

math

NEWS

Volume 99, Issue 6

Friday, December 3rd, 2005

Ahhh...The Pinky goodness of a Junkyard Wars trophy in the MC



That Junkyard Wars trophy looks mighty stylin' with the 2000 Pink Tie on it!

lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

December 2 Issue #6 drifts into the halls

Math Faculty

December 5 Lectures End
 December 8 Exams begin
 December 19 Fees for Winter term due
 December 23 Unofficial grades for F05 released
 January 3 Winter lectures begin

MathSocThursdays Movie Nights, 7:00 PM, MC 2066
2 movies, 2 dollars!**Math Grad Committee**Wednesdays Pizza Day!
Buy cheap pizza to support the grads!**CECS**

December 9 Employer interviews end

Student Awards & Financial Aid

December 15 Last day to submit Continuation of
Interest Free Status forms
 December 17 Last day to pick up loans

Miscellaneous

December 7 Perimeter Institute Public Events series
www.perimeterinstitute.ca
 December 25 Christmas
 December 26 Boxing Day

Over 200 & And Still Kicking!

Alright, so first and foremost, today is the last day of the office marathon. It's been a long 200-ish hours, so feel free to drop by and give the office workers some moral support or use the services (that is what we're there for, after all).

On a more important note, it's getting to be the time where you're supposed to be studying for finals and all. Which means only one thing: procrastination! Come by and borrow some board games. Like our new addition, "Robo Rally", where you play a really bored supercomputer in a widget factory. You control a robot and your objective is to collect the flags or wipe out the competition, which ever comes first, to prove your superiority over the other supercomputers. You could even play Carcassonne - Hunters and Gatherers. This version of Carcassonne is more specialized and interesting for two players. You must gather the most resources. Hunt & fish for survival. Heck, you can even grab a textbook from the MathSoc textbook library to pretend to study while you play. Nothing like learning by osmosis.

Good luck everyone!

Val, Really Tired Office Manager

MathSoc Needs a SysAdmin!*Fabulous Resume-Enhancing opportunity*

Can you administer a Linux machine? How about a Windows machine? MathSoc is seeking a new Computing Director for both W06 and S06, and if you answered yes to both questions, you're qualified! If you are interested, send a message to computing@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca telling me about your experience.

Eric Logan
MathSoc Computing Director

Subscriptions!*It's mathNEWS, the home game*

Yes, really, we have subscriptions. If you aren't going to be around campus to get issues of *mathNEWS*, then why not have them delivered to you? You can take them to work and read them during meetings. Or you can read them during those long commutes. Or during meetings!

Of course there is the webpage, but there's a lot less glare off bond paper, and you get to see our wacky filler! And *mathNEWS* can travel almost everywhere, unlike those clunky computers with their cables and such. Unless you have a laptop, but what are the odds of that? One in fifteen?

And, let's not forget, they're pretty cheap too! In Canada, it's \$7.50 a term, twenty bucks for three terms. For the States, it's \$10 a term, and twenty-five for three. The rest of the world pays \$15 a term or \$35 for three.

A term's subscription gets you all six exciting issues, plus any bonus issues that happen to come out. But what are the odds of that? Two out of three?

The three-term option means you can get *mathNEWS* every summer you're away, or, for those co-ops out there, you can have your subscriptions every time you go off to a faraway job. Any three terms are do-able.

To subscribe, just drop by the *mathNEWS* Office (MC 3041) with your requested term(s) and some cash, or drop it in our mail slot in the MathSoc Office (MC 3038), or put it in the BLACK BOX, or email mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca, or give your money to a mathie in the hopes he or she is an editor. But what are the odds of that? Two in one thousand five hundred?

Here's a handy-dandy form to make your requesting process even easier:

mathNEWS Subscription Form

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The editor(s): Mark Toivanen, Emerald Kushnier, Mark Toivanen

PREZ Says

This is the end, my only friend, the end

The term has come and gone far too quickly, and with it I regret that my term of office also expires. I want to thank all of you for giving me this opportunity to represent you. It has been an interesting experience and I couldn't have had it without all of you. My heartfelt thanks goes to all the volunteers, both this term and last, who have done an amazing job doing what they do, and if you see any of them in the halls, please join me in giving them all a pat on the back.

Good luck on your finals, everyone, and see you around the MC

Tersigni

VPF Election Results

The position of VPF was contended by three candidates: Shu Duan, Catherine Hicks and Michelle Kinsella. The results of last week's elections are as follows:

Michelle Kinsella — 46 votes

Catherine Hicks — 20 votes

Shu Duan — 7 votes

Should none of the candidates request a recount, and assuming MathSoc council ratifies the election process, the elections committee would like to congratulate Michelle Kinsella.

Chris Neal
CRO S06 Exec Elections

Baby, you make all my Cauchy sequences converge

More ways to waste your time

Or, how to procrastinate studying for exams

Or, how to spend your time like the production team does

Have more free time?

Bring up a random "fact" about Mr. T at <http://www.4q.cc/>

t/

Not. Safe. For work.

Half-pint

*Hey baby, I wish I was $\sin^2(x)$ and you were $\cos^2(x)$
because then together we would be 1*

MCTF Take 3

Final Call

So, the last Midnight Capture the Flag will be held on Sunday December 4th at 11:59 p.m. in the comfy. Everyone who shows up always has a great time, so you should all come out too, and besides, what do you have to hand in for Monday, it is the last day of classes after all.

See you there

The New Managment

VPAS Sez

Last one for me!

It's a bit odd right now to have to write this. A part of me is still completely in disbelief that my position is quickly coming to an end, but I know it is time to pass the VPAS torch to the next person. Good luck to whomever gets this wonderful job next semester.

A lot of events were held over the last two terms, some sweet highlights include:

- Pi Day with Dean Alan George and Shirley and Pi Day Observed during Campus Day
- Pie fight between MathSoc President and VPAS (all events caught on tape, ask me if you're interested)
- Pints with Profs with the CSC
- Super Smash Brothers Tournament
- New Novelties — toques, keeping it R shirts, women's t-shirts, frisabees. Coming soon: scarves and hoodies
- Trip to Canada's Wonderland
- Clubs Day
- Bon Fire
- Charity ball - \$1950 raised for charity!
- New Games in the Office

But let's not forget those services that we depend on every week at Mathsoc, including Movie Night, Games Night and to all those making sure that the Mathsoc Office is open as much as possible to the benefit of all members.

I would like to personally thank all MathSoc directors who were awesome this term. Without them, MathSoc would not have been able to function. So, if you do see them in the halls, give them a pat on the back or a hug, if they're willing. Thank you so much to Shirley Chen, Eric Logan, Michelle Kinsella, Karly Przybylski, Michael Huang, Geoff Pease, Erika Harrison, Jenny Mecking, Nicole LeBlanc, Heather Perry, Andrew Fransen, Alex McCausland, Natalie Owen, Priya Mathews, Carol Tam, Robb Effinger, Lin Sun and Holden Karau.

Good luck on exams and have a great holiday!

Elaine Wong
Almost not VPAS
Fall 2005

Last MGC Social Event!!!

For this term, anyway

Hey everyone, just letting you know about the last Math Grad Committee social event for this term. It's a chillin' time at Dooly's Pool Hall (at University and Weber) on Monday, December 5th from 4-8 PM. We will have copious quantities of free food, and of course a cash bar. We will also have prizes for the best (and maybe even the worst) pool skillz, so come out and show off how great/horrendous you are at pool! See you there!

Again, if you have any ideas for more social events next term, send me a shout at dkchisho@uwaterloo.ca. I was thinking about running a poker tournament, among other things, how does that sound? Let me know!

It's been great being your social director this term, and I look forward to next term (and graduating!!! Wheeeee!!!!) :) See you later, and good luck on your finals!

Diana Chisholm
MGC Social Director

Cooking 101

It's exam time!!!

As it is the end of term and exams are upon us, "Cooking 101" is proud to present your final exam in this course. It will concern a three course meal of salad, main course and dessert. Mmmm... dessert.

Salad Dressing

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 3 tsp. powdered mustard
- 2 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cider vinegar (If, like us, this is not an item you normally have on hand, you can substitute with 1/3 cup white vinegar and 1/3 cup apple cider)
- 2 cups vegetable oil
- 3 tbs. poppyseeds (easily found in the bulk section of the grocery store)

Directions

1. Mix all the ingredients together. It's really that simple.
2. Pour into a jar, and shake before using. (Makes 1L, so you might share with your friends.)

Crockpot Cranberry Chicken

Ingredients

- 6-8 chicken thighs
- 1 onion
- 1 can whole-berry cranberry sauce
- 1 packet of Bovril or 1 cube of beef boullion
- 1 tsp prepared mustard (spicy is best)
- 1 tsp apple cider vinegar (or regular vinegar)

Directions

1. Cut ends off onion, peel off skin and quarter. Break up and place in bottom of slow-cooker.
2. Place chicken on top of onion, in single layer if possible.
3. Combine all other ingredients in a bowl, then spread on top of the chicken.
4. Cover and cook 3-4 hours on "High" or 6-8 hours on "Low."

Some people argue that students are poor and that they cannot afford a slow cooker. Well those people can suck my crock pot. Slow cookers cost around \$30 at Zellers, and if you keep an eye out for sales you can get them for as little as \$20. They are useful as you can "Set it and Forget it!" (suck my plagerism, Ronco Rotisserie!).

A Pre-Exam Guide to Imploding

Are you stressed out over exams? Your significant other cheating on you? Does it seem that no one likes you? Well actually, no one does! You should definitely consider imploding. It just may be the solution to all of your problems. Real problems take time to solve, and sometimes you have to make compromises. It just doesn't seem worth it. With this quick and easy guide, you too can implode like a professional!

Step 1: Explode inwardly.

That's all you need to do to successfully implode! Just like a champ! The next time you are faced with a tough decision, take the easy way out!

Angelo

Cheesecake Supreme

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups finely crushed graham crackers
- 1 tbsp sugar
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon (optional)
- 1/2 cup of butter, melted
- 3 8-ounce packages cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup sugar (white)
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1/4 cup of milk
- 3 eggs slightly beaten (in other words, whipped with a fork)

Directions

1. Mix the graham crumbs, sugar, cinnamon, and melted butter in a bowl. Pat it onto the bottom of a round 9-inch pan.
2. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese, 1 cup sugar, flour, and vanilla until combined. Beat in milk until smooth, and stir in eggs.
3. Pour the filling into the crust-lined pan. Bake at 375 deg. Fahrenheit for 35 minutes, or until an area 2-1/2 inches from the edge appears set when jiggled.
4. Remove from oven and let cool for 15 minutes. If desired, top with canned fruit pie filling — I suggest cherry.

Ali and Jenn

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Email us at
mNcooking@yahoo.ca

mastHEAD

Final Edition

Well, this is the last issue before *mathNEWS* turns 100 (volumes), so yeah. That's about it. Oh, and at this point, we have no government because people don't want us to have a happy holiday.

Well, we had a pretty interesting session on Mr. T in production tonight, so to do something completely random, we decided to ask our writers: what part of campus would you want named after you? Eric (The CS statue: so it can be the 'correct' colour), Math.random() (The comfy, so nerdy boys can be inside me all night long), Angelo (All of the bathrooms... they're all mine), ShearedSheep (B2. It's the only building with \$\$ naming rights), Kaitlyn "Half-pint" (MC would be known as π 2K M&C), Diana Chisholm (The New York Stock Exchange!), Bryam (Any two parts, forcing people to use "the other ..."), Michael Perkins (RCH for use as a missile silo), DanS (Tim Hortons), Jenn (The *mathNEWS* office. Because I sleep there anyways), Val (Hmm... What's the most phallic object on campus?), π (The C&D to the Right Angle Cafe)

Mark "BeatleEd" (The TC, to its original name: The CECS building)

Chris "SheepEd" (The SheepNine Memorial Ring Road)
Emerald "StatsEd" (Any part that is not, in fact, already green)

Child Kills Other Child

Video games not at all involved

Tragedy struck the town of Irony, MA today when a twelve-year-old boy found a loaded shotgun in his father's closet and fatally injured his eleven-year-old schoolmate while re-enacting one of the battles depicted in the Bible. Investigators report that the boys had not been playing any violent video games before this, and in fact had never played a video game in their entire lives.

The boys, raised in a strict religious family, had been reading the story of David and Goliath, referenced in 1 Samuel: 16-18. They reached the part where David slew Goliath with a slingshot to the temple before tragedy struck. Due to their father's negligence in leaving a loaded shotgun in his closet, little Billy was rushed to the hospital with a head wound and died on the operating table.

"This tragedy could have been avoided," said Billy's father in a teary-eyed speech to reporters, "if the American government would step in and do something about all the violence in the Bible. It is solely and singly responsible for the death of my son."

Jack Thompson, proponent of censoring violence in video games and self-proclaimed "bible thumper", was flabbergasted at the news. "I- wh- bu-" was the gist of the comments he made to reporters when they all pointed out that an act of child violence had occurred without the influence of video games, made doubly damning to his position when the violence was based on the Bible he loves so much.

The announcement comes as a windfall to the Entertainment Software Association, an organization devoted to protecting the rights of video game developers. Well, actually, the announcement comes more as an excuse for everyone in the ESA to let out a collective "told you so" to Jack Thompson, because really, they're sitting on a pile of evidence against his ramblings which is so big, people could comfortably make a house out of it. Yes, so much evidence that it's enough to make a person's *home*.

In response to the numerous violent-media-causing-violence-oh-no-we-must-stop-it complaints being filed, the American government has issued a formal complaint policy which involves first having the complaineer answer the following three questions, with a yes answer resulting in immediate complaint rejection:

- Did you purchase or otherwise allow access of the offending media to your child/children?
- If not, did you fail to prevent your child/children from obtaining access to the offending media by being a lazy-ass parent?
- If not, did you fail as a parent to teach your child/children proper behaviour and the difference between right and wrong?

The questionnaire is believed to filter an estimated 99.99998% of all currently queued complaints.

SheepNine

Soap

So your roommate's a bit of a dope
With no idea how to use soap.
Spray 'em with aerosol
Spend the night in the hall
And all there is left is to hope.

Angelo

Reading Week and Professional Development Courses

Reading Week is now official. Starting in Winter 2007, Math students will be getting a full reading week in February and losing their study days before exams. If you have any questions about this, feel free to email me.

Also, the Faculty of Mathematics Coop Enhancement Committee is starting Professional Development Courses (PDMath); they will be ready online by September 2006, and in the Undergrad Calendar by 2007/2008 Calendar. What is known about these courses is that by 2B you should have completed 2 of them, 3 by 3A, 4 by 3B, 5 by 4A. If you have any questions about this, feel free to email me.

Adam Felix
Math Student Senator
Math Feds Councillor
atfelix@uwaterloo.ca

School of CS Sells Out

mathNEWS looking to follow suit

With David Cheriton's recent multi-million dollar donation to the School of Computer Science, and the admin's decision to rename the school the "Cheriton School of Computer Science", *mathNEWS* has decided to start a bidding war for the renaming of the 99-term bastion. One of our centennial plans is to whore ourselves out to anyone willing to buy our new name.

Anyone interested in buying the rights to the publication should contact the editors at mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca with offers starting at \$1M. It will definitely be put to good use (like a productionist's trip to Cuba or something like that).

Mark "Beatlemaniac"

What Makes a Girl a Mathie?

I was sitting around not too long ago with some female friends of mine. We got to talking about just what defines a female mathie. There are so many stereotypes of male mathies, so what about the girls? I have come up with this list. You might be a female mathie if:

- You have more male friends than female friends and don't want to date any of them
- You don't mind spending all weekend at a LAN game
- You get to be the token female in every D&D game you play
- Math pick up lines actually work on you
- You can recite 200 digits of pi without much trouble
- You are happy the colour of the faculty of math is pink because it still allows to you be feminine
- At least one mathie male has tried to celebrate your 1 month anniversary, at which point you have to break it to him that you are not dating
- You truly know the meaning of the phrase "the odds are good, but the goods are odd"
- You have become so used to B.O. that you have no smell receptors left

*~*Rain Water*~*

Horrorscopes

Accounting

Here are a few tips on how to survive a co-op term in accounting:

- avoid all co-workers like the odious plague they are.
- remind everyone, when you can't avoid them, that you are smarter than they are.
- get a subscription to *mathNEWS* to remind you of what you are missing.

Your lucky number is 0 interruptions while you work.

ActSci

If you are getting tired of crunching numbers all day, turn to your good friend Captain Crunch. Think about what he would do to calculate the risk of insuring someone: forget the numbers and ask if they like his cereal, then base the insurance on their answer.

Your lucky number is a 5 cent premium.

AMath

This week, be nice to at least one PMath student: you take baby versions of their courses, so they are smarter than you. Hence you should give them (in particular, me) cookies. You need to atone for the way you abuse their hard theoretical work.

Your lucky number is $\epsilon > 0$ (not $= 0$).

BioInfo

Thank you for choosing *mathNEWS* for your mocking needs. We sincerely appreciate your patronage of our august publication. Should you ever turn to Dark Matter (a.k.a. the "pamphlet of evil"), a representative of *mathNEWS* will be along shortly to remove you from the Faculty of Math.

Your lucky number is one unfair expulsion.

C&O

The combination of optimizing your sleeping time and calculating your maximum alcohol level is causing you to miss a lot of class. With finals approaching, you may feel guilty about this and try to mend your ways. Or you may not. Follow your gut on this one.

Your lucky number is 3 hours of (night) class per week.

Computational Math

When you are offered a place in the new New York office to promote your research, you will jump at the chance to leave the MC for the first time in two years. Seeing real, non-mathie people is only one advantage of this new job. Maybe you can even convince someone that you aren't just playing on your computer.

Your lucky number is a \$20,000 "moving bonus."

CS

So far, you have not impressed me with any level of normality. Oh well, back to my preconceived notion of your reigning geekdom. If you did not manage to impress any girls with my tips you aren't trying hard enough. Try ... er... harder.

Your lucky number is two eyes peeled away from your computer screen.

Double Degree

Wondering why you are still single? So am I. You have more opportunity than any other mathie to meet members of the opposite sex. Not only do you regularly leave the MC, but you also leave campus for the real world. Next time you are over at Laurier, stop by a sporting event. Even if you don't pick up, you can still ogle the athletes.

Your lucky number is 13 football butts.

MathBus

Your mix of math and business courses works in your favour most of the time, except when you see your final exam schedule. The registrar obviously doesn't think that any upper year mathies take upper year arts courses. Your only recourse is to ask your prof to write a second exam just for you. They like it.

Your lucky number is 5 exams in 3 days.

MathPhys

Like AMath, you need to atone for using and abusing the hard work of PMath. The best way to do this would be to volunteer for a MathSoc directorship next term. Yes, you are busy, but aren't we all?

Your lucky number is $\lfloor n/4 \rfloor + 1$ new jobs to add to your workload.

Math Sciences

This week you will have amazingly good luck. However, you will miss out on most of the benefits of this luck because you are too busy studying. The only way to redeem your good luck is to take a long trek through the snow. Just don't get frostbite.

Your lucky number is two unnecessary toes, frozen off.

Operations Research

Since your work is closely related to that of engineers, you find yourself spending more and more time with them lately. Hey, wait. Are you the ones who helped Eng steal our natural log? If so, you will be ostracized and kicked out of Math. Traitor.

You are so unlucky that you have no lucky number.

PMath

You are one of the only twenty-somethings who still laughs at any reference to sex. Maybe this is because you are surrounded by theorems and logic rather than women. For your next PMC event, attract the opposite sex by offering free chocolate rather than free pizza. It works.

Your lucky number is an 8:1 male to female ratio.

SoftEng

As another term ends, you again face life's biggest question: how much will your program change over the 4 months you are away on co-op? Precedence says at least two courses will be swapped for harder ones, and one will stay the same but be renamed as SE. Feel special yet?

Your lucky number is 80% PEng-taught courses.

Stat

Like the ActSci club, your club should give a Survival Guide talk for prospective Stats students. Cover topics such as "How to avoid Stat 231" and "Making your degree useful," and have upper year students talk about their experiences. Unless that would scare them too much.

Your lucky number is 4 2009 Stats graduates.

Teaching Option

They say those who can't do, teach; but they don't know how much you go through to have the privilege of not doing anything. When anyone insults your vocation, challenge them to go back to high school, having authority but looking the same age as the students.

Your lucky number is sweet sixteen.

Horrorscopes continue on the next page...

Living in Sin

Week 6: Envy

What am I envious of? Sobriety. There's a good excuse for writing a horrible article to end the term: forget you are on an empty stomach before pints with profs and show up drunk to *mathNEWS*.

Seriously though. What does a committed couple living together have to be envious of? More-deeply committed couples, naturally.

Although I fear this will alienate most of the normal *mathNEWS* crowd, I am hoping I can speak to the couples this week.

I've always believed that your age cannot dictate whether you are ready to settle down with someone or not, but that instead you should consider your position in your life plan to make this decision. I'm also a firm believer in making that decision yourself — no one else can make it for you.

If you're reading this article, my guess is that you're still a student. If you're still a student, I'm guessing a mortgage and kid aren't right for you. But with the new curriculum, it's possible to graduate from a college trade degree by age 19, and suddenly you can be settled in your own home with a family in a traditionally planned way by your early twenties.

Hence my envy. My life plan has me not even graduating until the ripe age of 23. Thanks to co-op I will probably be able to find a full-time job with ease, but saving up the money one should have before starting a family will probably leave me waiting until 25 to start trying.

And that's just with an undergrad. More academically-inclined people may have 2 or 6 years to go after their undergrad before they'd ever see themselves settling down. Women have a harder time deciding if they will stay home after a baby's birth, and if not, then they'll need more time before having children to find a steady job that will allow them sufficient leave.

It seems that I can't avoid an unordered list in any article. So, if the urge to commit more than you are ready for is starting to depress you, here are some things to try:

- **Move in together.** It *is* a big step to take, and it will be a change from the possibly boring status-quo, but it isn't "til death parts us".
- **Get a pet together.** If you're looking for something past each other to take care of, consider adopting a furball (or scaley coil) of love from a shelter/store near you. Make sure you research into proper care so that you can make an informed decision, especially about lifespan. Some pets can live over 20 years.
- **Discuss your future plans together.** Make sure you want the same things out of the next few years. Maybe she wants a career and won't have time for a family until she's 30, or maybe he's planning on moving to teach on the other side of the world after graduation. Don't place your dreams in someone who won't be interested in sharing them.
- **Remind yourselves of all the up sides of being young and child-free.** You can still take off at a moment's notice to Paris in the middle of the night (although on a student's budget, you'll be driving to Paris, ON), or stay up at the MathSoc marathon. Or still act 13 whenever you want, or be a terrible role-model. Honestly, it's hard to find many reasons *to* take on such a massive responsibility: now just remember these things when you spot a cute baby at the mall.

So remember, alcohol doesn't mix with an empty stomach when you need to sound impressive later.

And thanks for a great term. Again. Someone will probably give me a good-enough topic for next term when I'm working on campus for the first time. In the mean time, luck to your committed relationship or your search for one (I suppose we can't all be so lucky).

Kaitlyn "Half-pint" Holman

Horrorscopes Continued...

Undeclared

Look, a decision you have to make! Quick, hide! Now that open enrollment is open, you only have a short time left to decide on your winter courses. Unfortunately, the only courses available are Obscure Russian Poetry, Psych 101, and CS 452 (Real Time). Have a happy holiday, because next term will be anything but.

Your lucky number is belonging to 5 faculties.

AHS

I think we should rename your program. Since you "aren't funny," we will give you a funny new name. About as funny as "Waterlosers" or "creepy smelly people." Look to the stars (or the MC, same thing) to find out what it is, then watch out for mathies making fun of you.

Your lucky number is 1 brain per class.

Arts

You are feeling particularly restless these days, but you don't know why. Perhaps it is all the work you have to do before finals. Try going to the bar more: dance away your restlessness. Studying is overrated anyway, when you are in arts.

Your lucky number is 9 bars per week.

Eng

Stealing the ln was bad, but do you really have to make things worse by displaying your "creative talents" all over campus? I guess no one has told you that painted chunks of metal are only art in the same way that clouds are art. That explains a lot about your mental capability.

Your lucky number is 1 crowbar and 1 spray-paint can.

ES

Develop a machine to change the weather, so we can end the days of slushy ice. Please. A nice cold winter would do us all good. Then you have threatened Eng with a cold snap that will freeze their tongues to their 'art.'

Your lucky number is 40 degrees below zero.

Science

Since you have already been kicked out of the Faculty of Math, *mathNEWS* cannot hurt you for reading Dark Matter. The act of reading Dark Matter will hurt you more. If you feel empty afterwards, don't blame me, blame SciSoc by getting your Soc fees back.

Your lucky number is \$7 you can donate to *mathNEWS*

Dirty Mathie

Random Filler...

"I don't want to be the MathSoc President that got the Dean shot."

Current MathSoc President

profQUOTES

"It's a one dimensional silly putty, bear with me."

Ingalls, MATH 237

[Referring to a Markov chain] "You don't get to state 2. You can only leave it. It is sort of like Saskatchewan; you don't go there, you only leave it."

Small, STAT 333

"You don't have to worry about our sun exploding; there are other things to worry about, like your physics exam."

O'Donovan, PHYS 121

"You see, in this case, the point is more subtle. [pause] This coffee tastes terrible!!"

O'Donovan, PHYS 121

"That was Dedekind, yes, the same Dedekind we like so much, the famous Dedekind of the Dedekind cut."

Lawrence, MATH 145

"In England, 'public school' doesn't mean what we know it as. There, public school means private school."

Hull, MUSIC 363

"What do you call people who use the rhythm method? The answer is parents."

Snyder, HIST 235

"Just one moment, I have to do a calculation, because I can't add."

Verstraetes, CO 342

"Everyone shut up. Let's do calculus."

Liu, MATH 137

"You cannot find the anti-derivative. No matter how hard you try."

Liu, MATH 137

"You already know that? What happened?"

Liu, MATH 137

"Maple is great because it helps you check if you're crazy."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"General basis of mathematics: just don't do anything and it works."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"Method 1 is the big mess method."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"When I was a young geek just like you..."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"If you want to tell me how much you love me, that makes me feel good."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"Your gut instinct is wrong."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"In other fields you may get stuck, but complex numbers are beautiful."

Rubinstein, MATH 135

"If you're ever driving following me, keep your distance."

Morgan, EARTH 121

"It's not that I like socializing with students, it's that I'm a lush."

Spronk, Pints with Profs

"This thing goes through batteries faster than my vibrator."

BJ Rye, SMF 204

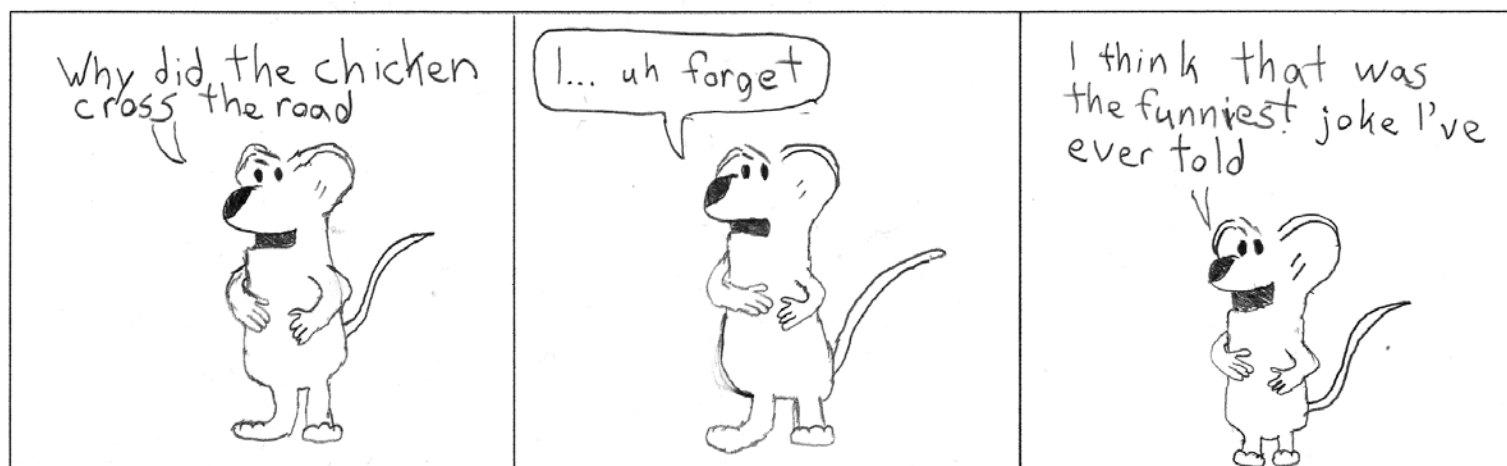
Exam Tips For Frosh

It's exam time again, and for many of you frosh out there this is going to be your first set of exams at university. In order to help you out this December, I've compiled some tips in order to make these first exams as smooth as they can be.

- If the weather is forecasting snow, don't bother studying — it'll probably be a snow day.
- If someone freaks out and starts screaming, it's nothing to be afraid of! It's perfectly common, and they're probably writing a different exam anyway.
- All exams take a half an hour less than the amount they're scheduled for, so if you want to sleep in, don't worry about it.
- All exams are actually very easy, there's no need to study at all.

Portable Document Format

DanS



ElseWhen

25 Years Ago in mathNEWS

It seems the Ph₀ton broke, so Volume 24, Number 11 (November 28, 1980) was done entirely in old-school monospace font. This was also the last issue of the term, and the 8-year anniversary of the founding of the Mathematics Society Newsletter (informally known as *mathNEWS*). Anyway, here's the stuff that was in it.

Eric Logan

Looking Back on Eight Long Years

"... At the very start, editors Steve Treadwell and John Peebles admitted that student response to the fledgeling newsletter represented little more than the trapping of novelty. One reader was quoted as saying, "I don't think that *mathNEWS* is a worthwhile project, but I like it anyway." This sums up the ambient (ambivalent?) attitude towards *mathNEWS* over the years, but it can't come close to describing the self-important wonder of the idea of a student-info rag. There's so much silliness and so many possible ways to describe, regroup and regurgitate that silliness that hard news becomes a real drag. Despite that, *mathNEWS* has continued to present (with appropriate humour) the news of the day and the week to cum [sic]..."

Ross Brown

Elsewhere in the issue

- Subscriptions for the Winter term are available (if you look elsewhere in this issue, you can probably find a current subscription offer).
- The positions of Manager and Assistant Manager to the Math C&D are open, applications due on December 8, 1980.
- Steve Hutton of Engineering speaks in defence of apathy.
- Hey look, some overlooked whitespace!
- The Natural Log returns to the limelight next Monday at noon in the Mad Math Mission.
- Fraser Simpson writes us a *gridWORD* (he now writes the Saturday Cryptic for the Globe and Mail).
- The MathSoc-ists broomball team finishes the season with a 3-1-1 record.

House of Nerds



Battlefield 2: Special Forces

More features, fewer frames/sec

About a week and a half ago, to cries of, "Don't release an expansion until you fix the core game," from fans and, "Wait there's something coming out this week other than the Xbox," from the fools who work at EB, EA Games released 'Battlefield 2: Special Forces', the expansion to this summer's 'Battlefield 2'.

One of the most noticeable things added is the six new armies, including: 'Team Bad British Accent', 'Team We're too PC to call them 'Chechen' Rebels'; as well as special forces groups of the Americans, and 'Team Terrorist' from the original game, as well as a few more teams.

The game also includes new maps with names such as 'drop your FPS by 20' or what seems to be the most popular so far: 'I have a \$3000 gaming rig, why is this running like I have a 386'. The game also includes several new weapons, such as the improved 'n00b t00b', which are the main part of their advertising campaign for the expansion. The concept is simple: make it so that everyone who buys the expansion gets access to cool new guns, even in the core game, so that anyone who doesn't buy the expansion is constantly getting pwned by the people who did, forcing them to spend \$50 if they ever want to not suck again.

To conclude, it's actually a really fun game, or will be after they patch it to optimize the game, and, well, it's sort of required if you still happen to play BF2. I would say it's definitely a contender for best expansion pack released this year for a game that was also released this year.

DanS

gridCOMMENTS

Well, our Gridmaster went MIA this issue, so I'll have to fill in to announce our grid winner for last issue. We had three (correct) submissions: Michael Perkins, Fai and Kats and Mark MacDonald. In my humble opinion, the funniest answer to last issue's *gridQUESTION* (if you could make anything in the world smaller, what would it be?) was Mr. MacDonald's answer of "Oprah, she's getting pretty chunky again.", so Mark, feel free to drop by the MathSoc office to collect your \$5 C&D gift certificate...it's good until the end of the term!

Mark "Beatlemaniac"

(Grid solution on the last page of the issue)

Mathies Steal Engineering EDcom Trophy and P**5 Hall of Fame

We have been getting a little sick of looking at our display case without the Natural Log. In order to fill the void, we have "borrowed" the engineering EDcom trophy, and the P**5 hall of fame banner. Of course, unlike a certain amateur engineering class (henceforth called "the dumbasses"), we were not required to break open a display case or use bolt cutters on a chain. We gave the dumbasses a message that we knew it was them but they still did not return our log. We will give back these artifacts



once the Natural Log has been returned.

However, in the pictures that the dumbasses sent to campus media, we noticed they carved "Rigid" into our log. In order to get the EDcom trophy and P**5 banner back in the same condition we took them in, we will

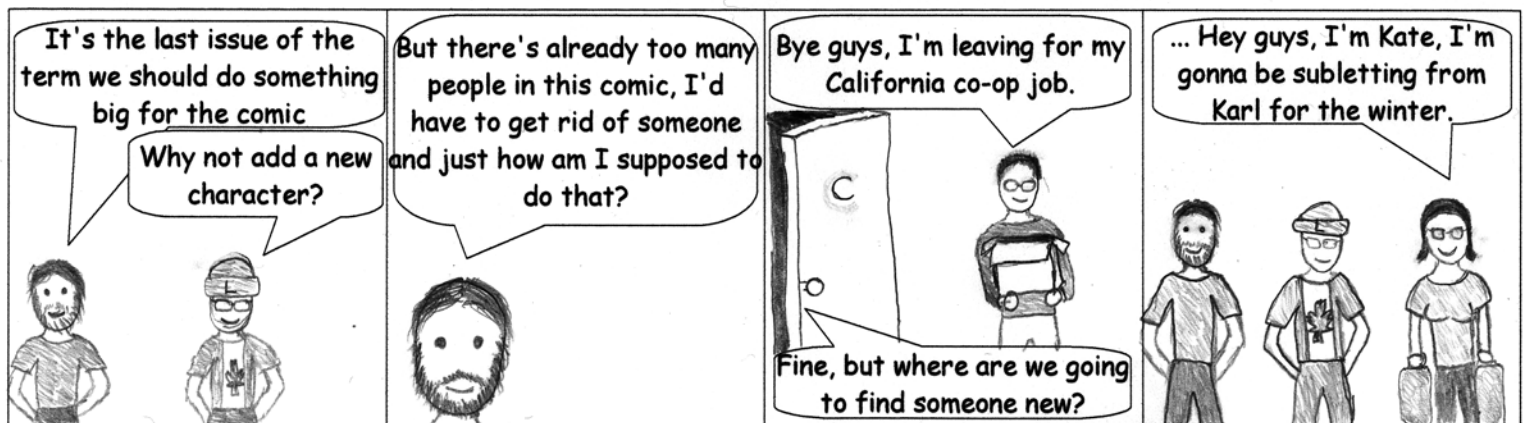


require the eyebrows of one of the dumbasses be included with the log upon its return. However, to sweeten the deal, we will make a \$100 donation to the engineering cancer fundraiser in order to "sponsor" an offender's eyebrows.

Math Goon Squad

We're short just *THIS* much good filler!

House of Nerds



See you next term

Requiem for the Divided

Looking at our factors,
We are not unique.
Oh, how the simple things divide us
From the primality we seek.

Could we not be unbounded?
With no factors near infinity?
But such small factors divide us
And reveal our composite identity.

If only we were prime
Nothing could divide you and me.
We are too easily divided.
We have no primality.

Angelo

Grid Solutions to issue 5

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