

Volume 95, Issue 1

Friday, May 14th, 2004

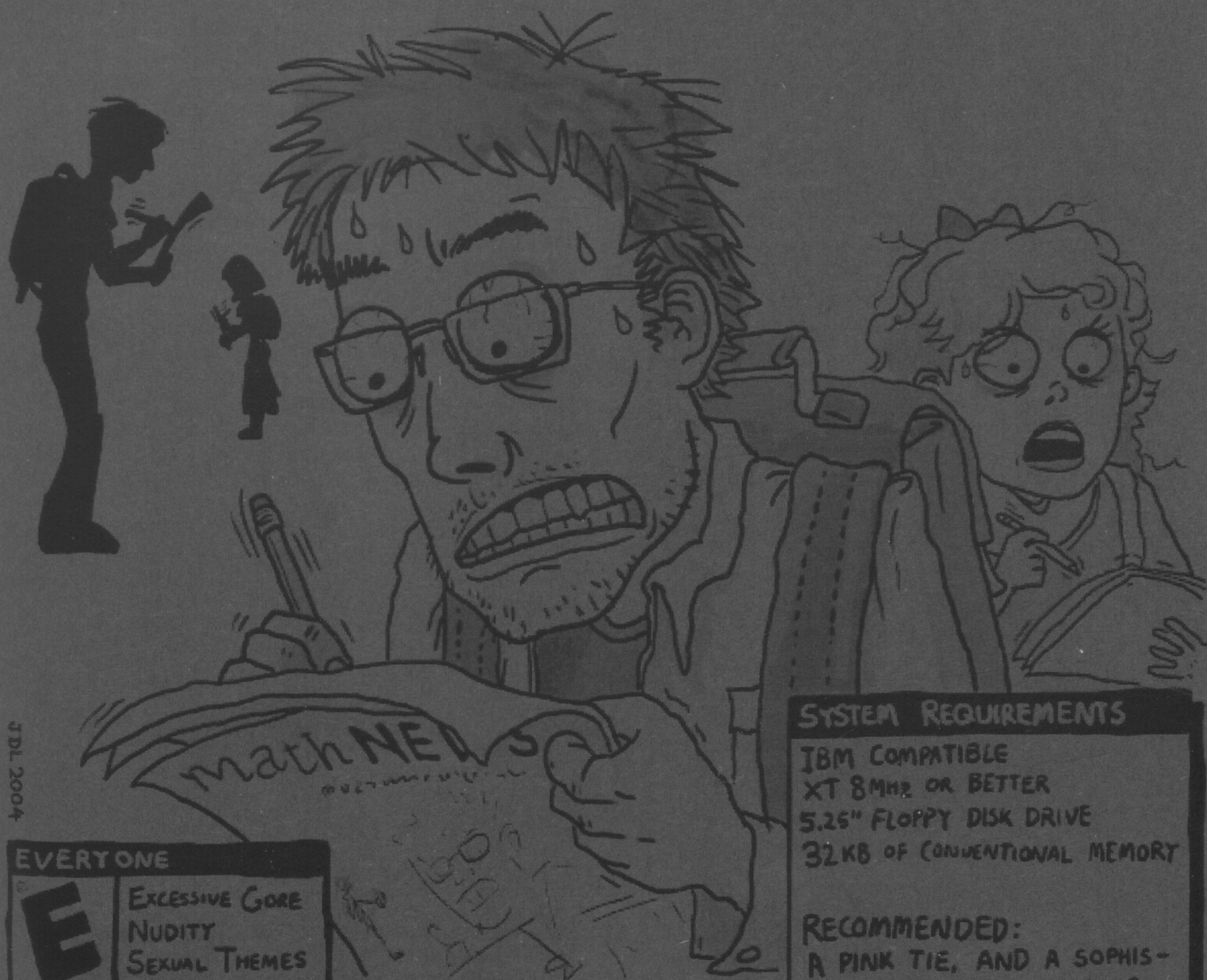
math NEWS

IT'S ALL ABOUT...

PUZZLES PUZZLES PUZZLES!!!

TWO (or MORE!!!) mindbogglingly entertaining brainteasers!!!

(Plus a few articles as a FREE bonus, if you are into that sort of thing)



JDL 2004

EVERYONE

E

EXCESSIVE GORE
NUDITY
SEXUAL THEMES

MATHSOC CONTENT RATING

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

IBM COMPATIBLE
XT 8MHz OR BETTER
5.25" FLOPPY DISK DRIVE
32 KB OF CONVENTIONAL MEMORY

RECOMMENDED:

A PINK TIE, AND A SOPHISTICATED SENSE OF HUMOUR.

Win an iPod

Career Services Survey

Career Services at the University of Waterloo is participating in a national research study and we would like your opinions to be included. This research will give us feedback, concerning UW students and other university students, that will help us to better meet your career services needs.

If you can spare 15 minutes or so, please go to the survey web page <http://www.FromLearningtoWork.ca>. You will be automatically entered into a draw when you complete the online survey. Your privacy will be respected and your contact information will be used solely for awarding of the prize.

The research is being conducted by Brainstorm Consulting and D-Code on behalf of post-secondary schools and employers across Canada. You can find more details about the project including contest details and the privacy policy on the survey website. The data Career Services may receive from Brainstorm Consulting and D-Code will not include personal identifying information such as names and email addresses.

You may decline to answer any question that you are not comfortable with and may withdraw from the study at any time. Your participation is voluntary. This study has been reviewed and received ethics clearance through the Office of Research Ethics. However, the final decision about participation is yours. Should you have comments or concerns resulting from your participation in this study, please contact Dr. Susan Sykes in the Office of Research Ethics at 888-4567, Ext. 6005.

Please visit <http://www.FromLearningtoWork.ca> now to complete the survey and to enter the draw to win an Apple 15GB iPod. If you can, please forward this message to your friends so they can have a chance to participate too.

Thank you for considering supporting our efforts to serve you better.

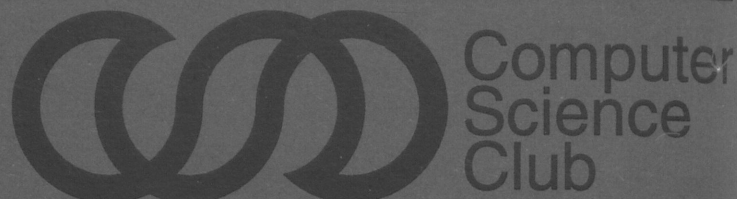
Sincerely,
Kerry Mahoney Career Services

Davis Library Closes for Spring Term

The Davis Centre Library will be closed for the spring term to allow for major renovations. In order to complete these renovations on time and within budget, the Davis Library will officially close on Friday, April 30 at 6:00pm and will reopen on Tuesday, September 7 at 8:00am.

The spring renovations are the first phase of a major project planned for the Davis Centre Library. The \$5 million Davis Library renovation is a key project within Campaign Waterloo. The first phase includes building the RBC Information Commons, wiring study tables and carrels for power and Internet access, creating a lounge on the main floor, and bringing natural light into the main floor with a redesigned glass entrance and exit.

During the closure, the Porter Library will provide circulation, course reserves and reference services. Books or journal articles located in Davis can be requested from TRELIS and made available within one business day. There are also more than 1,100 study spaces in Porter so we expect there will be sufficient space for students.



Computer
Science
Club

A Student Chapter of the ACM

CSC Flash

The Computer Science Club has accepted several nominations for various executive positions for this Spring 2004 term. In fact, elections happened this past Wednesday, so by now you should already know who got voted in!!! There should even have been enough members present to actually vote in the new exec. Yay!

If you are not a member, just come by the club office on the MC 3rd floor. Membership is \$2 per term and gives you many benefits!! You even get a pretty blue card. So what are you waiting for??

Michael Biggs

mastHEAD

subtitle

Another term, another mastHEAD...where to start? Well, it's been 4 months since some of you have read *mathNEWS*, others like our online flavour. Personally, I think you should all get subscriptions for when you're on work term (or for those of you that like your fibre, on Summer break).

In light of the newfound weather we had on Production Day (it was nice and sunny, if you wanted to know), we decided to ask our writers...What doesn't cast a shadow? Their responses: Ian (The Lifeless Body of a Level 5 Vegan), Kaitlyn (A Sheet of Glass), Cassandra (Artsie Revenge), Biggs (A Shadow), Marshall (Anything inside MC), Craig (The Sun), Zack (The distinct odor from the comfy lounge), e (Nothing if I don't render shadows), GCM (A Window), DanS (Definitely not a sundial in light), Daniel D (The set of Complex Numbers), Adam (Invisible Ink), Soo (A Play Director), Peter (A Frosh), Snuggles (You, on fire), Aycari (The mirror image of a Vampire).

Thanks goes to Campus Pizza for their wonderful pizza, Robyn in MFCF/CSCF who helped us through yet another system update mishap, and UW Graphics for defacing their 8 1/2 x 11 paper with our propaganda.

Krease (a Meat Cow Pizza)
Beatlemaniac (A plane parallel to the sun)
Louis (The evil that lurks in the hearts of men)

ISSN 0705-0410

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

Lost in Space : Chris Harasemchuk, Louis Mastorakos, Mark Toivanen

Pres Says

Time is a slippery fish now.

Welcome to a new spring term. I'm Catherine Moore, 4A CS student/MathSoc Pres. If you have opinions on Math related things please feel free to drop by and see me during my Office Hours MWF 12:30-1:30 in MC 3039. If you can't make it then come out to a MathSoc meeting or drop me an e-mail at prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.



We started the term with two exec and now we're up to three and as you can tell from the next page there's an election for the fourth position. It's been a bit of a slow start but always keep your eyes peeled for posters around the third floor and on the postings boards as well as articles in *mathNEWS* to let you know when we are holding events.

I'll keep this article short since nothing of note has happened this term that isn't already covered in another article and I doubt many of you care about the administrative things I've done since I became president.

I stole the time is a slippery fish thing, but it's true so go sit in the sun and enjoy the day.

Catherine Moore
MathSoc Pres S04

Attend the VPF Candidates Forum - Tuesday, May 18 at 1pm in the Comfy Lounge

VPAS Sez

So, yeah... The most annoying thing about having a 1.2 kilogram bag of Jelly Bellys on your desk is their tendency to disappear (Jelly Bellys are the original gourmet jelly bean... for anybody who doesn't know what they are). I'm not talking about regular disappearance, mind you, like the way Lino's pants tend to disappear just about every five minutes (honestly... how do you lose a pair of pants while you're walking?). Nor do I mean disappearance in the way that those documents incriminating me in a black-market pencil scandal "disappeared." I'm talking about the kind of orchestrated disappearance that you can only get from an orchestra... that's... been... eaten by me... yeah...

Anyway, I'm really looking forward to this term. It's going to be a lot of fun, and we're going to have a whole bunch of cool events to look forward to! Make sure to consistently check out the 3rd floor hallway for any information regarding what's going on.

If you want a small glimpse into what we're planning on running this term, check this out: We've got your Games Nights, Lemonade Days, Cotton Candy Days, Movie Nights, Cove Nights, and the possibility of a Bowling Night. So come on out and join us in having fun! After all, it's a proven fact that all

VPA seyz

For those of you who don't remember, the vice-president of academics of MathSoc represents all undergraduate math students in an academic setting.

I, along with computer science class reps, sit on a number of committees where we make sure the student voice is heard. I am in charge of things like the exam bank and cram sessions.



You might think that just because this is the spring semester there isn't much happening. Think again. There are several committees meeting this semester that will be shaping your academic life. If you're in co-op there are two committees that are going to be looking at all aspects of the co-op experience through some big reviews of co-op.

One committee is faculty based and the other, through FedS, is university wide. I will keep you all up to date on both of these committees and will be seeking your input through out the semester.

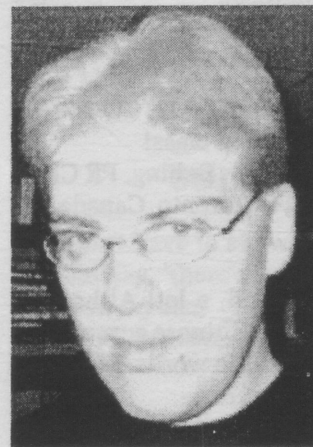
There will be the usual committees as well. By the end of the summer you should all notice a big improvement in the MathSoc exambank. And don't forget, MathSoc has professor and course evaluations from previous semesters.

I am going to be working on ways of better communicating with all of you.

Of course, there will be the classic office hours, Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30 to 1:30. Feel free to drop, I am really interested in hearing what you have to say.

On a non-VPA note, I am sitting on the committee to decide the new Dean of Math. This is an important decision and I seeking input on this matter. More important can be found on the MathSoc website.

Greg Hines
MathSoc VPA S04



work and no play makes Jack fail calculus (consider yourself warned). I'll be doing everything I can to make sure that people have a really awesome term, and don't get depressed with the fact that they're in classes (more correctly, that they're not outside playing a game of Ultimate).

For those of you that don't know me, my name's Paul Ullrich. I just got dumped into fourth year and am aiming for a double major in Applied Math and Computer Science in just under a year's time. In my spare time I play way too much DDR, do homework, write and set fire to random pedestria... err... wood. On a completely unrelated matter, I'm going over here now... *backs away slowly then runs off*

Paul 'Fox Aycari' Ullrich
MathSoc VPAS S04

Catherine Hicks for VPF

Hi! My name is Catherine Hicks and I am running for Vice President, Finances (VPF) of MathSoc. I know that the most important thing when running in an election is to get your name, Catherine Hicks, out there often. By the time you finish reading this you'll remember my name, Catherine Hicks. How could you forget Catherine Hicks, after all, my userid is almost chicks.

The VPF handles all financial matters for the Math Society including budgeting, paying bills, keeping track of cash flow, and dealing with the bank. I am qualified to do all these things. I have experience with both the Math Society and dealing with financial matters. In the past I have been the Office Manager, a member of the VPF board, Orientation Finance Director, V1 house treasurer, Resources Director, frosh leader, class representative, and volunteer for other random MathSoc events. I am also competent with finances and accounting. As a third-year student in the Business/Math double degree program, my education as well as my experience lends to this position.

So why vote for me? I understand the job of VPF, how the society runs, and how to responsibly handle money. I have the unique quality of having been on both streams and so have worked with many people involved with MathSoc and can call on those resources. I am comfortable with communicating with people and will work hard to ensure that all parts of the society understand their rights and roles concerning finances.

I could keep to talking about why you should vote for me on May 19th and 20th, but this article already has too many words for my taste (I like numbers more than words). If you would like more information about me visit www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~crhicks or email me at crhicks@uwaterloo.ca. I love emails. Vote for me! Catherine Hicks!

Catherine Hicks

Michael Tersigni for VPF

Please allow me to introduce myself, I'm a man of ideas and experience. I've been around for a long long time, done many things for the society.

My name is Michael Tersigni and I am one of the three candidates for the position of Vice President Finances. I have been involved with the Society since my first term at Waterloo, in some way, shape or form.

Why should you vote for me? I've been working for an accounting company for the past 5 years helping out with book-keeping of different clients and, as a result, I have developed many useful skills that make me more than qualified for the position. As well, as office manager, I had the responsibility of reconciling the till each week, which gave me a lot of experience for the position of VPF.

Since I have been around so much, there has been many things (both good and bad) that I've seen with the VPF. On the good side, there have been some new procedures instituted by the VPF last term which I intend to continue, like the new income forms. On the bad side, there are a few things that I intend to fix. The first thing that I intend to fix is the interaction between the Society and the clubs, last term, there were concerns with two clubs; in both cases, the clubs were not fully aware of the way that the VPF handled the budget, causing both to believe that they went over budget. I intend to fix this, by trying to change the way that the VPF and the clubs communicate with their finances so that similar situations do not occur in the future. The second thing I would like to fix is that of accessibility, I believe that any math student should be able to ask me, and within 3 days, you should be able to get any and all information about the books of the society.

Come find me if you want to talk, hang out, or play a game of Settlers or Titan, I'll be somewhere on the third floor,

Michael Tersigni

matersig@student.cs.uwaterloo.ca

Wendy Yu for VPF

Who? Wendy Yu aka Wendy from Actsci Club
Why? Running for VP Finance of Mathsoc

About Me

- 4A actuarial science, class of 2005 =)
- This term, I am taking ACTSC 445, STAT 332, CO 380, CS 338 and FR 152. Say hi if you see me in class!
- Home is: Shanghai, PR China (age 0-6); Beijing, PR China (6-10); Wollongong, Australia (10-14); Toronto, Canada (14-17); Waterloo, Canada (17-21)

So I know what it's like to move around, a lot! Although I sound mostly Canadian, you may notice a Chinese accent or an Aussie accent if you pay attention to specific words. More info at <http://orangetang.org/glassrain>

Wendy as VPF

Unlike the other candidates, I have no previous Mathsoc experience. In fact, I learnt the importance of Mathsoc through

my involvement with Actsci Club.

I was Actsci Club secretary in Winter 2003 and president in Fall 2003. During this time, the club experienced a transformation: from providing basic services (info session promotion, forum and library) and a small social circle to a range of services (coop panel, actuarial exam tutorial, first year info session, mentorship program, employer profile database) and many social events (pool tournament, movie night, bomber night, karaoke night). Support from Mathsoc greatly facilitated this process.

If I were elected, I promise to commit myself to perfect book-keeping and to follow every single GAAP depreciation rule. More importantly, I wish to work closely with all the clubs (CSC, PMAMC&OC, ASA, TSA, Bioinformatics Club, DDC and Actsci Club) to create an accountable yet flexible financial reporting structure so that every club has every opportunity to be innovative and successful!

Wendy Yu

Vote in the VPF election - May 19-20 outside the C&D

UNIX Heroes!

Hero to the maximum yes!

It's popular to base superheroes on a theme. Batman is based on bats. Superman is based on soup. Wonder Woman is based on estrogen. Following this theme, I propose a team of superheroes based on the first thing that I thought of, right now. (This technique is commonly referred to as the post-tenth-season-Simpsons-script-writing trick.) This theme, of course, is UNIX commands.

The leader of this team is Johnny Csh, a strong and steadfast leader who excels primarily at delegating tasks to his comrades. Unfortunately, he has a massive ego and frequently places calls to himself. Underneath his tough exterior, he often feels inadequate and fears he will be replaced.

The brains of the team come in the form of Lady Vi, a stunning woman with a complex personality. It is she who orchestrates the plans of the team. Others tend to shy away from her, as she is antisocial and radiates an air of unfriendliness.

F. Grep is the team's informant and scavenger. He scours the streets, keeping a pulse on the city, and reports back with leads. A man with a mysterious past, he often dreams of his lost brothers. Everyone likes him.

Rounding out the team is Man Man, the know-it-all. A walking repository of information, he is wise beyond his years. The team relies heavily on the endless knowledge he seems to provide. However, he sometimes resents being used as a crutch for the inadequacies of others.

Although the team would start out small, there's nothing to keep it from growing. I imagine that UNIX heroes will recruit others to their cause, such as the consistent but sometimes tardy Lord Cron. There can never be too many soldiers in the fight against the diabolical Artemis Wordpad, Ph. D. There will be victory, and there will be heartbreak. But in the end, when the movie adaptation is made, it will last about 112 minutes. And isn't that what really matters?

HWT

The Frosh Rant!

I'm not an instructor, or a tutor,
And I don't live in the Comfy,
or eat people,
or own a Mac.

And I don't know John, Paul or Ringo from Math,
although I'm certain they're really, really smart.

I have a Don, not an R.A.

I speak Java and l33t, but not English.

I can proudly wear my pi pin on my backpack,

I believe in assignments, not readings,

theorems not robots

and that the pink tie is truly a proud and noble symbol.

A proof is a thing of beauty

a Mac is an evil machine,

Math is the 2nd largest faculty,

the 1st place for confusion,

and the best part of Waterloo.

My name is Pete

and I... AM... MATH FROSH!!!

lookAHEAD

mathNEWS

May 25	Issue #2 production night 6:30 pm, MathSoc Office (MC 3038)
May 28	Issue #2 is unleashed upon the world

Math Faculty

May 16	Last day to add classes
May 21	Deadline for Orientation Leader applications
May 21	Course drop deadline for 100% refund
May 31	Final date for fee arrangements this term
June 7	Fall enrolment begins

MathSoc

May 19-20	Elections for Vice President, Finance Vote outside the C&D
-----------	---

MGC

May 19, 26	Pizza Days 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. outside the C&D
------------	---

MEF

May 21	Last day to request refunds
--------	-----------------------------

Co-op

May 17	Job posting available
May 17	Professional Awareness Conference — TC 2218
May 18	Job posting down at midnight
May 19	Job posting available
May 19	Workshop: successful interviewing
May 20	Job posting down at midnight
May 20	Workshop: working outside Canada
May 25	Workshop: selling your skills
May 26	Employer interviews begin
May 26	Workshop: basic interviewing skills
May 26	Job posting available
May 27	Job posting down
May 27	Workshop: career decision-making
May 28	Teaching interviews end
May 31	Job posting available

Miscellaneous

May 24	Victoria Day — no classes
June 11	Summerfest 1 — Fed Hall

some profQUOTES

You don't have to show up to the midterm. You can phone me up and say, 'there's an interesting show on TV,' or 'I have to work on my tan,' or 'my girlfriend/boyfriend, or whatever is in town.' I don't care."

Cook, ECON 231

Prof: "Is that clear now?"

Student: "No... and don't bother explaining it."

Prof: "Don't bother?"

Student: "You lost me three chapters ago."

Prof: "We haven't done three chapters yet..."

New, MATH 138

How to be an Orientation Leader

So you thought orientation week was a blast? Want to be a frosh again? Well, too bad — the only way you are going to experience that fun again is as a leader. But that's okay, because being a leader is even more fun than being a frosh. Here's the process for becoming a leader, in easy, linear form:

1. **Pick up an application form:** Orientation Leader application forms are available outside the Mathsoc office (MC 3038). You can also fill one out online at <http://www.orientation.math.uwaterloo.ca>. If you fill out the paper (a.k.a. old skool) application, bring it to the MathSoc office and give it to the office worker.
2. **Go to class:** There is a small wait until the next step, so be sure to go to class, eat, sleep, phone your parents, that sort of thing. Personally, I suggest bouncing a ball as many times as you can, then repeatedly try and break your previous record.
3. **Schedule an interview:** There will soon be a signup sheet outside the MathSoc office for interviews. You should signup for one as soon as your application has been submitted. Interviews will start the third week of class, and will proceed for several weeks. The directors will send out periodic reminder emails.
4. **Defeat the Dean in hand-to-hand combat:** In order to prove you are worthy of being an orientation leader, the faculty insists that you challenge the Dean. Do not let his small stature fool you, Prof. George's left hook is notorious for weeding out unworthy applicants.
5. **Sign up for Orientation Leader Training** You do not have to be selected as a leader before you can start your training to be an orientation leader. The University requires that you take 4 2-hour-long sessions before you become a frosh leader. These are called the OLT sessions. You can signup for these sessions at <http://www.orientation.uwaterloo.ca>, follow the "leaders" link.

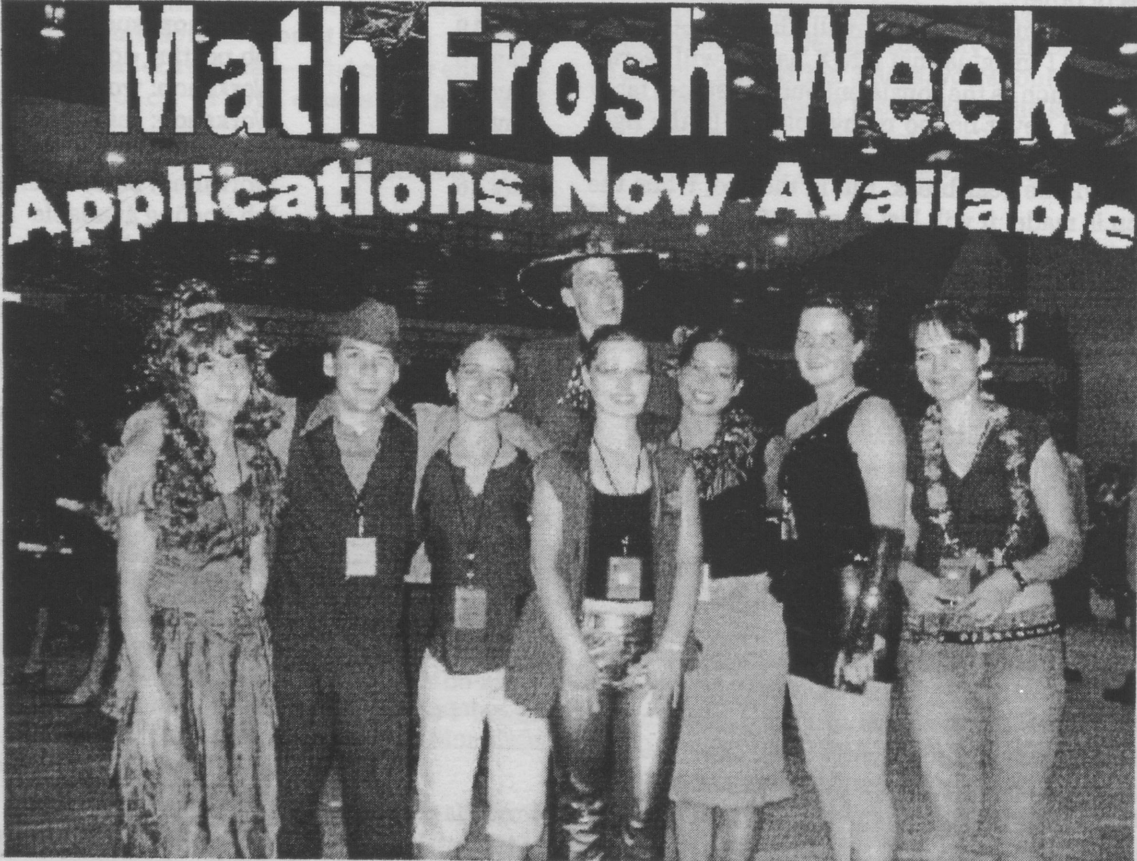
Yes, folks, it's that simple. Oh, and if you're on co-op in the fall and are unsure whether you can be at frosh week or not, apply anyway. It's perfectly fine to drop out before the week and your training will still be good for next year. However, if you only signup once you know from your employer that you can make it, it may be too late. See you all in September.

Ian W. MacKinnon
2004 Math Orientation Director

www.orientation.math.uwaterloo.ca

Math Frosh Week

Applications Now Available



Applications and Interview Sign-up Available Outside MathSoc Office

Orientation Week Application Deadline is Friday, May 21
That's next Friday! Apply Now!

Free Study Management Workshop

Counselling@Math, MC 5198, ext. 5622

Upcoming Free Workshop: Effective Study Management
Wednesday, May 19, 4:30-6:30PM, MC 4062

Please sign up in the Math Undergrad Office, MC 5115.

Two counsellors offer personal, career and study skills counselling for Math and CS students. Linda Mackay and Karen Rittinger are on site every day, and offer individual appointments to help students:

- manage stress
- deal with relationship or family issues
- overcome anxiety over personal or academic challenges
- deal with feelings of low self worth or perfectionism
- learn to study more effectively and still have a life
- explore career options

Counselling Services also offers free workshops. See website for updated information: <http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs/> To make an appointment for an individual session, please contact Counselling Services at 888-4567 ext. 2655. Please let staff know you are a Math or CS student.

Linda Mackay, MSW, RSW
Counselling Services
University of Waterloo
(519) 888-4567 ext 2655
lmackay@uwaterloo.ca
direct ext: 2846

The Math Handbook Project Wants You!

Volunteers needed for writing, proofreading, layout

The Math Handbook project is currently recruiting volunteers to work as writers, proofreaders, and layout assistants. The Handbook is a publication that will be distributed to first-year students this September, and will contain information on topics such as academics, student life and entertainment opportunities — all written from a student perspective.

There are two ways for you to become involved with this project. You can e-mail csloss@uwaterloo.ca, specifying which area you are interested in. The other way is to just start writing — visit the Math Handbook wiki page at <http://uwstudent.org/wiki/MathHandBook>.

You may be wondering what a wiki is. Basically, it's a website that can be edited by its readers. To find out how to do this, check out <http://uwstudent.org/wiki/HowToUseWiki>. You can sign in (you don't need a password or anything) and start working on the handbook by editing the Handbook pages. For example, if you go to <http://uwstudent.org/wiki/MathHandBookWritings> you can see a list of articles that will be in the handbook. On this page, you can claim articles by editing the page to put your name to an unclaimed article.

Each article has its own page on the wiki, which is linked from the MathHandBookWritings page. These are the pages where you can actually write the articles — again, by editing the page for the particular article you're working on. So check out the wiki, see what you're interested in, and start writing!

Craig Sloss
Editor, Math Handbook

Special Tuesday Production Night, May 25th

Production nights are fun. Just to show you how fun they are, here are some things overheard at our most recent *mathNEWS* production night:

- "Wait, nevermind, it's not funny"
- "You can't squeeze in anymore"
- "I just fit it in wherever it fits"
"That's my motto in life"
- "This is fun to play with"
- "Um, I thought they already chose the MathSoc exec"
- "I'm not freethinking, I just happen to exist"
- "Can you guys say shit?"
"Yes"
- "Excellent"
- "Do vampires have a shadow?"
"In Buffy they do"
- "I'm not talking about Buffy, I'm talking about real life!"

Come out to *mathNEWS* Production Night for issue #2! Not only do you get free pizza, but you'll be making *mathNEWS* better (aren't you always saying that you wish *mathNEWS* were better?)

The Havenger of Hearts

Quiet, subjects, or OFF WITH YOUR HEAD!

Consider this your official invitation to participate in this term's one and only Engineering Scavenger Hunt! When, you ask? Why, let's check in with the Mad Hatter and March Hare.

Mad Hatter: "We want you to be present for as many hours as you can between Noon and Noon"

Marsh Hare: "From the 28th to the 29th of May"

Alice: "So, where can I find more information or sign up my team?"

Well, Alice, you're more than welcome to visit <http://theorem.ca/~csloss/hunt> and get the details about who's running this magnificent event and the set of important dates to remember, like the Captain's Meeting on May 19th, or the cost to register (\$30 for engineering teams, \$50 for non-engineering teams and smaller teams being considered on a case by case basis). Want to join a team, but your friends aren't cool enough to hang with you? No worries! We'll find you a team that will take your uber-cool antics and whatever other skills you bring to the table.

Beatlemaniac, on behalf of the Queen of Hearts

I want YOU for the Math Team!

Math has a Havenger Team?

Yes, that's right! Even though a group of dedicated Mathies will be running this term's Havenger Scunt, there's still a bunch of us who want to participate! If you would like to be part of Math's Havenger Team for S04 and have a wicked cool good time, fire off an email to erlogan@uwaterloo.ca

Eric Logan
Unofficial Math Team Captain

mathNEWSmailBAG

We're listening... really!

Dear mathNEWS

All I can say is I feel part of your pain. I just moved out from my last home and the landlord is a total NUTCASE and JERK. He almost deducted my whole \$200 deposits for no reason...which I am gonna try to file a complaint on...anyhow, he was a total control freak who gave us many MEMOS and guidelines on HOW TO LIVE UNDER HIS ROOF. anyhow...just wanted to echo back that there are some psychotic landlords out there!

Connie from Cali

Dear mathNEWS

Hi, I just finished reading your article on your landlord from hell. I can completely relate to what you're going through - with the exception that my housemates and I have double the trouble - the landlord from hell and his spawn (who's also co-owner of the building). We have been feuding with these nitwits for weeks now and have just filed suit against them with the Tribunal. Thanks for your article - it's good to know there are others that know what we're going through!

Thanks again - Zoey

Note to readers: These two letters are referring to the 'Evil Landlord of Doom' article from fall term, available online at <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca/Issues/mn9301/evildoom.php>. It lists a few things you may not know about your rights as a tenant renting a house in Ontario - worth looking over before the next time you go house shopping.

KreasEd

Dear mathNEWS

Burp !!! excuse my english, le montrealais qui ne parle pas francais. Desole, je ne voudrait pas te bruler les yeux !!!

Brigitte Milli

I have no idea what you said... something about a burping French person with eyes is my best guess.

KreasEd

Dear mathNEWS

Is the Canadian army really coming out with a game and is that the only mission? Is there any combat missions?

Bryant Halliday

You're speaking English and I have no idea what you're talking about... I hope I won't be talking to a psychiatrist about this sometime in the future...

KreasEd

Dear mathNEWS

Q: What's purple and commutes?

A: An abelian grape

har har - Way to go Math Graduates!

Nick Sullivan

Ooohh, I get it! a GRAPE!...someone help me out here?

KreasEd

Dear mathNEWS

I found your sushi page. Have you tried the new Japanese/Korean restaurant at the corner of Phillip and Albert? It just opened this week.

Heather

Who eats raw fish? That's like eating raw vegetables... I guess other people might want to know about it though...

KreasEd

Dear mathNEWS

Hello! I have the GREATEST scientific discovery of the 21st century!

Pi is a rational number equals to 3.125

Using 10 proofs, I computed and state that Pi is a rational number equals to 3.125. This circle case has left the world's mathematicians baffled for 4000 years! I made a 'Scientific Diagram' which shows how to "Square a circle"

1. A circle can be rearranged into a square whose side is hypotenuse plus 1/4 hypotenuse. Note: Hypotenuse + 1/4 hypotenuse = 5/4 hypotenuse. Also note the use of 10 digits is totally arbitrary; to avoid taht, use Axiom.

2. A circle can be rearranged into a right-angled triangle whose both sides are 5/4 diameter each.

A circle can be rearranged into a rectangle whose side are 5/4 diameter and 5/4 radius. Therefore the area of a circle = 5/4 diameter x 5/4 radius, the circumference is area/diameter x 4, the diameter is area/circ. x 4

Three scientific discoveries of the 21st century: $\text{Pi} = 3.125$, The circle's quadrature, square root of 2 = square root of 50/5 = 2sin45

Laurence P. H.

Why...WHY do we ALWAYS get the nutcases? Do we say "nutcases, apply here"? Or is it that we're the only ones who listen? (This guy also sent a 300K picture of a circle with a rectangle completely inside it. I could have drawn that in 10 seconds in Paint.)

KreasEd

How to Kill a Hamster

Disclaimer: Do not try this at home. We are opposed to animal abuse.

[Dee's-Claimer: do not read this if you are D — SnugglyEd]1.

1. Buy a hamster
2. Buy a cage for your hamster
3. Assemble hamster cage
4. Place hamster in cage
5. Feed hamster
6. Place hamster cage in freezing cold basement
7. Leave hamster over night
8. Death

Congratulations, you know have your own dead hamster.

AnonyPi

Contributions

Preamble

The size of my team was one. My task was to start and complete the project. My team's goal was to start and complete the project. This report describes the work I did on the project during my work term. My job was to write software. My company sells software to make money and stay in business.

To paraphrase myself, I was my team, and my team was me. My team's goal was to complete my task. My task was to accomplish my team's goal. This report explains the decisions I made during my work on the project.

So, to restate this section in a more clear and concise manner,

Definitions

1. This section is titled "Contributions."
2. This section is a component of the Report.
3. This Document explains the Student's work.
4. The Report is this Document.
5. The length of this section is 2 to 3 pages, as prescribed by the guidelines [1].
6. The Task is to write a lot of software.
7. The Project is the Task to be completed.
8. The Team is the set of individuals assigned to complete the Task.
9. I am the Student and the writer of this section and of this report.

The Size of the Team

10. The Size of the Team is its cardinality.
11. The Team contains one element and that element is myself.
12. The set of all individuals assigned to complete the task is the set that contains only myself.

The Team's Goals

13. The Team's Goals are to complete the Task.

The Student's Task

14. The Student's Task is the task assigned to the set of individuals that contains only the Student.
15. The set of individuals that contains only the student is the Team.
16. Thus, by definition 8, 7, and 6, the Student's Task is to start and complete the Project.

The Relationship between the Student's Task and the Report

17. The Student's work accomplishes his Task.
18. The Report explains the Student's Task.

Epilogue

To repeat myself, my team was myself...

Symbolic Reference

Open Challenge to Mathies

Become the Dean!

On the third floor of MC lies an inconspicuous demon. Hundreds pass it by each day, entirely unaware of its insidious nature. It looms slightly overhead, taunting those who walk by, looking down upon us with contempt, for it knows that it cannot be defeated with mere weapons forged by man.

It is the Kryptonite brand lock of locker number 169.

This foul fiend arrived on an unknown day and has not moved since. It bears the scars of the battles it has fought, but none have ever triumphed. It is kin to the MC's very own sword in the stone, except without all the homoerotic imagery.

It is thus the decree to the kingdom that the bravest warriors come forth to slay this beast. To the one who triumphs, a reward has been promised; the victor shall be ordained Dean. (This offer is not endorsed or validated by the Dean of the Math faculty, any other faculty, or anyone with "Dean" embroidered on his bathrobe.)

So come forth, all who seek the challenge. Many will try. Some will lose their lives (if they're complete freaking morons). One will triumph. And it could be YOU!

(Disclaimer: This article in no way endorses or suggests the inflicting of any damage to anything within the MC, except for the Kryptonite lock. Feel free to kick the shit out of that thing.)

HWT

Top Five Ways To Get Ripped Off

1. Textbooks: I seriously think that my Math 136 book had us paying \$50 for the convenience of being small
2. Play an MMORPG: Paying \$70+ so that you can give them \$15+ a month. What's wrong with you?
3. Pre-order a Phantom
4. University: You're paying thousands of dollars a year for a piece of paper and to be legally allowed to put the letters BMath (or some other lesser Bx) after your name.
5. Play Magic the Gathering: You're paying \$4 to buy 15 pieces of cardboard.

DanS

Signs you are here for spring term

- When you see people sweating through their shirts your first thought is no longer "Wow, too much DDR."
- The V1 caf food still sucks, but the presentation is splendid as the school tries in vain to impress the conference goers.
- The Comfy takes a whole day instead of one morning to smell like the Comfy again after the carpets are cleaned.
- When the fire alarm rings in residence, you leave to enjoy the nice weather instead of leaving for the slim but real possibility of burning to death.
- You time your day by the sun and find you are getting less rest than your friends in CS.
- When you go to a lab to submit your CS last minute there IS a terminal available. No matter the time of day.
- You mistake day camp kids for frosh.
- You mistake frosh for day camp kids

HorrorScopes

I've got bad news...

I shake up the stars and out comes the creamy filling! Oh, and these HorrorScopes.

ACC - There is little joy in the world that can match that of a well-kept ledger. Spread the love by offering to keep the books of every organization you come across.

Then, use your new connections to embezzle like a madman. Don't worry: Because your Accounting-Fu is so strong, no one will possibly notice!

Your lucky number is \$400 here, \$300 there...

ACTSCI - Distraught over your performance in the latest round of SOA exams? Don't be! Drinking will prove to be surprisingly helpful when it comes to forgetting.

Remember, alcohol is like violence: If it hasn't solved your problem yet, you haven't used it enough.

Your lucky number is 40% alc. by vol.

AMATH - Summer term is here, and that can mean only one thing: Frisbee. Wow your PMATH friends by using the awesome power of DEs to calculate how to best toss a flying disc.

CS will be nonplussed. They discovered the same answer ages ago by trial and error.

Your lucky number is an angle of 37 degrees.

BBA/BMATH - Prove your entrepreneurial spirit by setting up a business whose target market is the gullible. Your business model: Guaranteed sunshine for \$5. Be sure to mention that this is not a guarantee.

Fend off irate customers on rainy days by telling them your shipment was delayed, and should be here any day now.

Your lucky number is 300 satisfied customers.

C&O - Springtime can mean only one thing: trees. Grab your favourite graph theorist and go outside for a while. Prove some trivial theorems in the the shade of a maple. Then, go inside and use Maple to get some real work done.

Take note: real trees don't grow nearly as nicely as theoretical ones. They're much woodier.

Your lucky number is k .

CS - When attempting to minimize distortion in affine spline curves, your head may attempt to explode as the reticulation problem overwhelms your cortex with too much technical jargon.

Worry not; PMATH learned to deal with nonsense terminology when studying Chaos Theory. Seek guidance.

Your lucky number is #@\$%&*!!

MATHBUS - Nothing says joy like a bouquet of flowers. Raid the straggly garden outside your slum house and use the result to try to impress one of those fine ladies down at Laurier.

BBA/BMATH will try and beat you to the punch. Suggest they do a Case Study to slow them down.

Your lucky number is three violets and a daisy.

Mathematical Sciences

The stars were a bit murky on this one. See Undeclared.

Operations Research - In several weeks, you will become enamoured with some hot chick/guy who works in a Dairy Queen. Clearly the way to their heart is to optimize the supply chain of DQ.

If this fails to impress them, you can always try stalking them.

Your lucky number is Amortized Cost Savings of \$21,000

PMATH - Handing out advice to people will become much easier when you realise that you are, in fact, much smarter than everyone else.

Blow off the next person who asks you for guidance by giving them a copy of your latest assignment. When they don't understand, tell them its a Zen koan. You'll thank me in the morning.

Your lucky number is "mu".

SOFTENG - Bad news next Tuesday. I'd say more, but the stars made me swear to secrecy.

Oh, all right, I'll give you a hint. It's going to be a messy incident involving some fried chicken and the C++ preprocessor. Stay away from the honey garlic sauce.

Also, avoid the Sheep.

Your lucky number is 13.

STAT - I don't know where I'm living in the fall yet. Forecast my chances of finding decent digs.

Try not to be too surprised when your calculations also turn out to be the answers to your next quiz. Don't say I never give you anything.

Your lucky number is a value surprisingly close to 0.

UNDECLARED - The stars were a bit murky on this one. See Mathematical Sciences.

ARTS - The lazy summer term will be even lazier for ARTS students. Take advantage of your oodles of cancelled classes by engaging in some wordplay to keep your brain from atrophying.

Remember, a good pun is it's own reward.

Your lucky number is 0 hours of class this week.

AHS - Mathies have begun playing Frisbee on the Biology green. Take some of your friends down and school them at Ultimate. They love that.

If they get snarky, threaten to ask for help with your CS100 assignments. This may even make PMATH cringe.

Your lucky number is a score of 23 to 0.

ENG - Another spring, another term. Oh, and I guess the Havenger Scunt is coming up. Try not to be intimidated by the Mathies running it. Look on the bright side: Math can't win this time.

If in doubt, try and rustle up some Science students. They haven't won a scunt in years!

Your lucky number is 24 hours to reclaim your pride.

ES - Rejoice in the coming of spring by prancing about like a pansy. Everyone loves flowers, right?

Others may try to make fun of you. Respond by saying, "But I'm prettier than you!" It will probably be true.

Your lucky number is 18 degrees and sunny.

SCI - Sorry, Science. By the time I got around to interpreting this one, I spilled Coke all over it. Let's try and make heads or tails of it:

"Bad...mustard...ather Fitzger...livid...run like mad!"

I don't get it.

Your lucky number is an illegible smudge.

ink_13

"In a later course, you'll have to buy another really expensive book... which I wrote. That's why it's really expensive."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

Appendices You Shouldn't Have Added to Your Work Report

Ah, the beginning of the term. That wonderful time where you scramble wildly to finish shoveling the last few shovelfuls of crap into a binding and pass it off as a work report. If you're like me (and why would you ever not want to be?), you were up at the wee hours of this morning trying desperately to summarize your crap into a more concise, smaller pile of crap that executives can read and digest and use to make decisions. You heard me. Digest.

But now it's done, for better or worse. The last day passed and you managed to get it in on time. Or you didn't. I would just like to take this time to inform you after the fact that you did it wrong. Yup. You thought that that one appendix was pure gold, that it would skyrocket your merely satisfactory work report into outstanding ambrosia for the eyes and brains of gods and your peers alike. But no, I'm here to tell you that it was in fact a really bad idea, and while the markers won't actually TELL you, they're secretly laughing at you behind your back.

So, without further ado, here's a list of appendices that you really shouldn't have added to your work report:

- Appendix A: Three Pages of Filler
- Appendix B: Five Hundred Random Numbers
- Appendix C: A Pretty Picture I Drew When I was Five
- Appendix D: The Secret Formula to the Chemical I was Working With
- Appendix E: My Actual Appendix in a Bag Stapled to the Page
- Appendix F: Two More Pages of Filler
- Appendix G: The Body of my Report
- Appendix H: The Complete Text of Selected Shakespeare Plays
- Appendix I: Top Ten _____
- Appendix J: My Bribe
- Appendix K: The Fear of God
- Appendix L: Actual Material that Belongs in an Appendix
- Appendix M: This Page Intentionally Left Blank

So, if you end up failing any checklists, take the opportunity to correct any of the above errors and hang your head in shame.

Sheep Nine

Networks 101

One little, two little, three little endian

Sockets are like riding Splash Mountain at Disney World. Everyone gets on, goes for a ride, and gets off in the same order... except for those that decide to jump off and go for a swim along the way — which is why TCP was invented.

Sometimes people ride into another country and have to get off in reverse (for some reason that sounds like a porn script...) because some big endian is charge there. We should really send those backwards countries some aid so they can get new CPUs.

"Surely, you can't be serious," you say. "I am; and don't call me Shirley."

Chris 'Krease' Harasemchuk

Production Haiku

Staring at our screens
Do we all have writers block?!
Write damn it! Write!

We all sit talking.
Anyone writing at all?
We're here for the food.

Gah! Stupid UNIX.
This cheat sheet isn't helping.
I'll just email it instead.

Frosh *mathNEWS* writer.
I know these aren't that funny.
But they'll still print them!

- Half-Pint

Virii to destroy the planet!

As my usual readers will know, I was on work term for Winter 2004. I had the pleasure of visiting family on Easter weekend, and one of my many activities included reading the local paper, the North Bay Nugget. I happened to come across an older paper with a "Technology" section. "Well", thought I, "this should prove to have some relevant and interesting articles...", or so you'd think.

I ended up reading an article written by some Albertan that could basically be broken down to the following statement: "Virii are taking over the world. Go to Future Shop and buy all the router equipment they have, and while you're at it, buy a firewall software for each computer you own." The jist of the article was that today's virii are ultra-powerful and capable of deleting all your emails and files. While this is partially true, I can proudly say that I have NEVER been affected by virii or "missing" Microsoft patches. This is because, as opposed to our crazy Albertan writer, I keep my system up to date. When msblaster hit in June/July/August 2003, I was affected at work, but EVERY computer I manage in our basement office was not affected at all. So, what should you do? Here's a nice list:

1. Keep your computer up to date (Windows users, use that nifty little icon called "Windows Update", Linux users, use whatever update agent your flavour likes)
2. Use a GOOD anti-virus utility (like Norton Corporate or equivalent) and MAKE SURE YOU UPDATE YOUR DEFINITIONS MORE OFTEN THAN ONCE A YEAR

If you follow these simple rules, you probably won't be affected by virii or missed patches.

Beatlemaniac

**Lookie Here! It's random Filler!
And it's taking up a WHOLE page bottom!**

profQUOTES

"If I wasn't here, who'd be telling the jokes?"

Armstrong, CS 246

"You can't have Netscape crash on you when people's lives are at stake."

Armstrong, CS 246

"Then there's a 2001 version that will come out in a few years... they're a little bit behind."

Bishop, SE 141

"A lot of you have heard of FM Radio, that's good. I asked my third year course and they just stared at me."

Bishop, SE 141

"What does SPAM mean? Specially Prepared Assorted Meats? Basically they just sweep the floor up and put it in a can."

Cook, ECON 231

"What up wit dat?" My son tells me, 'Dad, don't talk like that, you're not cool.' So I get my brothers doing it to him. It drives him absolutely crazy."

Cook, ECON 231

"I always announce which course this is so people in the wrong place can leave. Fortunately, I'm always in the right room."

Cook, ECON 231

"You can write a 100% final. I'll loan you the gun for after the exam."

Cook, ECON 231

"Oh. There's something on there about cheating. It's bad. Oh... wait... it's only bad if you get caught."

Cook, ECON 231

"For your own protection, turn off your cell phones. I won't get mad. But I'll have fun with it."

Cook, ECON 231

"That's positive externality. That's good."

Cook, ECON 231

"I was teaching at York and there was a young woman and a young gentlemen in the back. Guess they hadn't seen each other in a while. It was almost as good as Showcase."

Cook, ECON 231

"I did something very dumb today at lunch. I had [too many] cups of green tea today at lunch. I can just see myself staying up until 3 a.m. tonight vacuuming."

Koeller, MATH 137

"If the person next to you has nodded off, wake them up. The best part of the proof is about to happen."

Koeller, MATH 137

"Once I said in class that this is a well-known sum. But the answer I gave you was wrong. I guess it was true that it is a well-known sum, but it wasn't true that I knew it."

New, MATH 138

"It'll have things that look like English words here and there, but they're not."

New, MATH 138

"I would add these up, but it's too hard for me... It has a seven in it."

New, MATH 138

"Ideally, you don't want the computer to explode."

Nijjar, CS 134

"Cheat, cheat, cheat. I highly recommend it."

Mahoney, COOP 101

"In the U.S., they can't count. They use 360 days for a year."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"Now, if you're an engineering student, you plug a couple numbers into your calculator, and figure it out that way. But this is math. We like to pretend to do math here."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"Anyone asleep? Raise your hand."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"Take 1 as delta? That's an example. That doesn't prove anything. You must be an engineering student."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"So now that we've done that... are you ready for the pop quiz? Just kidding."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"Everyone's been away on co-op and playing with spreadsheets, right? Now you have to remember calculus."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"Do you know what QED stands for? Quite Easily Done."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"If $A=P$, the interest rate is 0% That's what happens when I loan my son money."

Panjer, ACTSCI 231

"Grad school. It's like the snooze alarm on real life."

Simon, MUSIC 140

[after a ten-minute discussion] "Oh... you're talking about the typo!"

Tahvildari, SE 240

Think your prof is funnier than these? Is she constantly cracking you up, yet you never see her bon mots here? Then SUBMIT! We'll print your *profQUOTES* for you at ABSOLUTELY NO CHARGE!!! Send in your *profQUOTES* to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca and we'll do our darndest to print them in the next available issue of everyone's favourite bi-weekly bastion of erudite thought. Not up to speed on the whole "Internet" thing yet? No problem! Just write up your quotes on paper and submit them to the BLACK BOX on the wall between the Comfy Lounge and the C+D.

Silver Cloud Found Without Silver Lining

Scientists Baffled

Optimists and scientists alike were thrown back last Thursday when meteorological satellites pinpointed a cumulus cloud without a silver lining. The cloud, nicknamed Cloud Albert, is currently hovering at a height of approximately two miles above the eastern Atlantic Ocean, and is on a direct route to Rhode Island.

"The entire scientific community is baffled", commented Alana Moerin, a meteorologist working out of Rhode Island. "The theorem clearly states that EVERY cloud has a silver lining, but here one is, lining-less, staring us in the face. Preliminary analysis shows that the cloud's lining consists of nothing but more cloud. Some scientists have conjectured that the lining may have collapsed into the center of the cloud like an inverted torus. Others conjecture that the Silver Lining Theorem still holds, but that that cloud is proof of parallel universes, because it comes from a universe where lining-less clouds can exist without dispersing explosively."

The optimist community is similarly shaken. "I feel so cold," remarked Johnny Hasselhoff, noted positive thinker. "My whole life I've lived under the principle that every bad situation has its good side, just like every cloud has its silver lining. Now that that... that... ABOMINATION is headed for America, I'm left to wonder whether the next bad thing that happens to me may never get better. What if I get into a car accident, my legs are shattered and have to use a wheelchair the rest of my life, but instead of an electric wheel chair, which would be not too bad, I'm left with one of those crappy ones? How could I go on living!?"

American citizens have petitioned the government to launch air interception in the hopes that a show of superior force will discourage the cloud from making landfall. Activists for the peaceful dismissal of Cloud Albert have been summarily ignored for being stupid hippies. America is currently in a stage of Orange Defcon 9. Canada is in a state of Security Level Double Double.

A spokesman for the American Department of Defense commented, "We have considered the prospect of launching an operation to divert Cloud Albert using F-15 fighters, but military strategists and computer simulations have predicted that the cloud will be impenetrable to military force. Rather, it will be absolutely penetrable. As in, our bullets will pass through completely because it's a cohesive glob of water vapour. Plans for a new superweapon capable of damaging the cloud are being implemented presently."

If the superweapon fails, World Leaders in the United Nations will be put to a vote as to the application of nuclear arms to annihilate the Cloud before it reaches American Soil. Activists claiming that the cloud is just water vapor and won't be harmful to the American people have been summarily ignored.

"The lifs [sic] of the people on the Eastern Seaboard will have to of given [sic] their lives to saving the Americanian [sic] people willn't [sic...oh forget it] be forgotten," said President Bush in a Presidential Address yesterday.

Sheep Nine

Liberals/Conservatives Suck

Whenever I think people can't sink any lower, they manage to find a way to surprise me. It seems that there aren't enough words to express the outrage I feel at the attitudes of liberals/conservatives in this society.

Most appalling to me is the utter and complete absence of patriotism exhibited by these fools. They show utterly no respect for the President/Constitution. They take every opportunity to attack our leaders/rights in this time of war with such hotheaded fanaticism that it makes your head spin.

These people have no respect for God/separation of church and state. They deny the fundamental role it plays in the roots of our great nation, and in doing so, they seek to destroy all that this country stands for.

Their attitude towards the poor is ridiculous. These are people who should contribute to society like everyone else/be given a chance to pick themselves up. How can any rational human being possibly think otherwise?

And don't get me started on abortion. These people have absolutely no respect for the fundamental right to life/have control over one's own body. In no other issue is the insidious, inhumane mindset of these sirens so adequately captured.

These people will never be of assistance to society. They will abuse their right to freedom of speech and shout themselves hoarse until no one else can be heard. The media is already biased in their favor. If we don't unite and rise up, they will soon control public thought. And when that happens, it will signal the end of our society as we know it.

HWT

ultraCLASSIFIED

Do you suffer from genital herpes?
If not, what's your number?

Desperate and Discerning

Help Wanted
Need someone to help me start a family
Interested in having my children?

Big Poppa

Laptops aren't sexy, you are.

Strange Superliminal Smurf

Are you enrolled in the Double Degree program?
If so, do you have Double D's?
Cause that would be pretty funny.

B.Bus = Bit Busty?

Do you suffer from genital herpes?
Want to?

Itchy and Scratchy

Does the concept of putting things in the mathNEWSBLACK BOX seem dirty to you?

If so, we eagerly await your submission. SUBMIT! SUBMIT! SUBMIT!

Didn't know mathNEWS was a dom did ya?

Dirty Old Men of mathNEWS

Lesser Known Geneva Convention Rules

- Starting a war on a weekend is breach of international law, regardless of UN approval.
- Xbox owning countries may only invade non-Xbox owning countries if they bring enough for everyone.
- If you're captured by the enemy, you can still use the phone to vote for *American Idol*.
- If your country is financing another country's war via large trade deficits, and you condemn it, your country is required to buy the booze for the next UN kegger.
- It is an atrocity punishable by life imprisonment to use chemical weapons. It is an atrocity punishable by 'sacking' to use the smell from the Comfy Lounge as a weapon.
- It is perfectly legal to start a war if the leader of the opposing country is talking smack about your woman.
- If a spy is caught in another country before he/she actually does anything evil, they have to wear a dunce cap all the way back to their own country.
- It is not acceptable to humiliate prisoners. However, if they voluntarily streak through the prison draped in your country's flag, you have to let them go, no questions asked.
- If you start a war, then get kicked out of office in the next election, every citizen in the country you just invaded is entitled to spank you once.
- When oil fields are being divided up among allied countries, the first one to call 'shotgun' gets first pick.

Ian W. MacKinnon

Taking Over MathSoc 101

So I'm sitting in the MathSoc office, when it comes up that *mathNEWS* is missing a column. An entire column. Being the friendly Artsie that I am, I volunteer to write.

Sam says that I should write on bad technology. Ken says that I should write about too many laptops. Most people cannot come up with anything at all. This is fine.

I like laptops. In fact, I just got a laptop on Sunday. It is nice and small, and very sexy. If you don't think that laptops can be sexy, then you shouldn't be reading *mathNEWS*. The wireless networks on campus are also lots of fun to play with. You can do Fun Things, like browse crappy tabloid newsites and listen to remixes made up of Picard quotes. I personally do not do these things. But it is what happens when you stay in the MathSoc office too long.

Hanging out in MathSoc when you're not in math seems like an incredibly geeky thing to do. It's not, really. It's worse to actually be in math. And the ASU sucks. Artsies don't generally like techno.

Greg is eating good pizza. It is MGC 2005 pizza. Yum

Apparently the phrase "spontaneous masturbation" also "flows off of his tongue nicely". Now he's walked out of the office. Hee hee.

(Cass) Sam, say something

(Sam) No, I don't want to be quoted in *mathNEWS*

I was trying to copy and paste my wonderful SCO rant, but for some reason we can't get the paste-ing part to work. Icky. This is why we should use VIM. And not VI. Yes. Please, make the insanity stop.

In short, writing is fun. Study hard. Don't do drugs.

Cass

Marathon Redefined

Ok...thinking about the actual meaning of the word marathon, I am confused. Spike TV says that they are running a Star Trek DS9 "marathon". Starting at noon each weekday the episodes only ran until 9pm. I am not sure whose idea of a marathon this is, but it definitely ain't mine. When I first heard this "marathon" was going to take place I was really excited. I thought a full week of not just Star Trek...but my favourite one, DS9. I had already begun calculating how I would fit watching every episode and studying for my Algebra final in this seemingly too good to be true week of TV. My calculations became far too easy when the truth about this "marathon" was revealed to me. I had so much free time that week I actually slept...that is just not right. Well this sad event has forced me to acquire all the seasons of DS9 myself and run my own private marathon. So, I guess I will see you all in about a week when my show is over. Could I possibly get all the missed class notes off someone??

Rain Water

Welcome to the Real World

Since lots of slackers... uh... people will be graduating this term, I thought I should impart a few words of wisdom so that you don't become too shocked when you leave this place.

1. When people out there say : "I read a good book lately," they are not talking about the Bluetooth specifications manual. People in the real world amuse themselves with make-believe stories [unlike computer games which are real life simulations].
2. When they say: "I'm going to do some exercise," they are not talking about problems in the back of a math text book.
3. Perhaps the most surprising feature for recent graduates is the big glowing ball of light in the sky... You see, that is called 'The SUN'; it heats up the Earth and allows trees to grow.
4. Those people you will see with long hair are called Girls; very interesting creatures they are.
5. You will no longer have any tax credits left so you will have to be creative, like declaring your Tamagotchi [that electronic pet thingy] as a dependent.
6. You will discover 'road rage' as you try to drive anywhere. It is similar to that feeling you get when you get a blue-screen on a Windows machine.
7. You will never find another meal so satisfying as a C&D cookie and French Vanilla coffee.

Good luck to all the graduates; remember me when you become millionaires or else I'll somehow sue you for copyright infringement. And try not to forget the plight and hardships of the innocent math students who will be stuck here for many more years... we will come back to set you all free one day [with jobs].

Faraz

Backstage With Blackstone

The great Mr. Blackstone enters the backstage room with groupies Charlie and Diane in tow.

"Ha ha ha... great show Mr. Blackman," says Charlie.

"That's Blackstone, Charlie, but thank you. Here, let me show you a little trick I learned while I was still in Magician's College."

Blackstone takes an egg out of his pocket and places it on the table. He then places a cup upside-down over the egg, deftly switching the egg with a chick he had hidden in his pants.

"Do you know which came first, Charlie, the chicken or the egg?" asks Mr. Blackstone.

"I don't know, Mr. Blackstone, but I'm guessing the chicken since you just switched the egg for a chick that you had stuffed in your pants," replied Charlie.

"Ah, yes, well, you're very clever, Charlie." says Mr. Blackstone.

"Oh, we saw that trick last night on the Secrets Revealed special on FOX," says Diane.

"Oh, I see. Damned FOX. Ok, well how about I try another one."

"All right," say the two onlookers.

Blackstone takes out three large rings, each about a half a foot in diameter.

"Let me show you my rings—" started Blackstone.

"Oh, there's a cut in that ring there," Diane says. "That was on last night too."

Blackstone suppresses the urge to throttle Diane, and instead throttles Charlie.

"Hey! What'd I do?" Charlie manages to squeak out.

Blackstone calms himself down.

"Sorry, this FOX thing just has me a bit on the edge, that's all.

Let me see... Ok, I've got one more that I'll try on you."

Blackstone reaches up to Diane's ear, and produces a quarter.

"Wow! That's incredible!" remarks Charlie.

"I never knew I had fiduciary remuneration in my ear!" ex-

claims Diane.

"I'm glad I could show you a trick that you don't know the solution to."

"But what does that have to do with mathematics?" asks Charlie.

"Uh, well, how much is a quarter worth?" responds Blackstone.

"25 cents," replies Diane.

"There you go! 25 is a number!"

Reggie rushes into the room.

"Mr. Blackman! The woman you sawed in half!"

"Yes?"

"She's dead!"

"Oh my! I must run! See you!"

Blackstone makes a hasty retreat, leaving Diane and Charlie pondering over the magical 25-cent quarter that came out of Diane's ear.

Nine Sheep Break Free

Sheep Nine Trampled To Death

John and Tina Hammers own and operate a small farm outside of Waterloo. They raise dozens of chickens, pigs, sheep, and other common farm animals. But what started off as a quiet weekend for this young couple turned into a hectic Sunday afternoon.

While Tina was inside making lunch, John was out working on the grounds. He noticed a group of sheep running towards the fence, and as quickly as they had gotten there, the sheep had jumped over the fence and were charging down the road.

This is where our good friend Sheep Nine comes in. He happened to be taking a leisurely stroll down Hwy 41 when the sheep came running at him. He tried to dodge the onslaught, but to no avail. Sheep Nine was trampled to death by nine sheep. We will miss him.

Achieving a life of meaning through keyboard remapping

You've been told that if you continue to spend your life in front of a computer, you're going to get carpal tunnel, a bad back, and become a crippled hunchback. They say that to avoid this, you're supposed to stop slouching, not sit in an armchair to type, and take frequent breaks. We all know that doing any of these things would break your concentration, and prevent you from coding efficiently. There must be a better solution.

I'm here to tell you that there is a better solution. The Dvorak keyboard: it does not in fact say dvorak across the home row, instead, it was designed by some guy named Dvorak who was an expert in whatever you need to be an expert in to design a good keyboard. [*User Interfaces... Take CS 349. — FrenchEd*] The Dvorak keyboard will solve all your ergonomic problems, increase your typing speed, make your system more secure, and make you feel like a more productive member of society.

Perhaps you are wondering how all of this is accomplished. If you are using dvorak, then your fingers are arranged in an optimum position, and need to move as little as possible. The qwerty keyboard, on the other hand, was designed to prevent you from jamming your typewriter by typing too fast. You don't have a typewriter? Then the fact that you are using qwerty indicates that you have been drawn into the mediocrity of the masses. Throw off your chains!

Think of all the hidden benefits of having a keyboard that looks outwardly like a run-of-the-mill qwerty keyboard, but has actually been remapped to the majesty of dvorak. Teachers tell horror stories about a student who left his terminal unattended for a few minutes, had his source code copied, and was kicked out for cheating. The teachers suggest that you should therefore always lock your terminal, but this will leave you cowering in the shadow of your potential absentmindedness.

Now think what would have happened if this poor student had used a Dvorak keyboard. He should, of course, have been using vi at the time. The would-be code stealer could only have blindly hit the wrong keys in a vain attempt to exit vi. At the worst, he would probably only have deleted several lines and turned on recording mode, or done one of those other things that happens when you hit random keys in vi.

It is highly unlikely that this rudimentary security would be compromised very quickly. If for some reason an arts major tries to use your computer, it will remain secured indefinitely.

As an added testament to the efficiency of dvorak, I am telling you that I am only using dvorak for the fourth day, and I have written this entire article in vi, using dvorak. I have even achieved a speed of almost 10 words per minute.

Eabc.nE, err DanielD

Snuggles Sez

It's like Simon Sez but Simon is facing rejection on a whole new level. I mean really, I've never been rejected by a computer before. That's just something I can't say again. The undergrad login has defeated me, probably because I am no longer an undergrad. Ah well, now to contribute at a *mathNEWS* production night I need someone to log me in, I remember when we had to do that for Latrell, now they have to do it for me. So sad, so old. It's alright I guess, I was cheered up by the fact that if I wasn't old, I couldn't be a dirty old man, dym just doesn't have the same ring to it.

How old you ask? Well, if you're reading this the day it came out then my birthday is tomorrow. Wow, I'm going to need a new limerick (every birthday for the past 4 years I've had a little limerick I sing to myself involving birthdays, monkeys and my age, oh, and it rhymes). I don't plan it out, I just kinda get to singing/rhyming when I wake up on my birthday.

I'm a big boy now, I don't need my chairs to be attached to my desk. Damn, it's like the University version of tying your mittens to your jacket. It took Ian a full three minutes to be able to sit down cause he was having trouble with the chair being attached, might be a strange version of University Darwinism.

I get calls from telemarketers all the time. I tend to verbally abuse them, it's not my fault, some of my favourite childhood memories are of my mother abusing telemarketers. They try to sell me things I get for free, like my news. I was reading *cnn.com* and found this: "Ex-Oregon governor admits sex with teen | *Video*". Needless to say it wasn't the video I was expecting.

I've gotten so used to job hunting online that I have developed a tendency to click on careers/jobs links on every website I visit now. I was checking something out at 7-11's website, looking for some offer I saw there on phones or something and I noticed this... 7-Eleven: Careers — Military Recruitment... <http://www.7-eleven.com/careers/militaryjobs.asp>. Apparently they're starting their own army. That kind of scares me. 7-11 really shouldn't have an army, they shouldn't have a meat counter either, but they especially shouldn't have an army.

I noticed a business profile of my favourite local business in the Chronical. That's right, Snugglers Furniture, my namesake

is a place that sells beds, and that makes me happy. I chuckle everytime I go by there. There were a number of, well, interesting quotes in this profile, including, but not limited to "Offering that personal touch at Snugglers", "One visit to Snugglers and you will see there really is something for everyone", "Snugglers is truly your kind of place for your kind of taste". Ahh, Snugglers Furniture, so much better than Smugglers Furniture.

Sometimes FAQs are a little too accurate, this is from a game called Harvest Moon. "Getting a girlfriend — If you want a certain girl to be your girlfriend, make sure you bring her things that she likes at least once everyday. Find out what her schedule is, so that you know what she is doing at each time of the day. Always talk to her and bring her some of your crops that you grow. If she does not like something you give her, do not give it to her anymore." Wow, you should charge for this advice.

Is it wrong that some of my spam mail is more entertaining than my real mail. I spent ten minutes trying to figure out if a particular piece of spam was trying to convince me not to buy weed, or just to buy their weed.

Oil of Olay has entertained me again. First it was the body wash with Shea butter, now they have a new product (well, it's new to me anyway), Olay Daily Facials, with the slogan "Like a little bit of a facial, every day", if that's the kind of thing you want I'm sure some volunteers can be found. Hell, I might just volunteer.

Alright, fine, I admit it. I cried at the Survivor finale when Rob proposed to Amber, what do you want from me, it was very romantic. I figure it's nicely offset by my thoughts when the final three were Amber, Jenna and Rob... dirty dirty Snuggles. I wonder if the Survivor production team would have provided condoms if the need arose. They're not supposed to interfere, but it would have totally upped their ratings.

The Snuggly Hammer
Snuggles as a rapper? But I hardly know her!

WoW, this is fun

So, I've found a way to get into the World of Warcraft beta test. I know there's a lot of you out there who signed up for this beta and didn't get in. (There's still hope for some: there will be more new people eventually). For those of you who wanted in and didn't get it, I have one thing to say to you, "Ha ha, I'm in the beta and you're not." It's even funnier considering that one of the only reasons I signed up for it was so that I could get in, and gloat at everyone else who tried to get in and didn't.

I'm not currently taking classes, and I'm in regular not co-op so that means I have a lot of free time. That also means I was here in the winter term. What does this have to do with the above article? Well, I got in the second phase which recently started, and I got an e-mail saying I was in during the exam period. Let this be a warning to you all, MMORPGs are dangerous things. Do not start playing them when there are exams to be written. I failed each and every exam that I had after getting into this game. Other warnings, don't try to get games like this when the only distribution method is through a custom Tor-

rent program. ResNet and Torrents don't mix well. ResNet and 2+ gig files don't mix well. Roommates on DSL are useful people to have around, you get them to download stuff for you, while they are the ones who actually pay for the bandwidth.

For those of you out there who did find your way in, I hope you're playing the game properly. Not so much World of Warcraft, but the fun fun mind games that come along with it. I was in residence last term. There's this guy who was 2 doors away from me that is practically obsessed with the game. However he's not in the beta. He checks the forums relating to the game all the time and is constantly looking at the various websites devoted to the game. He was also in my room about every 5 minutes last term in a "Can I play? Can I play?" sort of mood. Messing with these people can be fun. Find one of them and get them to do your bidding for 5 minutes of play time. Also taunt them, it's fun.

mathNEWSquiz # 1

Squiz, squiz, squiz. It's time for the wonderful squiz! I'll be your squizmaster for the semester and don't think I'm going to go easy on you just because it's the summer! This week's theme is some of the Days to remember this month.

Mothers' Day

1. When and where was the first Mothers' Day?
2. Who was the originator of Mothers' Day?
3. What flower did this person use to celebrate the first Mothers' Day and why?
4. Who proclaimed that Mothers' Day was a official holiday and when?

Victoria Day

1. This year the observation of Victoria Day occurs on Victoria Day, when is the next time that this will happen and when was the last time it happened?
2. What government body declared Victoria a holiday and when?
3. What is the rule for determining when Victoria day occurs and when did it come into effect?
4. What does Canada celebrate on Victoria day?

Cinco de Mayo (Day)

1. What does Cinco de Mayo translate to in English?
2. Why does Mexico celebrate Cinco de Mayo?
3. Who was the leader during question two?
4. Who was eventually forced out of Mexico after sending troops to conquer the country?

Stockwell or Doris Day

In this category the question or answer will deal with one of the people mentioned above.

1. Approximately how old does Stockwell Day believe the earth is and on what TV show did he say this?
2. Which famous Canadian is also born on the same day as Doris?
3. What is Doris' real last name?
4. Who were the leaders of the group who split from Stockwell's Canadian Alliance party?

Dirty Flame Axle

mathNEWS BYOB

Break Your Own Brain

We've decided to give you something else to use *mathNEWS* for - if these puzzles don't break your brain, they'll probably break the person sitting next to you. Hopefully they'll make you think instead of just looking up the answer on Google. In compensation for your broken brain, if you submit your answers to *mathNEWS* (and you have more correct answers than anyone else with a broken brain), you'll win a gift certificate for free food at the C&D! Make sure to **get your submission in before 6:00pm on Tuesday, May 25th**, or your mental anguish will all be for naught.

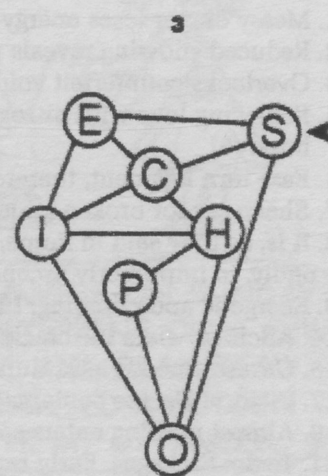
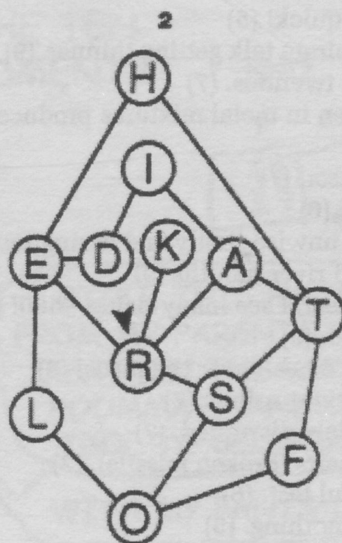
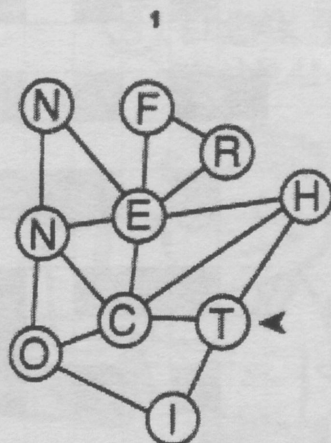
Numbers

I guess we'll start out with the easy ones - you're in math, you know what numbers are... right? Just name the next 3 numbers (in order) in each sequence.

1. 123456...
2. 1 1 2 3 5 8 13...
3. 1101110010111011110001001...
4. 142857...
5. 8549176...

Graphs

If your brain isn't broken yet, I'm sure you'll be seeing stars after this one. Find a walk through each graph that spells out the name of a movie. To give you a hand, I've shown you where to start from.



Odd Bodies

You're still going? Well this is completely out of left field. Come up with the right answer to these awful, foolish questions and you'll be done! (at least, until next issue)

1. I have five hands, but you would pass me in the street without comment. Why?
2. I have three ears, and play a starship captain on TV. Who am I?

We'll have another *mathNEWS* BYOB session next issue - you can find out if you won then, and break your own brain all over again!

Chris 'Krease' Harasemchuk

gridCOMMENTS

Welcome to another term of Gridword! I'll be your hostess this term! As this is the first issue, there are no prizes to announce...but imagine your name here in the future issue! Prizes are available for those who submit solutions to either the cryptic or the conventional (or both) and are closest to having the right answer. In the event of a tie, a draw is held to determine the prize winner.

So when you're falling asleep in class, and struggling to pay attention, just give up and do the gridword! (I'm kidding, of course...who wouldn't pay attention in ActSci 231, right?) Seriously though, give it your best shot and submit your solutions to the BLACK BOX on the third floor and maybe we'll be giving you a gift certificate for your next meal at the C&D.

Good luck to those doing the conventional by the ConMaster (yours truly), and to those doing the cryptic by the CryptMaster (Marshall). See you next issue!

Cryptic Clues

Jos

Across

1. Overflowing liquid determines tiebreaker. (6)
4. Unlike the Pope in autumn, I bleed a bit. (8)
10. Depict empty alleyway, trailing left and right. (7)
11. Ignore "no"-vote in accepting \$1000. (7)
12. Yours truly, after messing up Rod, heading for junk yard (it has only a single hump).(9)
13. Four at the beginning, but not all of quartet returned. (5)
14. Trunks of smut! I. I was shocked, without an answer! (8)
15. Flattened doughnuts are void, aye! (5)
18. Got leg? Jump around, flip! (6)
20. Finally, I say (sounding ungrammatical), "French green corners?" (8)
23. Rope a girl, oh! (5)
25. Boxers beneath turbulent water, losing temperature. (9)
27. A few among us taxers have the same chemical components. (7)
28. Gamepiece inspector. (7)
29. Encodes and buries beneath a church? (8)
30. It's the 50th anniversary of ancient board game. No, past 50. 500? Excellent! (6)

Down

1. Messy diaper loses energy quick! (5)
2. Reduced snowing reveals pirate talk getting thinner. (9)
3. Overlooks counterfeit void twenties. (7)
5. Replacing love with nitrogen in metal mixtures produces bugs. (6)
6. Ease torn ligament, then reset. (7)
7. Sheep cry for broken table. (6)
8. It is, as they said in Rome, unwise firstly and daring secondly, to improperly ascend river mouths (9)
9. Energetic and climbing, I hear, I see many rising—500! (7)
14. Ancillary slate tile cracked. (9)
16. Unrestrained? Heck, dunce is all over the place! (9)
17. Victory! Decree contains right ruling. (7)
19. Almost nothing enters solely disrupted. (7)
21. To do: Packages. Early repairs (broken missile). (7)
22. Start the core of your awful test. (6)
24. Calm, short spasm about nothing. (5)
26. Summer show regarding race. (5)

Conventional Clues*Across*

- 1 blazer folds
- 4 common fictional characters
- 10 wary
- 11 floral spice
- 12 Chinese value
- 13 split (ex. chin)
- 14 old and single woman
- 15 contents of the Squiz
- 18 nest egg
- 20 style of government
- 23 off the market
- 25 without opponent
- 27 snapped up
- 28 greenhouse need
- 29 private road
- 30 decapitate

Down

- 1 in accordance with the law
- 2 one who sues
- 3 financial books
- 5 rare assignments in Math
- 6 center of Toronto controversies
- 7 doctor's aide
- 8 asylum
- 9 one who adores
- 14 impair purposefully
- 16 waver
- 17 feed
- 19 aggrandize
- 21 move forward
- 22 arctic geology
- 24 army colour
- 26 tricked

