

math NEWS

Volume 103, Issue 1

Friday, January 19th, 2007

WHENEVER I LEARN A NEW SKILL I CONCOCT ELABORATE FANTASY SCENARIOS WHERE IT LETS ME SAVE THE DAY.

OH NO! THE KILLER MUST HAVE FOLLOWED HER ON VACATION!



BUT TO FIND THEM WE'D HAVE TO SEARCH THROUGH 200 MB OF EMAILS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FORMATTED LIKE AN ADDRESS!



IT'S HOPELESS!

EVERYBODY STAND BACK.



I KNOW REGULAR EXPRESSIONS.



by Randall Munroe xkdc.com



lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

January 19	Issue #1 survives the snow
January 29	Production Night #2 6:30PM, MathSoc (MC 3038) All are welcome!
February 2	Issue #2 shines down

Math Faculty

January 23	Drop, No Penalty period ends
February 19-23	Reading Week
February 20	Last day for 50% tuition refund
February 27	Drop, Penalty 1 period ends
April 3	Lectures end
April 9	Exams begin
April 21	Exams end

MathSoc

January 24	Cove Night
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MGC

Wednesdays	Pizza Day, 3rd Floor MC
February 5	Yearbooks go on sale
March 24	Grad Ball

CECS

January 18	Job postings begin
January 30	Volunteer/Internship Fair, SLC 11:00AM-2:30PM
January 31	Employer interviews begin
February 7	2007 Job Fair, RIM Park 10:00AM-3:30PM
March 2	First cycle rankings open

Student Awards & Financial Aid

January 22	F&W OSAP applications due
February 1	Bursary applications due
February 1	Winter OSAP applications due
February 16	W&S OSAP applications due

Food for Thought

There's more to life than just sex. This is so true; what most people fail to realize is there is also foreplay.

Angelo

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Editor: Emerald Kushnier

MGC Says*Welcome Back Grads!*

Ready for your last term of school? I know I am! Anyway, with less than 8 months of school to go there are a couple of things that you should probably know in order to graduate.

Grad Photos: If you have not taken your grad photos yet and you still want to be in the composite, get your pictures taken **NOW!** Dave Smith is still taking sittings for the composite pictures until the end of this month. Sign up at www.waterloojostens.com and reserve for a sitting.

Yearbook blurbs: We are taking submissions for yearbook grad quotes now. Log onto the MGC website at www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/TILDAmgc and follow the link to write your grad quote in. You will be able to write about 200 words and it needs to be in by February 16th.

Grad Ball will be taking place on March 24th at Waterloo Inn. Tickets will be available starting February 5th and will be going on until February 9th. Tickets will cost about 100 dollars for a pair. Stay tuned for more details.

Alan George Award: This award is presented during Grad Ball. Nomination (and selection committee) forms are available online and outside the MGC office. This goes out to anyone who is graduating in 2007 and is outgoing. Nominations are open until 4:30pm on February 24, 2007. Drop off forms at the MGC Office (MC3029) or the MathSoc office.

Yearbook will also be on sale starting on the week of February 5th as well. The cost will be 40 dollars and an extra 5 dollars if you want your name engraved on the cover (You know you want to have your yearbook personalized). First sales end February 16. After that, if you are still interested in buying a yearbook, it will be 45 dollars.

Intent to graduate: If you plan to leave here soon, don't forget to fill out an intent to graduate form! It is very important or else you will not be convocating at all. Forms are available on the MGC website as well. You will need to fill the form out by March 1st if you want to convocate in June and August 1st if you plan to convocate in October.

Valedictorian: If you have (or know someone who has) done exceptionally well during your entire school career, consider nominating yourself (or your friend) for the role as Valedictorian. You will be recognized by your fellow peers during convocation. These forms, again are available on the MGC website and the deadline for nomination (and being on the selection committee) is March 16, 2007 at 4:30. Drop your forms off at the MGC office or at MathSoc.

Pink Tie Pledge: This is a heads up. We will be starting Pink Tie Pledge within the next month. Now that you're done, don't you think it's time to give back to the university that gave so much to you? You know you want to.

Pizza Day: Yes! Pizza Day is back! We will have them on the same day, same time!

Lastly... Volunteering! Please help out! This is your last term here and chances are, you won't have a full course load. So come out and help! There is always someone in the office, so feel free to come by if you have questions. Please please please please help out.

Have a great term! And don't forget to check the website for more updates!

Ivan Chin, Rodney Lam MGC Co-chairs, 2007

Prez Sez

It's like Snuggles Sez, if Snuggles were younger and bigger and still an undergrad. Greetings, my fellow Mathies, my name's Eric and I'll be your President this term. Emergency exits are located at each corner of the building and out every window if you're not afraid of the drop. In the event of a water landing, your prof probably makes a poor floatation device. Today's meal is whatever the C&D is serving, and it's still better than airline food.

Floating along with in me this term in the Hot Air Balloon known as the MathSoc Executive are Jivan Ramsahai, Vice President Activities and Services, Heather Perry, Vice President Academic, and Angelo Finistauri, Vice President Finances. We all have office hours, the timing of which are posted on the door to our office, across the hall from the MathSoc office. We like visitors, so drop by some time.

Can I interest you in volunteering with MathSoc? Speaking of the office, a great way to help out is to take an office hour with MathSoc, where you sit behind the desk in our office and help those that come in. Office hours are fun. Office hours let you meet new and interesting people. Office hours will give you that feeling of accomplishment and contribution to your community that you've always longed for. No longer will you have to rely on your (unnamed vices) to supply your feeling of self-worth. Now you can find that happiness at MathSoc.

If you've been to the office lately (and you should come by, even just to say "Hi!"), you may have noticed that we've reconfigured our space a little. The idea was to open up the space available to us. What do you think? Tell an office worker. If they look confused, you may suggest that they write it down.

The office will also be getting a face lift during Reading Week. Look for updated flooring, new and improved walls and doors, and a totally revised colour scheme! I'm very excited about this project, and I hope that once you get a chance to see it, you will be, too.

Coming up really soon (like, next week maybe?) is our termly Cove Night. Look for posters telling you when you can enjoy free Campus Cove! Also there will be pizza. There will be more fun Social events throughout the term, too. Is there some kind of Social event you'd like our Social Director to run in the future? He'd love to hear from you at social@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

I am very interested in whatever feedback you may have about what the Society is or, perhaps, is not doing for you. Good communication is what builds and maintains strong relationships (and if you agree with that, it would be faboo if you could explain it to my ex). Drop me an email at the address below.

That's all the blithering I'm prepared to do for now. You may wish to turn your attention back to your lecture now. Thanks for reading!

Eric Logan
MathSoc President W07
prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

**THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY
DIVIDES BY ZERO**

VPF Says

(nowhere near as much as the President)

I am announcing the fact that I exist. Sorry to disappoint many of you on that one. I don't really have anything noteworthy to report, except that the monkeys are invading and my spleen is leading them.

There's going to be a budget meeting sometime next week. Come see how we spend your monies.

Angelo
VPF W07

New Furnishings in the Lounge

If you've been in the Comfy Lounge at some point during the last couple of weeks, you might have noticed the addition of five new *loveSeats*. You can spot them by their spiffy new red vinyl upholstery. The couches were funded as a joint venture between the Student Life Endowment Fund and your student government, the Mathematics Society. When deciding on which type of upholstery to get, I decided on vinyl because it is a material that is more stain resistant and hopefully these couches will stay a bit cleaner than their fabric-clad comrades. They were originally supposed to be chairs, but Plant Ops do what they think is best despite what you might think.

This was just a little heads-up in case you were wondering. If there are any other improvements you would like to see happen around student space in the MC, let us know. This year I'll be trying to line up funding for lighting improvements in the Comfy Lounge, the C&D and their C&D Lounge/Cafeteria. This project, at \$28,000, is about five times more expensive, so it will be interesting. Hopefully, this time next year you'll read about that in *mathNEWS*.

Until next time, this was a message from,

Andrew
That guy who does stuff

Come See FASS!

Because it's good for your soul

Come see FASS! I can't say this enough. I don't care which show you see (Feb 1st, 2nd or 3rd), just do it! Come see FASS! When you buy your ticket, tell them Rob sent you. Don't ask why. You will not regret it.

Shameless self-promotion aside, FASS is a UW theatre company that is often described as a live cartoon on stage. FASS stands for Faculty, Alumni, Staff, and Students, and we've been putting on a generally hilarious play every year for the past 45 years! That's a mere 5 years younger than the university: a nominal 90% of UW's age. Think back, when all that was around was a bunch of engineers who got drunk and thought that putting on a play would be a dandy idea. While it's no longer entirely engineers, some things never change.

This year, FASS will be putting on *FASS 2007: The 7 Silly Sins*, a delightful romp into the the 7 Deadly Sins, that will surely cause some sort of emotional response. Tickets are currently available from the Humanities Box Office, where they accept a variety of payment methods, such as cash, debit, Visa and Mastercard. Just tell them Rob sent you.

Rob

horrorSCOPES*New look, same old crap***acCOUNTING**

It's the most wonderful time of the year. That's right, it is time to do everyone's income taxes! But don't fret. If one of you does my taxes for me, I might give you a better *horrorSCOPE* in two weeks. Your *luckyNUMBER*: 1 large refund touched by 0 accountants.

actSCI

You have returned to another four months of boredom. I recommend that you spend your time during lecture watching the stock market. Hey, it's better than listening to the prof!

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 5 very bad investments.

aMATH

You have returned from applying math to the real world, and now you have to apply it to school again. However, you are going to learn new and exciting mathematics that you can apply to new and exciting situations.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 4 months of fun math.

bba/BMATH

As you may have noticed, it is starting to get a little chilly out. I hope that you are enjoying all of the hot girls that you encounter at Laurier. If not, you must decide if a Laurier degree is really worth it.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: a temperature T where $T > 0$.

c&O

You just got off of another work term, and yet the countdown to your next has begun. Maybe you should consider doing something a little more worthwhile than counting down, say, your assignment due next week?

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 16 weeks to go.

cS

You may think that returning to campus marks the end of playing the role of technical support. However, you need to watch out for those in CS 100 who are learning what a computer is. Mind you, if they don't know what a computer is, they need to go to *artS*.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 100 hours of pain.

mathBUS

You have learned that a federal election may be looming in the coming months. It is important that you begin looking at the parties' candidates and determining what would be best for the national economy. Or, maybe better, who would do the least damage to it.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 1 more scandal.

mathSCI

I hope that you enjoyed this winter break, even though you lost all of those dirtball fights. A suggestion that might help you to win next time: as people keep moving, the requirements for v_0 and θ_0 are going to change significantly. You won't win if you don't throw.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: mg

pMATH

There is a slight difference between a *pMATH* and an *unDECLARED*. The difference is that the *pMATHs* actually know that they don't want to do anything important with the mathematics that they learn. Rather saddening, really.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 25% of the people who want fries with that.

softENG

Like *cS*, you are happy that you are done playing technical support. Fortunately for you, you have your fancy private lounge to help you avoid those CS 100 people. Wow, you really are spoiled. Your *luckyNUMBER*: 100 hours hiding in the lounge.

stAT

Having not the easiest courses in the world, you will feel the need to take not only a break, but also a mate. Maybe you should hook up with someone from *ahS*, because statistically, at least one of them will like you back.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: Part 3 in [Dating Advice from the Single Guy](#).

unDECLARED

This is normally where I would make fun of the fact that you are so indecisive that you don't know what to do with the rest of your life. Well, I am going to continue to do so. I just haven't decided how to do so this week.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 1 more *unDECLARED*.

ahS

You may notice that *stAT* will be trying to pick you up this week. Maybe you should at least consider going out with them, because if you don't like them, you can always throw them a null hypothesis.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: Part 6 in [Dating Advice from the Single Guy](#).

artS

There are only two major differences between an artsie and a mathie. The first is that we work for our degrees, not like the two essays that you have for the entire term. The second is that at the end of it all, we can actually use our degrees for something useful (well, unless you're *pMATH*).

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 20 more years in debt.

enG

As you arrive back on campus, you will find the need to consume many "BEvERageS". Well, with your highly structured program with no electives, who can blame you? Besides, I find humour in watching you afterwards.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: 1000 drunk engineers, 1000 amused mathies.

eS

As you may have noticed, we have been kind of lacking in the snow department (Note: this was written before this Monday's massive snowstorm). Normally, you would be building snowmen and snowwomen right about now, but instead, you are going to complain about how global warming has ruined winter forever.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: another 5% increase in greenhouse gas emissions.

scI

After watching Al Gore's documentary on climate change, I am now convinced that you guys need to do something about it. Since you know the chemical compositions of these gases better than anyone else, you should know how to make them react and form harmless stuff.

Your *luckyNUMBER*: CO_2

mathEYE

Tell me if you like (or hate) the new look:
mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca

Humble Histories of Waterloo

In honour of UW's 50th anniversary we're going to take the time to look at some of the people who helped to form the university that we all know today. You may know that J.G. Hagey was the first president of the University and that at the same time Ira Needles was chairman of the board. Mike Lazaridis, CEO of Research in Motion is also chancellor of the University, many of you likely knew this, but did you know that the first person to hold this position was a man by the name of Dana Porter?

However, today I'm going to talk mostly about one of the greatest lecturers the University has ever seen. Dr. Arthur Stark, called Art by most, was a professor of Philosophy who began teaching here in 1972. He and his wife Sophia moved to Waterloo from Toronto where he previously lectured at the University of Toronto, but he came to Waterloo in its early days saying that he saw much promise in this young school. You may want to know what some arts prof is doing in *mathNEWS*—why should we as math students even care? Well, he was a very popular prof, and many math students would sign up for every class they could with him. Philosophy has so many close ties to math that it wasn't much of a jump either. It was also this fact that led to one of the two major parts of what we shall call his legacy here on campus. You see, in the early days math students and engineering students didn't have quite the rivalry going that they have today, instead they often worked closely and spent a lot of time picking on arts students. Dr. Stark, though, didn't really like this, and thought that since math and philosophy had so many close ties that it should be math and arts against the engineers. By around 1975 he was successful in turning math students against the engineers, but wasn't quite able to get math students to stop picking on the artsies. It is however, thanks to this professor that we have the math-engineering rivalry we have today.

By 1978 he was so popular that there just weren't any lecture

halls on campus with enough room for "Professor Art" to be able to teach a class that could fit all the students who wanted to take it. Because of this, a new building was built: the philosophy lecture hall, which was originally just one big room for maximum capacity. Just like the CECS building today, nobody would call the philosophy lecture hall by its real name. It was where Professor Art taught so it became known as "Art's Lecture Hall." Around the time this new building was put up Dr. Stark's career was getting in the way of his marriage. He made it public when his marriage was falling apart, and the following quote is from his statement explaining why: "I just don't feel an eros towards my wife, I seem to only have philia for Sophia." Like any good philosopher he couldn't resist using a Greek work any chance he could.

Professor Art retired in 1983 and the university decided to rename the philosophy lecture hall after him at this time. It's not like anybody called it by its real name anyway. To go with the new name, "Art's Lecture Hall" was renovated because it couldn't be filled anymore. These renovations brought the building to look like it currently does. By the mid '90s people had mostly forgotten about professor Art, and so most students, and even much of the faculty and other staff just thought that Art's Lecture Hall meant that it was just about arts courses, and that the people who made the sign had screwed up when the apostrophe was put on. So in 1995 new signs were made without the apostrophe, and one of UW's most charismatic profs ever was largely forgotten for good.

Come back to this space next issue to hear the stories of Dr. Joseph Math and Dr. Cornellius Computer, two more lesser known important people in UW's history and a building too.

DanS

Stupid?

Don't feel pressured ... just stop making stupid ads.

So, I live a fair distance from campus. Enough so that I take the bus to travel between home and school. Busses have ads on them and inside them as well, and in all the time that I have been taking the bus, there's been one ad that I will often see, and every time I see it I can't help but think, "Wow, what idiot thought up this slogan?"

Now before I go any further, I'd like to say that what I'm about to talk about is the logic used in this ad. The message it's trying to get across is not what I'm complaining about, so I'm not going to say anything here about their message; only the way they try to get it across.

So, what does the ad say? Well, here's pretty much the full text: "Pregnant? *Don't feel pressured ... choose life.*" (Editors and proofreaders, please don't remove the ellipsis because it wasn't used properly, the poor use of punctuation is in the ad which I am quoting, not me). Getting beyond the fact that in something so short that they aren't able to use the English language properly,

consider what it is they're saying. First off, this ad almost seems to imply that anyone who is pregnant is being pressured into having an abortion. As if there's anyone out there who thinks that there should be no new babies born ever.

But that's a dumb interpretation so let's look at it yet another way. Let's say that you're a typical person seeing this. You know that there's this battle going on between people who are pro-life and pro-choice. You see this ad and it says "don't be pressured." Maybe it's just me, but you would think that if you're going to not be pressured, you would choose whatever it is you want to choose. But no, the people at K-W Right to Life seem to think that immediately after telling you to not be pressured, they should try to pressure you into making the decision they want you to make.

Remember that *mathNEWS* is neither pro-life nor pro-choice. We're only pro-logic, so please don't send angry letters.

DanS

projects.uw

There are over 5000 students in math@uwaterloo.ca, and apparently, “The faculty is a powerhouse of discovery and innovation.” I’m sure that some of you are working on some interesting projects — so sure that I’m going to try to mention some of them every issue.

The only catch is I’m looking for finished projects, or at least betas, something we can actually use. Webpages are fine, concept art is pushing it and I can help you host things. Let me know at dave@euri.ca

This issue’s projects are tilted towards the UW Game Development Club because they gave me pizza.

Admiral Overalls

[http://www.gamedev.net/community/gds/list.asp?](http://www.gamedev.net/community/gds/list.asp)

author=62639

Stephen, CS

At first I found the controls of this game a little hard to get used to; the jumping and shooting aren’t immediate which, while being more realistic, is a bit frustrating. However, once I got used to the controls, I was impressed by the professional quality and completeness. The game could benefit from way-points and health power-ups, but on the whole, this retro-themed jumper, reminiscent of commander keen, was satisfyingly nostalgic.

Intergalactic Rage

<http://euri.ca/games/intergalactic>

Andrew, 4A

A brief but solid space shooter, this is Andrew’s first game (of what I hope will be many). All of the critical elements needed for a classic shooter are there, but there’s plenty of room for expansion in a sequel. It requires .NET Framework 2.0 to run and also seems to run a little too fast on my computer.

Airplane Game

<http://euri.ca/games/planegame>

Dave, 4Evah!

Thrown in mostly to pad the list out, this brilliant overhead airplane shooter is worth a look even if it starts out a little slow. In later levels, it has some impressive variety for a game that was made mostly while the author was locked in an office building in China. It requires Direct X and supports (but doesn’t require) a joystick. To summarize, this game is probably the #1 awesomest thing on earth.

david hayes

Microsoft’s Error Reports

Do they really care?

So I was in lecture the other day, and I wasn’t getting enough of a wireless internet signal to warrant connection. While typing something on Microsoft Word, it decided to crash. Now, anyone who knows Windows XP knows that it will ask to send an error report. By habit, I click ‘Yes’. Next thing I know, it tells me that it has generated the report, connected to the server, and sent it off.

Hold on, it connected to the Microsoft Error Report Centre in California (or wherever it is; nowhere near UW) without a whimper of an internet connection? I don’t think so. It has become clear to me that Microsoft doesn’t care about its issues.

The Insider

RIAA to sue Musicians

In the next logical step for their current business plan, the RIAA has recently announced that as of Monday morning they are going to begin siccing their lawyers on their own musicians for an additional revenue stream. This story is important for UW as well since according to their press release, it was UW that gave them the idea.

“Our hackers, err... ‘Stolen Music Investigators’ were snooping around on a hard drive looking for illegally downloaded music,” says Hugh Smithingson, an RIAA lawyer. “It turns out the computer belonged to a University of Waterloo student, and on his computer was a document talking about the plagiarism policy. It said that the person who gets copied is as much to blame as the person who does the copying. At first we thought it was a ridiculous idea, until we figured out that we could do it too. Now, not only will we get to continue paying the artists next to nothing, but the money they do get will have to come to us anyway! It’s a win-win situation. Win for us lawyers and win for the execs.”

Although this move as a whole means bad things for music lovers, it also means that if there’s a particular artist you don’t like, you just download all their music: that’ll get rid of them.

DanS

Poetry Corner

In the beginning was the bit,
and the bit was God, one zero zero one
and it spoke and there was light
brilliant white, FF FF FF and existence
followed. He sees it when he opens
his eyes, tastes digits on his tongue to speak
feels her arch in 001011100 as they
join forms and follow protocols
he takes the red pill and now
Pythagoras escorts him in monochrome
from station to station as data trains cross
the tracks: opinions, events, the smell of hair,
frustration; it is all unicode and
translation is lossless, for he remembers
that power comes not from logic gates
but electricity. He is not wrong on this
score, this is not relative or open,
it is the way things are. Absolute truth,
the real binary string is cut into
unreal structures, debated by minds
until the end of the world, more chatter
to dance around him, twirling (+3.3V) and magic
(+5V), to be named
and assigned constellations.

C.A. Beret

Midnight Capture the Flag

Once every so often there comes an event so interesting and fun that it requires text to describe it. This event could only be: Midnight Capture the Flag! Text cannot possibly display the sheer awesomeness of this event. That notwithstanding, this event will happen on Jan. 21st at 11:59 (or 2359 for those of us in the army) in the comfy lounge. Be there or don’t!

Dating Advice From The Single Guy

The New Format

Hello all and welcome back. For those of you back from co-op who have no idea who I am, you may be interested in reading last term's articles by me so that you don't write in any letters that I've already answered. For those of you who did read last term you may be surprised to see things have changed a little over Christmas. Before I go on too long, like I usually do, let's get started on the answering of questions.

Dear The Single Guy,

I find myself to have at least a little in common with you, for I am also single, and I am also a guy. I would like for this to end though. I've tried everything you suggested in part one, but it didn't seem to do enough to win over teh ladiez. I know more than a few girls who watch shows like The Office, and each one of them seems to be really upset that Jim and Pam are not together, and how if they were Pam, then they wouldn't have waited so long to get together with Jim. I even know one who's watched the BBC version, and she was so happy that she cried when Dawn came in and kissed Tim at the end of the Christmas special. To that end I've tried emulating Jim/Tim but that doesn't seem to work, I was wondering if you knew why?

Single in Waterloo

Hey! watch out, you're supposed to put things like ****SPOILER WARNING**** when you're going to write out a spoiler like that, especially when it's something that's going to be printed in *mathNEWS*. One of the first tips I have for you is to stop using phrases like "teh ladiez" that alone should give you a huge improvement. As for your situation trying to be Jim/Tim — stop trying to do that now. Your friends are all lying about how much they would want Jim/Tim if they were Pam/Dawn. They only say this because they don't know what they want. My bet is if you look at the boyfriends they've had they're all much more like Roy/Lee than Jim/Tim. Consider this, while watching Star Wars you see Han Solo leave the rebels only to come back last minute and help them destroy the death star. You may say, "If I was Han I would have made that same decision," but really, the truth is no, you wouldn't. It's almost certain death, and you just made a whole lot of money, you can go pay off your debt and get back to

your normal life, as opposed to being dead (he just got lucky 'cause he was a main character). Girls don't want a guy like <main character> in <romantic comedy>.

Dear Single Guy

I just caught my boyfriend cheating on me with some other girl, and well, I'm not quite sure what I should do about it. What should I do?

Cheated in Waterloo

Before I begin, my name is The Single Guy, see the "The" it's part of the name, so don't forget it next time or I won't help you out. You only get off this time because it's the first chance you've had to write in.

There's really 3 options available to you at this point. First, and the one that seems to be mostly highly recommended by most of the other *mathNEWS* staff, is that you ask if you can get in on it. Another option is to get upset about this and dump his ass. For further advice in this area, go to issue six of last term for more suggestions. If you want, you can combine these by doing the first part, but while you're at it take a video that you can then blackmail then post to the internet, or something similar to embarrass them with. I guess doing this you could get away with doing the video without you being in it, but it'll be so much less hot that way and that's a bad thing. Your last option is to believe him when he says "Sorry babe, I didn't think you'd find out. But this is a wakeup call I'll never let it happen again." And then when he does it again you can take one of these three choices. If you want you can sort of combine this with the dumping him scenario by breaking up with him, only to obsess over him and then after you forget just how much you were hurt and you just happen to get in touch with him again and end up back together again. Then, like I said you can pick any of these options when he *does* it to you again. This last option seems to be really popular among some people I know, and it seems to work for them, so you may want to try it yourself. One thing to note is that cheating is a natural part of every relationship (see issue 5 last term) so you shouldn't really get too worked up about it.

The Single Guy

The Seven Bureaucratic Sins

Seeing as how I am an embodiment of pure evil (i.e. bureaucrat) and since FASS thinks that it really understands sins, I've decided to introduce the *real* seven bureaucratic sins.

1. Incompetence — when it says "for office use only", that means you don't fill it in. In fact, we fill it in and decide your fate.
2. Tardiness — if the form is late (yes, even by one second), it is not valid. We take joy in stamping "rejected" all over your form.
3. Illegible - the person processing your form actually has to be able to read it. This may come as a surprise to you, but you have to fill in forms neatly.
4. Unregulated — should you feel the need to act of your own accord and neglect the policies and regulations then you

will spend all eternity in Bureaucratic limbo. Also known as a line.

5. Improper Documentation — there is a difference between the "Failure to Submit Proper Documentation" form and the "Submitting Improper Documentation" form.
6. Banter — all conversations that don't begin or end with quoting a policy or regulation are not technically conversations and cannot be properly processed.
7. Attendance — all bureaucratic organizations must make it their specific mission to close their offices when they would be most helpful to other people. Failing to do so just ruins the system.

Angelo

profQUOTES

[after trying out a new microphone] I feel like I'm in a goldfish bowl.

Allison, MATH 119

[after an example] Don't show me zero. I'm just doing it to be anal.

Allison, MATH 119

[lots of squeaky chairs] Is that Blues or Jazz?

Allison, MATH 119

A common mistake that all economics students make, no matter if you're in [Econ] 101, 201, 301, 401, graduate, or some bozo in PhD, is that they will stare at this graph and say this DOT is the price. This DOT is not the price!"

Carvalho, ECON 101

[prof] I am in control of the exam.

[student] So your finger's on the button, then?

[prof] What? My finger's up your butt?

Chang, MATH 117

You guys are software engineers ... make this [computer] system more reliable!

Fuller, MSCI 261

[This company's] year-end is on March 30th, 31st, however many days are in March.

Fuller, MSCI 261

I enjoyed having you. I hope you enjoyed being had.

Furino, CO 350

Student: What are some other ways to get marks on the exam?
Prof: Gold card, platinum card, bullion - all of those are very successful.

Furino, CO 350

[In response to a proposed solution] That will employ a lot of people, but it will not minimize costs.

Furino, CO 350

[On memory management and garbage collection] Eventually the little green recycling symbol flashes and a bunch of green garbage collection gnomes take [the unused box] away. Teeheehee.

Giesbrecht, CS 136

Let us suppose that for the life of us we can't figure it out from looking at the definition.

Haxell MATH 239

These are my coordinates ... where you can contact me.

Ingalls, MATH 237

It's got a small enrollment because it's at 8:30 in the morning...so we can all be glad we're not in that one.

Ingalls, MATH 237

These slides are unfamiliar to me, so you may find me pausing and wondering what to say next... like right now.

Malton, CS 245

[student] I couldn't find [the notes].

[prof] They are carefully hidden, three stairs up behind the sign saying "Beware of the Tiger".

Malton, CS 245

These [markers] are mine. They belong to nobody else. It is your job to make sure that I put them back in the backpack so those vultures don't steal them.

Malton, CS 245

When it comes to meaningful sentences, [paradoxes] are about as meaningful as the monkey noises.

Malton, CS 245

Hopefully, after this example, we'll be a little less OK.

Malton, CS 245

[after the computer froze] We don't have a proof that this works.

Malton, CS 245

Whenever you prove a & $\sim a$, then you know you've done something dumb.

Malton, CS 245

This rule is not not elimination. All of the other rules are not not not elimination.

Malton, CS 245

[After several attempts at turning the right lights on] Ah, got it! Professor has a learning experience in front of his class.

Small, STAT 240

I'm a purist on the first day; I get sloppier as I go.

Small, STAT 240

If you don't believe muscles are tough, bite your roommate when you go home

Smith, ECON 101

[referring to a question in a problem set] The difference this time is there are two balls — Don't go there Cynthia, don't go there Cynthia... Gosh I have such a dirty mind.

Struthers, MATH 137

It's a one-line calculation, if the line is sufficiently long.

Wagner, CO 330

[written on board] Average # of things among all doodads of size n

Wagner, CO 330

Let's do something slightly non-uninteresting.

Wagner, CO 330

Next week you are going to have four lectures. I hope you appreciate the bargain.

Zorzitto, MATH 148

[referring to the Riemann Sum] R-E-A... R-I-E-M-A-N-N... I won't use the word many times, but if it ever sneaks out, ignore it. Pretend you didn't hear it.

Zorzitto, MATH 148

More profQUOTES

If you add 1 tick, you've refined it. If you add 100 ticks, you've refined it with a vengeance.

Zorzitto, MATH 148

That [assignment] will convince you to drop the course, but I don't want you to drop the course.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

They say when he finished writing, he put down his quill and said 'surely this is a gift from God.' That's not true. He did it for the money!

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

I hate writing multiple choice tests. I tend to think they're funny, so I write funny things. And in a test situation, it just adds to their fears.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

It's called 'Laid in Earth,' and if you're like me, you hear 'laid' and you laugh. But, of course, she means *buried*, not doing the nasty.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

Thank you George Bush for the global warming. We put off snow until midterm.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

Buy the book. It'll look really good on your coffee table.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

Okay! This grading scheme is fair. You've all agreed by not saying anything.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

You can't deny there's a message in rap. I'm such a homie. I get women. I sell cocaine and I have six bullet holes in me. It's a stupid message, but it's there.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

If someone's writing it down, then they must know how to write. Call me Sherlock Holmes.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

Noodling is a technical term, by the way.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

Spelled sackbut. Like sack plus but. One 't', not two. As in 'but, but, but...' and not 'I like big...'. Well, you get it."

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

The minimalists? The less said about them the better.

Thorburn, MUSIC 254

I'm actually surprised so many students came to the first class. Prime class to skip.

Langdon, RS 230

What? She's not here? Ahh... superman stole her!"

Nunez, SPAN 101

Is a bench just a chair with a really big ass?

Burris, PSYCH 232

[talking about highchairs] Feed the baby up there, or poke them with a pitchfork. Whatever.

Burris, PSYCH 232

The beauty of Spanish is you pronounce all the letters. There are no exceptions. Once you learn the exceptions, you know how to speak.

Nunez, SPAN 101

I hate regular. Who says, 'I'm doing regular' in English?

Nunez, SPAN 101

Has your prof said something quotable? Type it up and send it to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca, or write it down and drop it in the BLACK BOX (located on the MC 3rd floor, between the Comfy and the C&D).

ElseWhen

25 Years Ago in mathNEWS

Welcome once again to another edition of ElseWhen, where we go into the *mathNEWS* archives and share what it was like back then. That is, of course, after Eric gets me the right book (he gave me the book that ended in 1981, and last I checked, 2007 - 25 > 1981).

With that said, we will be looking at Volume 28, Issue 1, which was originally published January 29th, 1982.

The Insider

E. Siastes is back! Apparently, either the editors "misplaced" his last edition of *Of Cabbages and Kings*, or the student body went out to sabotage it (I suspect the latter). In it, he explains the apparent reasonings behind the controversial articles:

I write it to correct a regrettable imbalance in the theology and geometry of the readers of this paper, and indirectly the far more serious disadvantages of its writers. I do not write to "attack" people, particularly the more defenseless souls who inhabit this university. ...Perhaps I have been a trifle harsh in using the full force of my wit against those not equipped to respond in kind.

(Editor's note: "We don't take this stuff seriously; neither should you.")

In Other NEWS:

- MathSoc is accepting nominations for various executive positions until February 4th, and elections will take place on the 18th if needed. (It turns out that only 3 elections were needed.)
- Lounge Survey: What do you want done with the pinball machines in Comfy: stay or go? (They're long gone now.)
- The Gallumphing Gourmets visit Wok with Chan, the Chinese restaurant at the new plaza. Two back-to-back visits found two different culinary standards. Rating: 5 bunnies.
- Steve Wolfe comments on the current state of affairs at MathSoc and how they can be improved. Might I mention that he is representing those who are running?
- The CSC introduces their new executive.
- *Pleasure At Her Majesty's* will be screening at the Humanities Theatre on February 11th.

mathHELP

A mathie advice column

For those who have not heard of *mathHELP* (which should be all of you because this is brand new), basically what happens is I answer questions from people who want advice. Either you send me questions (to mathNEWS_Insider@hotmail.com) or I make them up, and I answer them. Obviously, I had to make them up this week, but hopefully I will get some more questions in the weeks to come.

Dear Insider: I completely screwed up last term. Well, almost. Anywho, I'm on academic probation because I didn't show up to any of my lectures and therefore almost flunked. Now I'm on the same path, and I don't know how to get off of it. What should I do? — **Totally Screwed**

Dear Screwed: First off, I must remind you that you are paying good money to go to these classes. As a result, you have the luxury of applying the axiom of choice when it comes to your attendance, however in your case, this didn't work out in your favour. Now this is easier said than done, but you need to break the habit. Here are a couple of suggestions that might work: setting (and paying attention to) your alarm clock, or possibly having a fellow mathie friend who knows your schedule to help you get to class. Best of luck getting out of the hole that you've dug yourself.

The Insider

Dear Insider: I am lacking the financial resources that I require for my day-to-day activities. Who can help me? — **Losing Money**

Dear Money: First off, why don't you just say it: you're broke. There is no need for the fancy jargon. You are broke. Now that we've cleared that up, you probably need to re-examine your financial activities. For example, how often do you go to the mall? If it's not your spending habits, maybe you should consider applying for a loan or a job. Good luck in getting your finances in order.

The Insider

Dear Insider: I just broke all of my New Year's Resolutions. What can I do? — **Resolutions Shot**

Dear Shot: There is nothing that you can do about it. Don't come crying to me. Suck it up and move on.

The Insider

Neither sleet, nor snow, nor the university being closed on account of ice stopped the first issue of W07 from making it outside your Friday classes. Our production staff came out anyway, once again showing a dedication above and beyond the call of duty (but not necessarily beyond the call of pizza).

I asked our production staff, "How did you spend your snow day?" And they said: Eric, "At school anyway"; Insider, "Not by choice, I kept hearing my artsie roommate complain on a day when he had no classes anyway"; Val, "Writing for *mathNEWS*, the bastards, grumble grumble grumble"; DanS, "Prepared myself for a flaming holy war"; Matt, "Got up and went to work as normal"; Math.random(), "Boobies!"; *mathEYE*, "Predicting when

Mild Air vs Cold Air

The Battle for Ontario Continues

According to Environment Canada (Monday): "The battle between the mild air well to the south and the invading cold air of winter from the north is not over."

It is the Ontario Front in the War on Winter. The Cold Air has recently invaded the land and is wreaking havoc on its people. Kinda reminds me of Germany during WWI, no?

However, as in all good battles, the good guys (the Mild Air) will always prevail. Unfortunately, that will not happen anytime soon.

Peter

gridWORD

It's back...

...and so am I! This term starts with yet another *gridWORD*, only brought to you by yours truly! It's been a while since the ConMaster has been here. And we get right to business! As usual, prizes are available for those who send in the most complete (and correct) solution to the BLACK BOX or by email to the ConMaster at mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca. The usual \$5 gift certificates for the C&D apply, so get cracking and keep yourself awake and busy during those classes! This week's *gridQUESTION* is: "What do you do with your aardvark on a snow day?" Happy Solving!

ConMaster

Getting Nailed in the Woods Outside UW

No, not me, but I can dream

For those of you who didn't know, if you take the wooded path from UW to University street (by Westmount), then you have a chance of getting nailed! Sounds nice? Who doesn't want a large metal spike to be driven through you? Who doesn't want to get tetanus, the University asks? The student body is the answer. They can afford to pay a little bit extra to get mulch that doesn't have sharp-stabby painful things in it.

Angelo

mastHEAD

the end of the storm would be. It turns out that I was right after all!"; Snippet, "Arranging arbitrary symbols into logical conclusions"; Jos, [*AAAGH SORRY FOR NOT SENDING YOU THE QUESTION* — *StatsEd*]; Angelo, "Sodomy... maybe... not likely... someday?"; Andrew, "Homework and then *mathNEWS* — how boring!"

Thanks to everyone who helped make this issue happen. To the staff, to Donna Shell for booking our *disORG*, and to the people out in Graphics for making this happen and for always letting me borrow their trolley.

Stats Ed, "Not sleeping. And obvious mistake."

Present Day Vampires

Having recently watched several episodes of Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel the past little while, my paranoia and fear of bunnies has lead me to believe that vampires exist in this day and age. But how do vampires adapt to technology? Keep reading to find out. Or you could have a life—it's your choice, really.

- Vampires cast no call display. You cannot see if it is the one calling you over the telephone.
- They cannot communicate with you over an instant messaging system unless you give them permission. They may add you after you die, though.
- Direct tanning booth light will make them burst into flames.
- Vampires still drink the blood of humans, but prefer a low calorie diet and so they hang out at the gym.
- Holy water still hurts them, but now regular drinking water causes serious status ailments to them.
- These creatures of the night still dislike garlic, so eat at the Olive Garden and you'll be fine.
- EMO does not imply vampire. Vampires refuse to eat EMO kids. It's not just the taste, it's also because feasting on the whiny brats would do the world some good; it's more of a political statement more than anything else.
- Vampires are now protected against hate crimes and consider sharp, wooden stakes offensive. Vampire slayers are not allowed to carry these weapons in their arsenal to make the community more vampire-friendly.
- Upon becoming a vampire, the human not only loses their soul, but they are automatically given a job at Microsoft.

So do you think one of your friends might be a vampire? Slip them some holy water and find out. But be warned: should they be one of those who walk amongst the night dead, then you will face dire consequences. You will be arrested and charged with criminal negligence when your friend has an allergic reaction to the holy water and sues you.

Angelo

Write for *mathNEWS*!

It's bloody easy

You may have noticed that this rag is full of articles. Since the editorial staff doesn't generate material by posterior extraction, we rely on submissions of readers like you.

We're not particularly choosy here at *mathNEWS*. Our criteria for publishing material is pretty simple: your article should be informative, interesting, insightful or funny. Long, rambling, pointless material is out. So are in-jokes, rants, and flamebait (no lawsuits, please).

If you have a modicum of writing skill, feel free to submit. You have many options:

- Write it down on some paper and shove it in the **BLACK BOX**, conveniently located on the 3rd floor of the MC between the C&D and the Comfy Lounge. If you type up your article and print it off and then put it in there, we will be very upset, because you should...
- Email it to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca with the word "article" in the subject line. Alternatively, you can...
- Drop by Production Night! Write an article, and while you're there, help us with the proofreading and editing of the issue. All are welcome! The date of the next production night is given in the *lookAHEAD* of every issue. The next one is Jan. 29th.

See, isn't that simple? Perhaps you're the next great Hemingway, Atwood, or Davies, just waiting to be discovered [*Or maybe you can just write better than this hack... — Ed.*]. Submissions for a particular issue are due by 6:30PM on Production Nights. Submit, submit, submit!

inkEd

Still here in spirit

How to Get a Co-op Job 101

A Foolproof System

Okay, so you've made it into Math/CS at UW. Congratulations! Now the key is getting yourself a job so you can pay for the really sexy graduation party you're going to throw in 4 years. You may be 8-stream, or maybe you're just a poor 4-stream who didn't manage to find a job and are taking another school term because you couldn't find a Co-op job. If either of these are the case, this is the article for you.

If you've tried to get a job before and failed, have a look at the things your resume was lacking, say, an anecdote from your favourite *mathNEWS* article. Anything that draws the potential employer's attention to you can't be bad. You should also be sure to do some research on the company and include this sort of information on your cover letter. "I really want this job and I know where you live, (insert HR person's name here)" would be a helpful inclusion. It's almost surely going to get you a phone call.

If humour or cunningly placed name drops aren't your style, you can always write your resume in the future tense. Just in-

clude all the skills and talents you will have by the time you're throwing that sexy party discussed above. Nothing is quite as lucrative to a future employer as a fourth-year-educated student with a first-year's salary. It's not like you actually need most of the skills they put on the job requirements. It's really more of a suggestion; it might be helpful, but not really important.

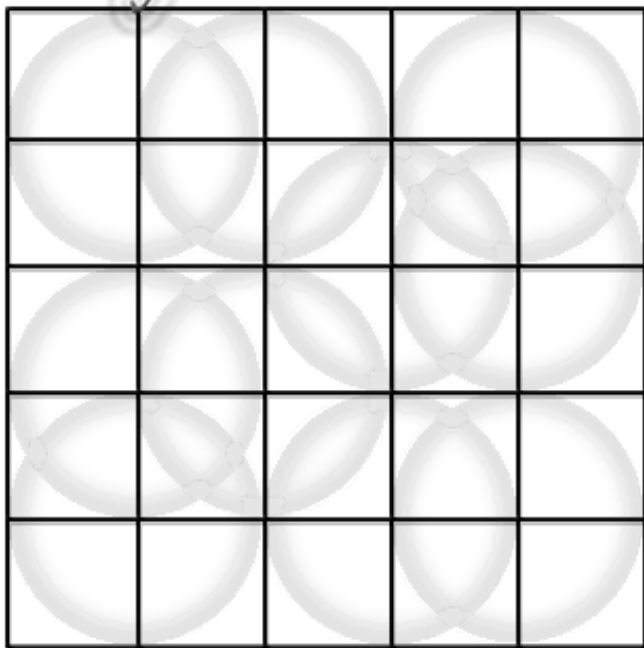
If you don't think you'll ever know the 'requirements' for a job, you can always just lie. There's nothing stopping you. What's the worst thing that can happen? You don't get the job. This outcome is no worse than if you had have told them you didn't know any of the material to begin with.

These are some of the tricks I've used to keep myself employed over the years, along with constantly declaring myself a minority. Good Luck on your job hunt!

Val

The economically underprivileged,
Native-American female,
with a Co-op job

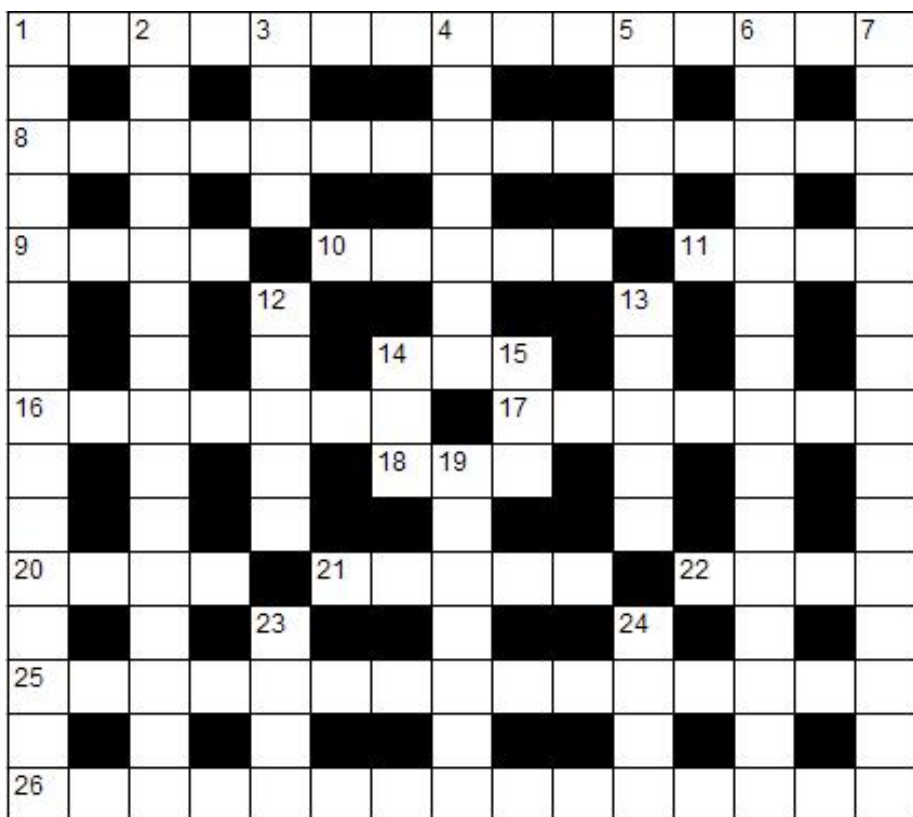
umbrellas



Place the following 10 squares on the 10 circles so that the overlapping numbers match up.



<http://euri.ca/puzzles>
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Across

1. excessive control of minute details
8. the act of timing together
9. irritate or disturb (partic. liquid)
10. predominant church instrument
11. lady's courter
14. finish
16. one who performs alone
17. nail polish remover
18. types of media (abbr)
20. type of wood
21. artist's surface preparer
22. the "I"s of people
25. deer meat left in the open
26. exaggerated to arouse interest

Down

1. errors made from one language to another
2. using parts from one to repair another
3. sounds of amazement
4. crest in the human body
5. Della Reese or Kiri Te Kanawa
6. nine sided figure
7. sundown pair
12. liveliness and enthusiasm
13. uncomfortable anal procedure
19. uptight
23. ones who study disease
24. silent church council