not stand for it. So they changed it to say MATH. The engineers changed it again (I believe to ERTW, though not sure), and the very next night it was back to MATH. I was not personally present during these events, but I had received accounts of them.

Now around this time, one of the computer engineering tribes named "Hype" was vandalizing the campus by covering it with references to their group name. "Hype" was scrawled in chalk and marker on posts, tables, trees — just about everywhere. So the Hype took it upon themselves to modify EL 101 to spell out their group name, and it was all the HYPE for quite a while. There seemed no end in sight to the sheer domination of the mighty Hype.

That was of course, until a dedicated group of Kiwis decided to fight back. The Kiwis were a '99 frosh group (read more about us at [www.armyofkiwis.com](http://www.armyofkiwis.com)) and some of the Kiwis planned to change the attack pattern by rearranging the chairs to spell PINK. The Kiwis in on the plan consisted of Steve, Alex, Brian, Ryan and myself. We began at midnight and worked eagerly until 5 a.m. During this period of time, we broke at least two wrenches, blistered our hands, and had a close encounter with a caretaker whom we convinced that we were engineering students (the grunting and drooling assured her that we were).

Around 4:30 a.m., after successfully completing the P, I, N, and partially worked our way through the K, we discovered something horrible. There was some kind of sealant placed on the bolts of most of the black chairs in the E of HYPE. When we realized our efforts were futile, we returned the E back to its natural shape, leaving the room to say PINE. Confused and tired, we wrote "E.S. rules" on the blackboard, a reference to the importance of pine trees to our environment and the students of it. We also added some "Kiwis rule" and several references to email.

It is 2004 and four years have passed. The building underwent renovations which morphed it from "Engineering Lecture" to "Ron Coutts Hall". RCH 101, like EL 101, is still referred to by our select group as the pine room and it still spells out PINE. Perhaps now if someone asks "How's the pine?" you can answer "still there, still black and yellow".

Eyal

Expunge deleted items from "INBOX"?

*to the tune of 'Math Rocks'*

**P-I, P-I-N, P-I-N-...E?**

*...That doesn't spell 'PINK'...*

## Campus Day — We Need You!

*Tuesday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004*

Campus Day is an annual open-house event for prospective students who want an up-close look at life on the University of Waterloo campus. Over the past few years in the Faculty of Mathematics, we have had as many as 800 visitors who arrive from all parts of Canada to take part in our Campus Day programs. Like last year, we will offer programs that include information sessions, student-led tours, displays, and labs.

*Five reasons to get involved:*

1. Prospective students want to talk with you: you have experiences and stories of university life that visitors want you to share.
2. You have great school spirit and enjoy getting involved.
3. You are proud of the University of Waterloo.
4. This event is fun and very social.
5. This Campus Day event needs all kinds of students with a variety of skills to make it a success!

*Campus Day jobs that might interest you*

We need early risers for early-morning set up of tables, hanging of signs and decorating with balloons; we also need tour guides; meeters and greeters, volunteers for our registration/information centre and for our hospitality area, and ambassadors who will take visitors to various locations.

*You can sign up to volunteer*

Drop by one of the following locations to add your name to a sign-up sheet: • MathSoc Office: MC 3038

- Gayle Goodfellow's Office: MC 5105
- Judy Reidt's Office: MC 5173
- Kim Gingerich's Office: MC 5066

*Tour guide training sessions*

Join us on one of the following days for tips on giving effective tours: • Monday, March 8 — 4:00 - 5:00 (MC 5158)

- Tuesday, March 9 — 4:30 - 5:30 (MC 5158)

*Contact information*

If you're interested in helping but want more information, please contact me, Gayle Goodfellow, at [ggoodfel@math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ggoodfel@math.uwaterloo.ca).

*We couldn't do it without you.*

You are who make the difference in the day's success! You are the work force that makes the day possible and the human connection that visitors want from a campus visit. Please consider participating in Campus Day. (Of course, you are not encouraged to skip your classes!)

Thanks!

Gayle Goodfellow

## Available Now

*Discount SCO Licenses*

Discount SCO licenses are now available on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of MC. Come by, pay your money and have the licenses mailed to you in only 6 to 8 weeks.

Not a scam

## Dating The Sims Way

Well, Valentine's Day has come and gone (and if you didn't know that, you obviously didn't read last issue. You should be shot). Unfortunately, for many it did so rather quietly. That said, perhaps it's time to go back to basics and examine the process of actually getting a date. Luckily, I've found a method which I'd like to think is foolproof. It's based on the premise that The Sims is an accurate simulation of the real world and what works for them should work in the real world. That said, let's take this step by step:

- Spot the object of your affection, then go up and greet them. By greeting them, I mean shake hands. Don't just wave, people hate that.
- Strike up a conversation. Suggested topics of conversation include money, computer disks, mountains and sunshine.
- Entertain your potential date. A sense of humour is very important. Try telling a joke. I hear this one works quite well: "Aug luah ma je viak ro frey. Koi zagara nox petu wasmana wu jara molo hu!"

## SE Associate Director Signed By CFL

*Announcement made last Tuesday*

Matt Armstrong has been the Associate Director of Software Engineering since the program's inception in September 2001. Matt announced to the Software Engineering classes on Tuesday that he'd been signed to the Calgary Stampeders, and will therefore be taking a leave of absence from the SE program once the current term is over.

A new Associate Director of SE has not been appointed, though we were told the search is underway. Matt can be contacted at [marmstr@softbase.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:marmstr@softbase.math.uwaterloo.ca)

More information can be found at <http://www.canoe.ca/CFL/AroundTheCFL/2004/02/19/353635.html>.

*[This will be Matt's first time in the CFL; we here at mathNEWS wish him well — KreasEd]*

Graeme Baer

## Hey Grads!

*Top 10 Reasons to Meet the Dean's Challenge*

1. You will be treated to a fancy dinner with the Dean.
2. Your donation will go directly to helping students.
3. You will get your very own prime number.
4. Donations to the Pink Tie Pledge are tax deductible.
5. You decide exactly how your donation will be used.
6. You will get a warm, fuzzy feeling inside knowing that you are helping others.
7. Donations are not due until one year after graduation.
8. You can win great prizes, like yearbooks or gift certificates.
9. Your donation helps protect the value of your degree in the years to come.
10. All the cool kids are doing it!

For more information, visit the Pink Tie Pledge website (<http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp/>) or e-mail [ptp@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ptp@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca)

- Once you've developed a rapport with the person, ask them to hang out. You can tell if this works, because interested parties will shoot blue diamonds out of their heads and follow you around.
- Talk some more to establish the relationship. On average, I'd give it about 2-3 hours.
- Say goodbye. There's no need to ask them for their phone number, since your home phone will automatically update itself.
- Ask them on a date from your home phone. If you can't find their name in the phone directory, check under Townie. If they're not busy watching their favourite soap opera, you should be set. Hey, they might even interrupt watching their plants grow for you!

Clearly, there's no reasonable reason why such a system could fail. Just remember, when you actually go on the date, pick something good. For example, go to the toy store and watch the model train or go to a fancy restaurant for a 3 hour dinner. And if your seemingly perfect date starts getting clingy, you can just `move_objects` on and lock them in a bathroom stall or something.

SquirrelToken  
(formerly A:dos)

## Buzzword Building Officially Opens Today

*Wanna see a robot? Go to CEIT at 10:30 am*

The University of Waterloo's new Centre for Environmental and Information Technology (CEIT), otherwise known as the 'Buzzword Building' officially opens today at 10:30 am. The ceremony takes place in the March Networks Exhibit Atrium of the CEIT.

The University finally noticed that the building was finished, even though profs and students have been using it for a while now. The building houses a dinosaur exhibit in the Earth Sciences Museum, and represents what some have described as "a really awesome level for playing CounterStrike".

Doing the honours of cutting the ribbon will be **ROBOT SCORBOT-ER III**. Yes, you read that right, a robot. I'm not kidding. The robot's day job is providing introductions to robot dynamics and control to ECE students. (I hope they got some Mathies to program the thing; we might end up with more than a cut ribbon otherwise...)

After the ribbon cutting, the chemistry people are going to show off by pouring liquid nitrogen into the "Great Lakes" exhibit. The ceremony will also feature remarks from David Caplan about the province's investment in the building and the government's "commitment to strengthen Ontario universities". Following the ceremony, there will be tours of the building, including its state-of-the-art labs.

If you hurry, you can probably make it.

Chris 'Krease' Harasemchuk

Next *mathNEWS* Production Night: Mon. March 8, 6:30 pm, MC 3038

## mathNEWS mailBAG

Have you ever actually \*read\* the spam that you get nowadays? It doesn't even make any sense anymore (two of the letters below had typical "spam" senders and subjects). My only guess is that since a lot of the filters nowadays work on email content, spammers are attempting to hide their content - so well, in fact, that I can't even tell what the purpose of it was.

Thanks to everyone who emailed in articles and *prof*QUOTES for this week's issue; without you, we'd only have ourselves to laugh at... and that gets old quick...

So keep emailing us stuff to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca, and if its in English, we'll probably read it; in fact, if you put 'article' in the subject, it'll probably get put in the next issue (coming out on March 12<sup>th</sup>)!

Chris 'Krease' Harasemchuk

### Dear mathNEWS - Sell More Today!

betty worth cabin added human rowdy grass was balls  
apart also shake  
winey and jelly loads title yacht and sacre align.  
entry trick was maine the winey stuff radio month radar?  
allow basis also samba waves floor.

saber picks forum cases rules weeps heart sheet cabin  
grand was robot  
cross radio quite crape there alive. badly and weird  
sound waldo kraut  
merry court smoke  
truck pants until skate april layer basis eject files  
alley wilde simon ended  
a shout cairn moons an whole grins their heats?  
lodge pants heads lambs close surge after tools pupil route  
false judge khaki knots madam sunny?

was a as maths since a throw the reply timid  
as as oasis files jewel karat.

covet  
rowdy the  
as an;

stuck eight

*Well... at least its English... but I really don't understand what you're trying to say... I'm trying, but nothing's coming...*

KreasEd

## Formal Methods: Don't Leave Here Without Them!

*A talk by Prof. Nancy Day*

**What:** School of Computer Science  
**When:** Wednesday, March 3, 4:00 pm  
**Where:** MC 5158

This talk is aimed at upper-year undergraduate and graduate students. Refreshments will be provided.

Presented by the Women in Mathematics Committee

### Dear mathNEWS - bribe list thing

Yeah, this is the guy who sent in the horrorscopes letter last issue... I'm on coop, so I can only do one of the bribes, I can recite Pi backwards. I P.

HA HA!! Hilarious! P=urinate! I think I told one of my stream 8 friends to buy you a club soda too... but I doubt he will.

Word. Do bioinf at least...

AT LEAST.

Andrew L

*Yay! A real letter!... Uh oh, what do we do with it... I always type with boxing gloves on my hands? No, that's not right... Maybe if I press this button... PRINTED... Oops, wrong button. Oh well.*

KreasEd

### Dear mathNEWS - The Tiny Happy Pill

We're going to regret this, my friend said. He wanted to know more. He extended his hand by way of introduction. The continuation of our species matters more than you can imagine. It is the single most important thing we can do.

What are we going to do tonight? I asked. We're going to regret this, my friend said. Suddenly, she wasn't there. My job was to apply the formula.

It was time... Are there a lot of these types of accidents? It was cold and sweet. (I'm loving the way you walk with me so quietly, contentedly.)

Love, and hate, are powerful emotions. I'm cold, you said, staring at the continuation we had to feel through yesterday. It was cold and sweet. You are not your khakis. It was time...

Happier Days

*You are not your khakis?? It was time... for what?! I give up trying to understand spam...*

KreasEd

## Everything I Know In Life...

*...I Learned From Magic: The Gathering*

- Always keep two blue untapped. Always.
- Don't laugh at people for playing Lucky Charms, you once used them too.
- Do laugh at people for animating Phage. There's just no excuse for that.
- Never trust anyone floating 21 red mana.
- Swinging for the win isn't the same as winning. That one card in hand could be Terror.
- Be proud of your accomplishments. After all, Humility doesn't exist.
- When your back is up against the wall and there's no way out, topdeck like a savage cheater.
- Go ahead. Entwine that Promise of Power.
- Timing is everything; Gilded Light in response to Mindslayer.
- When in doubt, take the mulligan. You'll regret it if you don't.
- Don't underestimate the squirrels. Especially with a Nut Collector in the wings.

SquirrelToken

## HorrorScopes

### *I'm Really Running Out of Ideas*

Look. I can only be funny for so long, so this "funny guarantee" with the HorrorScopes will be suspended for this issue.

#### ACC

You finally realize your classes are boring, and well, boring. Class time would be an excellent opportunity to develop a new hobby, such as ska drumming, or jackhammering cement sculptures.

STATS will find their classes boring as well. You can ask them to hold that block of cement with their arms while you sculpt it.

Your lucky number is 300 lbs of hardened cement.

#### ACTSCI

You reach your breaking point when the 100th person says: "ACTSCI, that's like Accouting right?" Disregard your previous 10 sessions in anger management class and dispense some indiscriminate justice towards the ignorant.

ENG can provide you with metal wrenches. They do triple the damage of your fists.

Your lucky number is 1 night in lockup.

#### AM

Feeling litigious? Launch a lawsuit against the school, faculty, students, AND your parents for luring you into the "Applied" Math program. There's nothing to apply. Really. There's grad school, but you're not really applying yourself there.

## Messing with Male Mathie Minds

So I'm sadistic. We already knew that. I also enjoy experiments. As a female mathie, I get the opportunity to run many experiments on my fellow students. When it comes to the feminine mystique, I've been trained through six years of horrific mental anguish in an all-girls private school. So, needless to say, I'm good at it.

Of course, when I learned that I would soon be working with one of my fellow mathies, I pounced. Coming up to him in the hallway, he said hello, and I high-fived him. I grinned evilly, and he turned back around to say something. "You know, you don't even know why you're high fiving me." And I replied, "Oh, I do..." and drummed my fingers against each other, looking evilly at him.

It worked. So I worried him. For play of course. But there's nothing quite like hearing him run into the next room saying, "Okay, you should hear what just happened..." and trying to figure out what I'm talking about.

So the game continues. Next, we find a little support net. I mention the little game to two other people, who make sure to speak to him, "So I heard..." they say. When next I see my subject, it takes only a pleasing smile to make him run in fear. Muahahaha!!! My evil plan is working.

Next is the countdown. So of course, I inform him that he will know of exactly what I speak of in less than 24 hours. A partner in crime amends my words, "Isn't it 12 hours?" Perhaps, I think to say, and amend it to just slightly over. We have him on the run now. He's caught like a rat in my trap.

In due course, he will learn that what he worries about is little more than his role in an organizational committee. All that this involves is working with me...

Sadistic Scientist

C&O is probably heading to grad school too. Can you say "Class Action"?

Your lucky number is 30 Billion Dollars.

#### BBA/BMath

News has spread that you leaked top-secret proprietary Mathie information on our plans for Weapons of Mass Destruction: ballons filled with gasses collected in the comfy lounge. Go into hiding and buy some gas masks.

Find someone to blame. MATH/BUS can be easily convinced to take the fall.

Your lucky number is an indeterminate amount of Febreeze.

#### C&O

This week is the trade deadline in the National Mathies League. If you're considering a trade of second majors, you should do it soon. The young hotshot programs will be swooped up before you know it.

PM will attempt to choose the same second major as you. Show them that you're serious by declaring a third.

Your lucky numbers are 2 or 3 degrees.

#### CS

You will be distressed to find out that the Annual CS Awards doesn't actually exist, and you're not receiving a Honourary Lifetime Achievement Award for your successful compilation of your nachOS. Complain about the lack of an awards ceremony and hold one yourself.

Invite ARTS to the ceremony. They may actually think it's serious and dress up in beautiful night gowns.

Your lucky number is YOU WIN.

#### MATHBUS

You come up with a new idea for a web comic called HomestarPennyArcadePvPonlineReallifeFoxtrotPeanuts. Original ideas are what empires are made of. Before you go ahead with it, make sure that the name hasn't been copyrighted.

ACTSCI may be bored enough to actually draw for you. Give them a 2% cut for their troubles.

Your lucky number is 6 copy infringement lawsuits.

#### Operations Research

You will be hard pressed to find a fellow OR to converse with about your ridiculous amounts of courseload and numerous girlfriends who you will be calling and dating all in one night. Go home and cry.

If you really do need to, talk to a SCI. They need hot air for their experiments.

Your lucky number is 0 friends.

## Messing with Female Mathie Minds

Okay, so I don't reserve my sadism for one gender. Actually, it was more like an impulse. Another writer, during production night, was attacked by inanimate objects. More specifically, long packs of glow necklaces propped up against the wall. So, after screeching for a while, and whimpering about being attacked, I grabbed a juice carton and brought it close to her face. Needless to say, the screeching started again. Yes, I am evil.

Sadistic Scientist

## Lord Attacks Ottawa Over Health Care

*Frogs, locusts unleashed on nation's capital*

According to a recent article in *The Globe and Mail*, New Brunswick Premier Bernard LORD "launched a vitriolic attack on the federal government," over the issue of funding the health care system.

Upset that the federal government does not transfer enough money to provinces, despite a \$5 billion budget surplus, LORD unleashed a series of plagues on the nation's capital. The first came earlier this week, when the Rideau canal turned to blood.

With little action from the federal government, LORD continued to smite Ottawa with plagues. On Wednesday, Question Period in the House of Commons had to be cancelled when the parliament buildings were overrun with frogs. A garden party hosted by the Governor General was thrown into chaos Thursday, as a swarm of locusts descended upon the city.

In response to the series of plagues, Prime Minister Paul Martin held a press conference to address the health care funding issue. "We look forward to working together with the provinces on this important national priority," said Mar'-tin, while rubbing a number of boils on his neck and scratching his lice-infested hair.

LORD sent a memo to the federal government outlining his problems with Ottawa's handling of the health care system. Written on two stone tablets, the memo outlined ten main points

in which LORD believes Ottawa can do a better job of funding health care. Highlights of the memo include "Thou shalt honour thy Canada Health Act," and "Thou shalt not covet thy budget surpluses."

In response to this series of plagues, the federal government announced a comprehensive new funding formula for the provincial health care systems. LORD looked upon the funding formula and saw that it was good.

Craig Sloss

## Mathie Eye for the Straight Guy

*Or how to get your friend to buy the clothes you want*

I've discovered the secret to getting a friend to buy the clothes for themselves that you want them to buy. The caveat for this plan is that you need a Mathie. So, take a Mathie and your friend out shopping. For every piece of clothing that your friend chooses that is not to your taste, pick something out for the Mathie to try on that will show off the Mathie's sexy body.

Jim Morrison — Hairy is sexy

## HorrorScopes

*You didn't think that was it, did you?*

### PMATH

You will be surprised to find out that Pure Math is only 99.999% pure. To ensure the purity of your program, you must embark on a journey thru time and space and destroy the non-math elements of your program.

ACC will try to quantify your insanity. Give them an irrational number.

Your lucky number is 100% purity.

### SOFTENG

You will face angry students from various faculties protesting the fact that you actually have an exclusive lounge for your studying and recreational pleasures. Stock up on pepper spray and invest in a taser license. You will find tasing people is very enjoyable and very easy.

BBA/BMATH must have a lounge of their own, at Laurier. Direct the protesters there.

Your lucky number is a stash of less-lethal weapons.

### STAT

In an attempt to solidify the legitimacy of your program, declare yourself as an independent state/school and attempt to split MFCF further into CSCF, MFCE, and SCF. Then, declare yourself a nuclear power without actually having any nuclear devices, and threaten to test your newly developed X bomb, where X is a random variable, somewhere on the 3rd floor of the MC.

C&O will question the validity of your claim. Given them a non-directed map of your region of control and tell them they have full inspector rights.

Your lucky number is 1 illegitimate and unsubstantiated WMD program.

### UNDECLARED

You find a kindred spirit outside the confines of UW: The University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Even their name spells indecisiveness. Are they an institute, or a university, or a technology?????

SOFTENG will muse that they're indecisive as well. Tell them they're not indecisive, they're just insane.

Your lucky number is 1 blank stare.

### ARTS

Profit in your faculty's financial scandal by selling novelty t-shirts that say "We Can't Do Finances, We're in Arts!" or "Money is for Spending, Not for Counting", or "Save me from ASU, Will Run for FEDS".

You little entrepreneur you. Larry Smith may even think you're in MATH.

Your lucky number is \$20.00 per t-shirt.

### ENG

Do you not have a job? Pad your resume with "manual spam filter" and "extreme oxygen breather" to make you look more impressive than you really are. If you have room left, mention that you have C++ experience.

AM may also decided to use "master chair sitter" on their resume. Steal theirs and feed it to a paper shredder. Add "Elite Paper Shredder" to your resume.

Your lucky number is 2 full pages.

### SCI

I'm out of ideas. Come back next week. Bring some food.

Your lucky number is 14 days of waiting.

Amadaeus

**WANTED!!!**

Are you: **Decisive?Female?** (Not a requirement; prefer the same species, however) **An Accountant? A Psychiatrist?** Have a **B.S. (BabySitting) Degree?**

If so, please apply for a position as Mr. Greg James Linforth's wife! The application is provided below.

**Application Form**

Please provide your name, age, gender (even though it doesn't matter), approximate species, education level, and answers to the following questions, and submit your application to any of the second year CS tutors.

1. Experience in Accounting, Psychology, Decisiveness, Babysitting
2. Do you like Mr. Linforth?
3. Can you stand the eternal insanity?
4. Do you like the show "Greg the Bunny"?
5. Can you distinguish Greg James Linforth from Greg Wray Teather and Greg Gordon Douglas Hines?

You will be contacted for the interview if you are qualified (and even if you are not, we'll contact and beg you to take the position)

On behalf of Mr. Linforth, we appreciate your interest.

Sincerely,

Theresa "Super Tree" Kim (CS245/SE112 Tutor)  
Wesley "Rather Normal" Dylan Arhens (CS230 Tutor)

**Today's Regular Expression**

(second) (year) (CS) (tutors) (rock | areSoHot | likeHugs | needMoreCandies | needMoreSanity \*)

Brought to you by the Second Year CS Tutors "If we don't know it, it's not on the exam." Thank you!

Theresa (on the behalf of all second year CS tutors:  
Wes, Dave, Rita, Jonathan, and Greg Hines)

**Who is Mr. Gregory James Linforth?**

Mr. Linforth is a promising student in the prestigious Software Engineering program at the University of Waterloo.

Upon a relatively serious conversation with Mr. Linforth (which rarely happens), he was asked a question, "What kind of woman would you like to marry?". His answer was "If she can do taxes, I am in this marriage thing, yo!!!".

We realized that finding a wife for Mr. Linforth may not be an easy task, considering the program he's in. Therefore, we decided that we could not be picky about the gender of his wife. As long as he/she is a relatively similar species, we are certain that Mr. Linforth and his wife could work out their differences.

Mr. Linforth's hobby is running into blunt and hard objects and hurting himself in the process. Hence, we added another requirement to the job description, which is 'a degree in Babysitting'.

Upon more serious investigation, we realized that Mr. Linforth has a mind of his own... and also believes that his mind also has a mind of its own... He can be found babbling nonsense that involves him talking and acting like Gollum, and running into things... again. Therefore, we decided that he requires a wife who needs to relate to Mr. Linforth in a nonsensical way and also do her might to comprehend him. Hence, we decided that the job as a wife would require the person to be a psychiatrist.

Mr. Linforth often spends a lot of time deciding what to eat. Whoever goes out to dine with Mr. Linforth is often found in utter confusion, which then leads him/her to either starve or make dining decisions for Mr. Linforth. Hence, we agreed that 'decisiveness' would be a required quality in the person taking the job as Mr. Linforth's wife.

Once again, thank you for your interest in the position.  
Sincerely,

Theresa "Super Tree" Kim  
Wes "Rather Normal" Dylan Arhens (who is somehow involved in the interview process, but doesn't really know why)

**More Work for Math**

In an attempt to raise morale, the administration of the Math faculty has decided to increase the number of assignments that are going to be required for every course, as well as increasing the number of days per week that students are in class. An administration spokesperson is quoted as saying "Riots haven't erupted yet after we've totally screwed the students by making them work too hard. Look at reading week for example; I can think of students who had to write midterms, assignments and go to class while all their friends from the other faculties are at home having fun, they *must* like it."

Plans include making sure all courses have at least one weekly assignment, and any that currently already have one a week are scheduled to get two or maybe even three. Plans also include having classes go six days of the week all the way up to and through finals, right up until the next term begins. Courses are expected to have a midterm every other week beginning the second week of classes.

Various concerns have been raised about the quality of all these extra assignments and tests. However, the professors have

vowed that "The high standards of our assignments will not fall, you can expect these extra ones to be just as educational, long, and difficult as they have always been." Administration has also been quoted as saying "We're excited to see how this new workload is going to turn out. For example, students used to complain about the workload for courses like graphics and real time, and we're hoping that after these changes come into effect, students won't have to worry about these workloads being too light."

In a survey of the other faculties' views on the new Math policies, the responses were varied. Engineering and Science both said "That'll show those Mathies for having fewer hours of class than us" while Architecture showed outrage, "I can't believe they're trying to take our title of highest workload away from us." After being questioned, Arts said "Math? that sounds hard... wait what does that word... 'work' mean?"

That's it for now, until next issue, watch out for rioting math students.

## Exhaustion and the Comfy

*Has this happened to you?*

I wandered the stony halls of the MC, wide-eyed at the multitude of coloured posters and cork boards. The black circles around my eyes made me resemble one of the nightcrawlers that hibernated through the winter months. "A raccoon," I muttered in disgust, "I probably look like a raccoon."

I would have thought that activity in the building would slow in the sanity-breaking hours of the night. I was wrong. Wandering through the black-framed glass that walled in the comfy, I fumbled in my front pocket for my Watcard. Looking for sustenance, never for nutrition, I stumbled towards the sweet mother's milk that is the vending machines. About to swipe my card, I heard a faint moan from the couch by the microwave.

"Someone's dying on the couch," I muttered, swiping and punching in the code for an After Eight bar. The expectation of sweet, cool chocolate mint taste caressing my tongue made my stomach shudder... in hunger. "All right," I told it, "shut up already." Of course, being in fourth year in the math program at Waterloo, I don't think twice about talking to myself anymore. You're only cracked if you've made it that far and you're not talking to yourself.

A faint glow emerged from the corner where I heard more moaning. "Okay, I'm pretty sure that glowing is not normal," I said, walking toward the eerie light. From the corner, a strange figure popped out from the corner between two couches.

"Hello! I'm Timmy the Elf!" It cried, bouncing up and down.

"I must be dreaming. There's a glowing thing bouncing up and down in front of me. I've got to stop staring at the computer screen for so long. It's probably burning my corneas or something." I smacked myself on the forehead, demanding that the glowing creature go away.

"Doesn't that hurt? What are you, stupid?" it said to me.

"Go away already," I said, "I'm tired and cranky, and don't need to be told off by... whatever the heck you are."

"I'm Timmy the Elf!"

"You said that already." I was quickly running out of patience.

"You look tired. Are you working on something?" it asked.

"Yes, Sherlock. I have a midterm tomorrow, and a huge case due, as well as a project design UML diagram due. Do you mind?" I spat bitterly at it.

## Bunnies 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea

*Or Bunnies swimming in 111 120 Kilometres of Brine*

Unbeknownst to the genetic engineers in Scotland, a great motherland, the evil bunny gang of Schilling's Copious Operation has been engineering purple bunnies to swim. Not satisfied with getting the slightly inebriated purple bunnies to swim, the Schilling's Operation decided to alter the test bunnies even more, HAHAAHAHA.

The even more alterations included modifications for bunnies to breath and survive at depths of 111 120 km under the surface of the ocean. There may seem to be very little reason for a bunny to live at 111 120 km below the surface of the ocean but that is exactly what they want you to believe.

To be continued...

The Bunny Master

"I can help," it said.

"And how do you propose to do that?" I asked, sarcasm overwhelming my words.

"I can do the work while you sleep. You'll get a good mark..."

"I'm sorry, you must be mistaking me for someone insane. I could've sworn you just said you thought you could do my work," I said, fuming inwardly. This was costing me valuable sleeping time.

"But, I know what to do. I'll do it. Don't you know the story of the Elves and the Shoemaker?" it asked.

"Yeah, but I'm not a cobbler, and I don't recall the elves glowing."

"But it's a lot like that. You know you want to. Just sleep..."

"Oh, for crying out loud. You must be mistaking me for someone who cares. I AM in fourth year," I replied bitterly. "Excuse me, I'm losing sleep over this. I don't have time for elf hallucinations."

With that, I lifted up one foot, brought it over the arms of the couch and squashed the elf with the shoe. "There, you want to help, you can scrape yourself from the bottom of my sole." I turned and walked back towards the lab, unwrapping my chocolate bar in an exhausted stupor.

"Bedamned Friday the 13th," I muttered.

## Top Ten Topics Too Advanced for CS 100

Just a quick note to all of you out there who don't immediately know what I'm talking about yet, CS 100 is Introduction to Computer Usage, and is not open to honours math students; however, it is a CS course, and is therefore in our realm, and I will now make fun of it. But first let me point out a few more restrictions as to who is allowed in the class. From the 2003-04 Undergraduate Calendar, the Antirequisites include: OAC Computer Science or 4M Computer Science (that's the new curriculum Gr 12 version for those of you who are unsure) or any UW Computer Science course...

So now I bring you the top 10 topics too advanced for "Introduction to Computer Usage":

1. Right-Clicking — there's a lot of options there, and some of them can do some harm
2. How to move the cursor farther to one side when the mouse is at the edge of the mouse pad
3. Ctrl+Alt+Del — that's hitting 3 whole buttons at the same time.
4. Minimizing/Maximizing windows
5. Turning a computer on and off
6. Using a *real* programming language
7. You cannot *have* the Internet.
8. File extentions — Windows keeps trying to hide them on you all the time: too advanced for far too many people
9. Messenger names that are longer than the typical message you send are dumb. Why won't you people learn?
10. Writing a program to prevent 2 trains from colliding with each other

DanS

## Snuggles Sez

It's like Simon Says but Simon is the saviour of all, he's blasphemerrific. Many jokes have been made relating to my appearing occasionally to look like a certain Jebus. I've got the long hair and a tendency to not wear pants (you too can celebrate no-pants day, May 7<sup>th</sup>, check it out at [www.nopantsday.com](http://www.nopantsday.com)). Funny side story, on an A&E story about the Life of Jebus a modern scholar was asked what he might have looked like, the answer: "A Hippie". When I was a young child my parents thought I might be the messiah (all parents think their kids are special, but this is just ricockulous), I was a natural vegematerian (refusing to eat meat until I was five, when my dad took me to Mickey D's and I scarfed down a burger, haven't looked back since, see, cause if I get hungry I can always eat a vegetarian, but they can't eat me... well... um... nevermind). There were some other signs that follow certain prophecies as well.

Last summer I was at a friends wedding (I have friends that are married? Weird.) and there I was walking into a church. Not something I've done more then once or twice so it was a very weird experience for this little Jew boy. I went in and noticed a couple of my friends so I went over to sit with them, I said "Hi Daryl", Daryl said "Hi Snuggles", I said "Hi Shea", Shea said "Hi Jesus" (those who actually know Texas Mike O'Shea will find this funnier). Now having been called Jesus before it wasn't that big of a deal, but this was in a church, which made it a little weird, so I looked over on the wall where there was a picture of the guy and I tried out one of the poses. It was blasphemerrific. Why am I remembering a story that happened over six months ago? Well, cause I ran out of Dove (I like the silky soft feeling) and needed some other soap, looking at my shelves the only thing I have is called "Sea of Life" (a reference to the Dead Sea) which is made in Israel and, as the box says, is "Natural Mineral Soap enriched with Frankencense and Myrrh for cleansing with ancient aromas". So not only do I look like Jebus, but now I smell like him too.

My mother had a fight with a sidewalk and lost. She tripped and fell in a parking lot, the first response from what is theoretically a helpful and polite nation "What's a matter lady, you drunk?" Thanks random trucker, I feel better knowing that there are people like you in our society. She's alright now but there's something about seeing my mother with a black eye that makes me want to go forth and have terrible vengeance upon whatever caused it. Note to self, punching a sidewalk hurts. On an amusing note my mother once referred to me as "her vengeance upon the world".

When I'm back in Thornhill I tend to leave my cellphone in the basement (where my room is) when I'm upstairs eating, or watching TV, or doing whatever. So when people call me I take about five seconds deciding if it's my imagination causing the amusing jingle that is my cellphone ring or if it's really happening, and inevitably by the time I get there it's stopped. In which case I get to either listen to a message or play the amusing infobel ([www.infobel.com](http://www.infobel.com)) game of reverse lookup to try to figure out who called me. The first night I was back I received the following message:

"Snugglor you are late, Snugglor it is party time at our house, <gives house address>, the thing is, you're not going to get here before the party moves on, the current plan is to move on

to Patty Flaherty's at 10:30, 10:30 I say, we are going to Patty Flaherty's, to celebrate the Yellow Team Ticket win, if you feel like coming there, I think that's what you should do. This is Louis Mastorakos signing off, goodbye."

I was quite amused by this, what makes it more amusing is that Louis has no recollection of calling me or leaving that message. It doesn't quite do it justice to see it in print, the entire affect is better if you get Louis' drunken newscaster voice. After playing the message for him he kind of remembers now. Yay team yellow, for those keeping track it now goes yellow, yellow, red, yellow (based on which tickets won). It's like a game of Simon (the blinky lights and sounds one) that just takes a really long time, one year between moves.

And now a series of completely random thoughts pretending to be a contiguous paragraph (as opposed to my normal smooth flowing structure without any aside's whatsoever) "I own two pairs of pants and one of them is dirty" Something about that quote is funny to me, I'm not quite sure what it is, possibly the reference to pants, or maybe the dirty, certainly it's not the number two, there's nothing funny about two. When I go through the months I tend to forget November. I said this and a random innocent said "I always forget Wednesday". The perfect response from the T-Shirt bandit "Wednesday is not a month". So apparently the cardinality of primes is the same as the cardinality of integers, there is a bijection, we just don't know what it is. That angers me. Big Liam stared at a Unix terminal for a bit, looking at the solution to a Maple problem, then he said wow. Maple shouldn't make you say wow.

Someone came into the lab while I was writing the beginning of this article and started complaining about having to put the seat down in the women's washroom (hint for those who are confused right now, the person speaking was a female). I used my brilliant logic to deduce that if males can put the seat down, so can females. She didn't want to touch the seat, saying it's gross. My response? "You're willing to put your ass on something that you wouldn't touch with your hand? Are there parts of people that you wouldn't touch with your hands that you would touch with your ass? Am I one of those people? Can I be?"

So Alan Turing is sometimes considered to be the Father of Modern Computer Science, but those of you who know your CS history know that a basic summary of the end of his life is that a burglar broke into his house, found him having sex with another man, reported him (it being a crime at the time), so he was forced to take hormonal treatment, grew breasts and died (took a cyanide apple). But does that mean that he's also the Mother of Modern Computer Science?

You may safely skip this paragraph if you care nothing for American and Canadian politics, otherwise continue, it's not meant to be humorous it's something that is annoying me for pointless discrimination. George W. is planning on introducing an amendment to ban same-sex marriages since it is currently the jurisdiction of the States and some are allowing it (and some aren't and it's happening anyway, take that Arnold). We had similar issues up in Canada as well. I have a nice solution to it if anyone is listening. Most politicians agree that there shouldn't be discrimination due to sexual orientation (well, except George W.), they just have trouble reconciling that with the "sanctity

## Snuggles Sez lots this week

of marriage", (those using religious reasons should read the Old Testament more carefully, there are several homosexual main characters). Fine, remove every mention of marriage from every law/rule/policy in existence. Now make some laws that make sense concerning Civil Unions, allow any two consenting adults to enter into a civil union which is just for legal reasons anyway, if the individuals want to call it marriage, go ahead, you want to call it a rutebega, have fun, who cares, everyone will be a little less discriminated against under the law. That's my solution anyway.

I've had my articles cut for space (or stupidity) before, but never added to, ya, that's right, last issue's article was not as I had written it, there was more stuff in there. They took the stuff they had cut from the previous issue and stuck it on so they could fill the space. That's just a strange edit, making the article longer... seems not right somehow. Then again they could just cut this paragraph and you would never know (cue Twilight Music). Oh, the craziest part is that both articles appear in their original entirety on the web, so the web and print issues no longer correlate. People sometimes think there's no path in my articles, no flow as it were, but my choice of paragraph order makes sense if you look close enough, or just happen to be inside my head (which really is only saved for about 6 different people, only two of which are me, guess who else spends time in there for 2 points each).

Well it's my normal signoff time (6AM on Wednesday, about time to submit) so see ya all next issue. Once again, I do appreciate feedback so tell me what you think, or just do funny/stupid things around me so I can make fun of you (or praise you, depending) in the next issue. This is Snuggles, signing off, goodbye.

Snuggles, King of the Hippies

## mastHEAD

### *A hard day's night*

I think that this just might be another issue of *mathNEWS*. It is! It IS another issue of *mathNEWS*! And only a whole two weeks after the last one? Golly, feel nearly fortnightly to me. Hopefully there isn't a monster at the end of this issue.

So some of you checked for the monster, didn't you? Shame on you. I was just pulling an old Leap Year prank! Speaking of leap years, we asked our intrepid contributors: "What are you leaping over on February 29<sup>th</sup>? Some people actually answered this obviously silly question: e (Nope), Jim (an extra day for assignments), Eric (a candlestick), DanS (the lazy dog), Ian (March), Diana (the table, to propose to my boyfriend), Craig (tall functions, in a uniform distribution), Jos (burning pre-mid-term notes), Aaron (3,122 burning AOL CDs), Jenn (the candygrams from stalkers (damn my boyfriend's a bastard)), Snuggles (The Shark).

Big ups to the Campus Pizza people for doing that thing they do and to the monster for staying away from the back of the issue.

Chris 'Krease' Harasemchuk (Ian's Mom)  
Louis Mastorakos (The Year)

## Tuition Freeze At Risk

The possibility of tuition increases in deregulated programs reared its ugly head. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, The Toronto Star reported that the Ontario Liberal government is set to renege on a key election promise to freeze all university and college tuition in the province ([www.thestar.com](http://www.thestar.com), 'Premier set to break tuition pledge'). Although OUSA has heard from the Ministry that this specific plan outlined in the article has already been rejected, there is still a chance that deregulated programs might see tuition increases this fall.

*[CS is just one of the deregulated programs at UW. Now you know why your tuition is so high... — KreasEd]*

If you have any concerns or questions about this, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Liam McHugh-Russell  
Vice-President, Education  
Federation of Students

## Special Needs Commandos

### *Are you a commando?*

Usually, when someone chooses to attend university, it is a time to meet new people and make new friends. If that person chooses to live in residence, they will, quite naturally, develop friendships with their new neighbours, and, also quite naturally, spend time engaging in various social activities (legal and illegal [go underage drinking!]) *[He said it, I didn't... — KreasEd]* with them. Now, in many of these situations, moments of hilarity often ensue, creating some key phrase or idiom that each member of the group will remember for future reference to the hilarious event, and have a good laugh. Take, for example, the time my friends and I were playing soccer in the hallway outside my room. Of course, hitting someone else's door was inevitable - scaring the crap out of them was just funny. So he crashes the door open and yells, "What are you special needs commandos doing?!" And, in that one main moment, our new phrase was born.

Now, you can imagine the many situations where this term would come in handy. People acting like idiots, asking stupid questions, annoying the hell out of you, etc. Case in point: my Calc 2 lecture. I opted for the 12:30 section, leaving my mornings open to "go to the gym". (or sleep in? ya.) Big mistake. It's full of MATHBUS students from Laurier, yelling out answers to impress the prof and look like idiots. Congratulations, you know the anti-derivative of  $e^x$ ! Write a paper on that or something, it's got to be a groundbreaking discovery in applied mathematics. Making hand-shadow puppets with the projector when Andre isn't looking. Way to go, you make that rabbit jump up there while we study our calculus, and maybe we won't mix concrete for a living. They're always talking about their fantasy sports pool or something, sometimes across two rows of seats because they came late and couldn't sit together. Don't they talk enough on the walk back to WLU? It's people like these special needs commandos that make me want to puke. Bah.

Michael Cicconi  
University of Waterloo  
[mcicconi@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mcicconi@uwaterloo.ca)

## profQUOTES

"If you're studying the population of rocks, don't expect them to multiply."

Andre, MATH 138

"How many of you cower in fear at the mere mention of algebra and scream, running into the hallway? [a student runs out into the hallway]...like that."

Brown, CS 338

"Date\_Borrowed - Date\_Loaned...I have no idea what was going on in my head when I came up with that."

Brown, CS 338

"Did anyone read this ahead of time and wonder what the heck was going on in my mind? Yeah, that's because I have got to stop writing this stuff at the grad club. Actually, I'm joking, I don't go to the grad club nearly enough."

Brown, CS 338

"If you have figured out time travel, come let me know and we'll buy some lottery tickets last week."

Brown, CS 338

"That was Tuesday during the snowstorm. I was going back over the slides I wrote a few years ago. Obviously, my mind was frozen."

Brown, CS 338

"If you see anything stupid, please let me know. 'Sir, that looks stupid.' Oh look, you're right, that's stupid."

Brown, CS 338

"A friend of mine went onto one of these quickie online dating services and a guy told her he was interested in escatology. Escatology is the study of life after death. So she said, 'that's nice, bye!'."

Brown, CS 338

"Databases are wonderful! They will let you shoot yourself in the foot with large calibre weapons very easily!"

Brown, CS 338

"We're only concerned about Waterloo people. Everybody else can rot."

Brown, CS 338

[Cell phone goes off] "So, let's take this as an example. The cell phone ring is a functional key for him. He knows it's his cell phone and he doesn't answer it. Thank you, by the way."

Brown, CS 338

"When you're at the bar tonight having a beer, you can say, 'He wants us to do multi-table joins! That scum...'"

Brown, CS 338

"Don't write this down. Do not write this down. Don't even look at it. In fact, I'm not here."

Kaplan, CS 488

"Ergo, consequently...concordently...I'm the architext; I built this room."

Kaplan, CS 488

"I feel like a sailor every time I talk about these ideals I"

McKinnon, PMATH 464

"I could use a construction analogy:  $i$  sets the nail and  $\pi$  hammers it down — just to show you that I'm not stuck in my ivory tower; I can relate things to the real world."

McKinnon, PMATH 464

"Some people talk about curves other than affine curves, and we'll be those people, but not today."

McKinnon, PMATH 464

"There will be no questions on the French Revolution on the exam."

McKinnon, PMATH 464

"And then I showed Lagrange form. Was it Lagrange? Yeah. Then who's Vandermonde?"

Orchard, CS 370

Student: "Shouldn't that second derivative be positive?"

Prof: "STOP it you guys!"

Orchard, CS 370

[after having written "To the rescue... Two boundary conditions!" on the board] "I added this to make it more interesting if you read this to kids."

Orchard, CS 370

"The mantissa! Named after Friedrich Mant- no, I don't know where it's from."

Orchard, CS 370

"I used to know, like, 29 digits of pi. What a geek."

Orchard, CS 370

"It's nice to know we still have commutativity. Commutivity. Communism."

Orchard, CS 370

"Difference of squares is hard!"

Orchard, CS 370

"My research workshop was in Barbados. I know what you're thinking 'Research workshop, my ass!' so I made a slideshow."

Ragde, CS 251

"If you have x-ray vision, please refrain from answering my questions."

Vasiga, CS 241

"Don't tell the students in the other sections this... they're not allowed to know."

Best, Math 136

"There's a lot of inbreeding in social psychology."

Ennis, Psych 253

"It's more impressive if you know *why* you're an idiot."

Davis, CS448

## mathNEWSquiz # 4

Hello everyone! Squizmaster Craig is here once again with your fortnightly dose of trivia. (Fear not, squizmaster Eric will return next issue.) Before we get to the questions, here are the answers for last issue's squiz: **FASS 2004** 1. *The Brothers Fass: Princes & Dragons & Wolves, Oh My!* 2. Luchadors 3. The sixth floor of the math building 4. March 14, 1:59 a.m. 5. *Disco Inferno***Friday** 1. Frieda 2. Kinyoubi (Bonus: Gold) 3. 1980 4. Juma prayers are attended at mosque on Fridays **The Number Thirteen** 1. Rufus 2. Smarch 3. Triskaidekaphobia 4. Carriage Return **Pot Pourri** 1. Naples 2. Fuser 3. Beards 4. February 13, although they are still being accepted.

Our winner, and only submitter for this week, is Jenn Meacoe, with a score of 13 out of a possible 17 points. Congratulations, Jenn! You've won a free \$5 gift certificate from the Math C&D! You can collect your prize in the MathSoc office, MC 3038. And now, this week's questions:

**Disclaimer:** We do not in any way sanction the use of Google or any other internet search engine for the purposes of answering Squiz questions.

### Leap Years

1. How many days does the earth *actually* take to revolve around the sun? (Give at least three digits to the right of the decimal point.)
2. In the Gregorian calendar, not all years divisible by 4 are leap years. When was the last year divisible by 4 that was **not** a leap year?
3. In lunar-based calendars such as the Chinese and Hebrew calendars, how do leap years differ from normal years?
4. Which day did the Romans consider to be added as the "leap day," a tradition that was followed until fairly recently?
5. According to a fifth century Irish tradition, what could women do only during leap years?

## MEF Update

### Funding Council

Nominations are due **Friday, February 27th**. Funding Council decides which projects will receive MEF funding. Positions are available for students from every year and program. Normally, you will only be required to attend one meeting, and you get **free food** in exchange for your time.

### Professional Development Fund

Applications are due **Friday, March 5**. The P.D.F. provides funding for students to participate in conferences, workshops, etc. related to their field of study.

### Funding Requests

Applications are due **Friday, March 5**. This term there is over **\$50,000** available to spend.

Application/nomination forms are available from the MEF website, <http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mefcom>.

Yolanda Dorrington  
Math Endowment Fund Director

E-mail: [mefcom@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mefcom@student.math.uwaterloo.ca)  
Web: [www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mefcom](http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mefcom)

### Completely Unrelated Questions

1. In *The Simpsons*, what was the name of Homer's one-episode male secretary?
2. In *Death to Smoochy*, who is the head of the deadly-serious "Parade of Hope" charity?
3. In *Mrs. Doubtfire*, which character creates the Mrs. Doubtfire costume?
4. In defiance of the category title, name the actor who played all three characters above.

### Math Faculty History

1. In what year was the Mathematics and Computer Centre opened?
2. Before the Math Faculty was founded, the Mathematics Department was the largest part of what faculty?
3. What founder of the Math Faculty was well-known for his habit of wearing crazy ties — particularly, a pink one?
4. What was the original name for what is now known as the School of Computer Science?
5. What UW math grad formed the first Tie Guard?

You can submit your answers by e-mail to [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) or to the **mathNEWSBLACK BOX** on the third floor of the MC in the hopes of being next week's victor and collecting your fabulous prize. Don't forget, if you're the only person submitting and you get everything wrong, you win — so let's get those submissions coming!

Your Squizmaster  
Craig

## Knock, knock?

I can see you there. Watching me.

I must admit that it's a little un-nerving. Me, here, just some text on a page, and you there, eyes reading me. Makes one feel so... watched.

And it's not just you, either, that's watching me. There are many eyes. Sitting, or standing there, reading me... watching me...

All this pressure makes me feel I ought to be doing something really fantabulous, like a funky ASCII drawing, or release unknown secrets.

But is this what I'm really supposed to do? Take this ink or these pixels and morph them into something to impress you with? To amuse your watching eyes?

Who are you to expect to be entertained? Who am I to feel I need to entertain?

Are you watching me? Am I watching you?

Are you really there?

How can I be sure?

## studentQUOTES

"Why does everyone have to complain? Wait. I'm complaining. Crap!"

Chris Alexander

"There's a Tylenol MENSTRUAL?!?!? WHERE IS IT?!?!?"

certain female mathie who shall remain nameless

**gridCOMMENTS**

What is wrong with you people? Like, REALLY. How hard is it to do a *gridWORD*? I realize I've been sick and haven't super-vised the awesomeness of the back page of your *mathNEWS* issues lately, but that gives you no excuse! You still get a free C&D gift certificate whether I'm here or not.

So how much do you people suck? C'mon now, I've even got an incomplete *gridWORD* submitted. Even that is less pathetic than you handing in some random completed one you found in some classroom and putting your name on it.

Thanks to Josh Li, and omni consumer products (!?) for submitting. Josh Li wins for last issue, for being the only one to complete the *gridWORD*. You know what to do, just come on down to MathSoc to claim your prize.

Now remember to submit your solutions to the BLACK BOX outside the C&D, or email 'em to [mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca), or you could just come and hand them in during the next *mathNEWS* production night. Regardless, please have them in by 6:30 pm on March 8<sup>th</sup>. And a special thanks to Jos and Felix for making our grid for this week!

The Girl

**Grid Clues (Conventional)***Across*

1. Comfy game
6. Kids anime
10. Financial statement account
11. Outdoor celebration
14. Reason given
15. Egg center
16. Liquor
17. Charm pendant
22. High school math, for short
23. Night
24. Ellipse
25. Unlevel
26. Frozen melt
27. Remain
30. Singer vibratos
33. Automobile
35. Time to eat
37. Pain relief
38. Technological trinkets

*Down*

2. Early childhood education
3. Greek letter
4. Wizardry 8 race
5. Cry strongly
7. School uniform piece
8. Person who spaces out a times
9. Type of garbage bag
12. Crackers
13. One of Freud's babies
18. A brew
19. Evil
20. Innie or outie
21. Eschew
28. Lawns behind the house
29. A third of Santa's cry
31. Fix
32. Activity in the tub
34. Mighty bellow
36. Mother's prerogative

**Grid Clues (Cryptic)***Across*

1. Currently type okay, bred badly before(8)
6. Perform and begin union against raging yankees(7)
10. Clueless, teenless union fermented sourly(10)
11. Cold land is great for hockey(3,5)
14. Gymnast reader(7)
15. Harm done to Luna's bone will cause heads to roll(4)
16. Oxford English Dictionary: deer(3)
17. Near a ox I purged(8)
22. Write perfectly on paper, on skin badly(4)
23. Missing tie found in elbow or knee joint(3)
24. Study opening(4)
25. Adam Cice mad of school(8)
26. Short pimp lost his head(3)
27. Slam dunk money(4)
30. The spanish head doctor cuts well(7)
33. William the mammal had yolk on his face(8)
35. Apple is a premium decision(10)
37. Aqua yellow fish that kills you(7)
38. Sens knee wounded causes enthusiasm(8)

*Down*

2. Botched vasectomy causes testy weirdness(6,11)
3. Shouting in cabin gourmet kitchen(5)
4. A Roman has a nice smell(5)
5. Stupid middle back(3)
7. Steve and Tiffany concealed a fight(4)
8. Braces strikers cause problems for CN(8,9)
9. Jacques' cadie umbrella says goodbye(5)
12. None bled badly but all were honoured(8)
13. King of kings likes endless positive electron(2)
18. Is Society of Actuaries obviously quenched for thirst?(5)
19. Collapse, hungry fish(8)

*More Down Clues*

20. Arrow Georgia reversed to opening(5)
21. Arm he couldn't spare to mistress(5)
28. Japan went to war, backed off to fish(5)
29. Beginning and end, left and right, to the last they will fight(2)
31. Icy uncle removed one loop(5)
32. Zero air temperature mixed with tongue to stick(5)
34. Frosty etiquette yields abomination(4)
36. Spock contains Kirk's aggravation(3)

