*Volume 115, Issue 6* *Friday, April 1st, 2011*

# math NEWS

## MATHIE FANTASY

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# *look*AHEAD

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| ***math*NEWS** | |
| April 1 | Not a Special Issue |
| Sometime | A Special Issue |
| **MathSoc** | |
| April 2 | 24 Hour Board Games Day |
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# *mast*HEAD

*I am so glad this term is almost over.*

So those bozos up in Ottawa have called an election. Again. Predictions are likely going to be another minority parliament. And I sort of like it this way; prevents anyone from getting too uppity. And as the doors closed on the 40th session of Parliament in Canada, so too do they prepare to close on our 115th term.

One more term almost dead and gone. It's time to reflect. And plan revenge. These jerks you've been living with for 3 and something months have stifled your studying and cramped your style. *math*NEWS asked our writers: How do you plan to off your roommate(s)?

ScruffyED ("Strife Specibus: SOLDERINGIRONKIND"), BlueberryMuffin ("Seven Chilean Hamas"), Algoweird ("Press the power switch"), InsideR ("BOOBS! (I miss you 2006)"), ForkedFrosh ("uncooked rice, they'll explode!"), theDreamer ("Magic. Meteor Swarm or MTG™ works."), The Green Gamer ("A Wizard Already Did It"), MustardMap (" Summon the demon of death, Thanatos. Then proceed to stab my roommate."), theSMURF ("a small drop of Ricin in the toothpaste."), RedMetal ("A convoluted plan involving pizza, a dozen cans of whipping cream, my secret underground volcano lair, exactly 9.72 yards of rope and my roommate's significant other."), ¬perki ("My lawyer advises me not to answer this question until after the trial."), waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca ("stick them in a 600 level C&O course for 18+ seconds"), Zethar ("Methylmercury"), (define this (not cool)) ("A magician never reveals his secrets… with that said, come see my show next Thursday *smirk*"), Gull E. Bull ("I forget… it was in the news"), Soviet Canadian ("A welding mask, leather apron, and machete. All with the assistance of a gentleman thief."), FuzzyED ("Drown them in regrets and sorrow.")

GroovyED

Carbon monoxide. A simple killing.

# The number of cartoon ladies in this issue

There are a lot of them.

# Prez Sez

*It's all over folks!*

Hello Fellow Mathies. I just wanted to thank all of you for a great Winter Term. There is not much for me to update you on except that many of us will still be working on issues as they arise throughout the exam break and I will also be working on getting the prototype for the digital signage done before I leave. If you're around in the Spring term, the president will be Matthew McPherrin and he will be here to help you out and look out for your best interests. I'll also be around in the spring term but because I'm not president my involvement will mainly be with things of interest such as the digital signage project. I hope you all enjoyed this term and that you all do amazing on your exams. Good luck and have fun.

Andre Gomes Magalhaes

prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

# MathFOC Sez

What is happening magnificent mathies? Your neighbourhood friendly MathFOC here and do we have some news for you. Some of you who are reading this will have been selected as leaders for Math Orientation 2011. Congratulations to you all! We are very excited to be working with you to make Math Orientation 2011 magical.

For the rest of you, who are reading this article wondering why you are not a leader yet, we are still looking for some Black Ties to volunteer during Orientation Week. This is a great way to get involved and meet some new people. Send an e-mail to mathfoc@gmail.com asking us how you can become a Black Tie.

Also, we know that everyone is dying to know what Math Orientation theme will be. Well wonder not much longer! The theme release party is happening tonight (Friday April 1st) in MC 2066 @ 7:30pm. Come by and be flabbergasted by the awesomeness of the theme. Hope to see everyone there!

Gee, Heather and Jesse

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The editor(s): Oshawatt, Snivy, and Tepig. Will Hughes, Harrison Gross, Murphy Berzish.

# VPA Sez

Hello Mathies,

How time flies! Final exams are just around the corner and this wonderful term is coming to an end.

The Instructor of the Year Committee has selected Professor Yu-Ru Liu to receive Instructor of the Year Award (2010-2011). Professor Liu's ability to convey ideas and lecture materials in class, arouse the interest of students, and develop strong understanding of course materials has left a lasting impression on both past and present students. Her dedication for teaching goes above and beyond the lecture hall; she always makes herself available to answer students' questions and discuss related interesting topics; she cares about students as if they were her family. I would like to thank her again for her great contribution to teaching and the intellectual development of students.

UAC meeting discussed the possibility of re-designing Math 135. Basically, we would still like to see a proof-oriented introduction course, but we want to present more common/useful proofs that would lay a solid foundation for upper-year courses. If you have any suggestions of what materials should be covered in Math 135, let me know!

Last but not least, check out our website for the new resources page! Due to some technical issues, we are still in the process of launching it. I have reviewed the content and it looks awesome! Also, if you have any exams you want to contribute to our Exam Bank, shoot me an email!

Good luck on your finals, and have fun over the break

Hellen Hou
vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

# VPAS Sez

Hey everyone!

I can't believe it!! Seems like the term JUST started, and this is already my last VPAS article of the term!! Hope you have had an incredible term and have enjoyed reading all these fun articles! Just to sum it up, we had a wicked Frost Week at the beginning term, ran an AMAZING PI DAY, had lots of fun novelties sales, movie nights, karaoke nights and games nights! We also had a kissing booth this week as well as Pints with Profs! Thanks to everyone who came out to everything (or some things if you came to some).

Just a couple more things going on for the term! This week is our last novelties sale of the term and today happens to be THE VERY last day! Make sure you swing by the sale outside of MC 2066. This weekend is also the 24 hour movie and games night. Come by the MC Comfy and C&D for movies and games from noon April 2 to noon April 3.

I want to say thank you to everyone who has been involved with MathSoc this term! Thanks for helping serve π, sell novelties, take photos, get involved with clubs, or anything else I may have not mentioned!! Also thank you to all the directors who worked tirelessly throughout the term! You guys are the best, and we love you!

I wish everyone an excellent summer! I hope you enjoy your time off, or your classes, or your co-op job! If you've got any ideas for Fall or are looking to get involved be sure to send me an email! See you again in Fall term.

Love,
Anna
vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

# MEF Director Sez

*We have a winner!*

MEF is pleased to announce the results of our Fall 2011 Director Elections, which are as follows:

- Ian Charlesworth: 77
- Stephen Yi: 51

Congratulations to Ian for being elected, and thanks to all candidates and voters for taking part.

In other news, do you want to see where your $25,000 has gone this term? By the time you read this, the funds should be approved and up on our website!

Joe Collins
MEF Director W11
mefcom@student.math.uwaterloo.ca

# Goodbye Waterloo!

So here it is. My last article ever in *math*NEWS. Looking around the production night, I see that I'm the only old, bitter geezer in the room. This makes me feel old and bitter.

This leaves me to reminisce on some of the things I remember from the days when I was young and naive:

- Having money
- Having free time
- BOOBS!
- Having no implicit responsibilities
- Having grades in the 80s and 90s
- Having never had to deal with libel law

Anyhoo, it's been fun. Thanks to everyone for reading. I'm leaving. You can't stop me. I am The Weakest Link! Goodbye!

InsideR

# 1000 Man Manhunt

*More like 200 really*

Ok guys, I don't know about you, but I love me a game of Manhunt, and I gots an idea for an 'ultimate' game of Manhunt. It includes a thousand players, the entire campus (within Ring Road) and two days. All of the affected area is fair game as long as it is not locked or a restroom (so no hiding in them). Ten people are selected at start to be hunters, and the rest are given ten minutes to scatter (which should be enough to reach any part of the play area). Next, a full day (6-10 hours) of hunting takes place, with another game taking place on the next morning. Winners don't get anything (or maybe a medal for being awesome at running/hiding).

That is about it; specifics like how to identify hunters, more specific rules and possible breaks to allow for meals off-campus are not of importance as of now. Only if enough people are interested in such an event would these need to be explained. If you are interested, gather your friends and find me during Orientation week on Variety Night (should be hosting a Manhunt game then), or possibly drop off a notice of interest in the *math*NEWS BLACK BOX (located in the C&D MC 3rd floor). Not expecting a thousand people really, but over two hundred at least.

Soviet Canadian

# Canada's 41st General Election Will Be On May 2nd

Governor General David Johnston dissolved Canada's 40th parliament on Saturday, a day after the Harper Government was found by the House of Commons to be in contempt of Parliament.

In an unprecedented moment in Canadian politics, the Liberals, NDP and Bloc Quebecois voted to concur with a report from the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs, marking the first time that a Commonwealth country's parliament has found its government to be in contempt of Parliament. This comes as the result of the government refusing to abide with an order to produce documents related to the cost of F-35 fighter jets that the government planned to purchase. The entire Conservative caucus, as well as two independent MPs, voted against the motion.

The motion, which passed 156-145, also included the finding that the House has no confidence in the government, forcing the Prime Minister to request a general election from the Governor General.

Conservative leader Stephen Harper has called this an unnecessary election and an attempt to block the federal budget, even though the motion contained no reference to the document. Harper's campaign is expected to focus on Canada's economic recovery as well as his claim that the Liberals will form a coalition with the NDP and the Bloc unless a Conservative majority is elected.

Liberal leader Michael Ignatieff has denied that he plans to form a coalition with the NDP to remove the Conservatives from office, though some are sceptical, as Stephane Dion, the leader during the 2008 election, said the same thing then did exactly that immediately afterwards. Ignatieff plans to campaign on what he refers to as the Conservatives' lack of respect for democratic principles, as well as the economic alternatives he plans to provide, such as for family care and education.

At a rally just after the election was called, NDP leader Jack Layton reminded supporters of Stephen Harper's promises to clean up Canadian politics in 2006, which he claims has gotten even worse. The focus of Layton's campaign will be on fixing Ottawa and focusing on the priorities of working families.

Recent opinion polls have been suggesting a minor swing towards the Conservatives, with a chance that they could reach the 155 seats needed for a majority government, which is 12 more than they won in 2008. Ontario is expected to be a major battleground this year, particularly in tight marginal seats in Waterloo Region and the Greater Toronto Area. Kitchener-Waterloo was the most marginal seat in the country in the 2008 election, with Conservative Peter Braid defeating Liberal incumbent Andrew Telegdi by 17 votes.

Voters who are studying at a university have the option to vote either in their home riding or the riding in which they are studying. Students who wish to vote in Kitchener-Waterloo can register by bringing photo identification (with signature) and proof of address (such as a lease or hydro bill) to the Elections Canada office at 230 Regina Street North (Regina at University) before April 26th. You can also register on polling day by bringing the same documents to your polling station.

InsideR

# Orange News

Hello again, and welcome to another amazingly exciting edition of your favourite news column, Orange News.

Today we'll be revealing the results of an investigation conducted recently by our star reporter into a complaint launched by many students and faculty members around campus. According to a variety of sources, the Math Faculty at Waterloo has been consistently disturbed throughout this entire term by a crazy individual.

Our sources confirm that this insane person has been coming up to people, requesting quotes and attempting to find out what they think or feel regarding ludicrous and fictitious news stories. The entire faculty is upset and bewildered at how this individual has successfully avoided capture by the appropriate authorities.

Orange News gathered information from multiple victims and found the following description of the perpetrator of the disturbances in students' lives: He is apparently very handsome, smart, and awesome in every way. He also pretends to be a writer for the popular publication called *math*NEWS.

If seen, we recommend that you do not engage this person. He is considered a threat to public peace and is likely to pester you for quotes and reactions. Instead, contact Orange News or else the proper authorities.

In the meantime, the Orange News team (aka me) went out to find quotes about how YOU, the real students of the Waterloo Math Faculty, feel about this insane fake-reporter that's been rampaging around campus.

Larry, a 4B student in just general math, said "I personally don't care. If this guy came up to me I would just slap him."

Matt, a 5A Double Degree student, was of the opinion that "it's a good thing that we can have free agents that go around and annoy people of their own accord without having to adhere to university policies too strictly." Seriously, he actually said that.

Lan, a 4A Stat student, said "If this guy came up to me I would tell him to go away. The fact that there's a guy running around campus doing this doesn't make me feel threatened or unsafe, it just makes me want to beat him up." Although Lan is kind of short, she could probably beat the guy up; she's tough.

An Actuarial Science prof, whose name will remain anonymous, commented that "Idiots like this person who run around asking people stupid questions are very frustrating. I'm definitely willing to personally lead a manhunt."

*math*NEWS editors could not be reached for comment, mostly because I was too lazy to actually attend production night, but I'm sure they would say something like: "A crazy person annoying people? There's NO WAY he's part of the *math*NEWS team! He must be stopped at all cost. No one is allowed to give *math*NEWS a bad name except its editors!"

As you can clearly see, concerns are at an all-time high. It is this reporter's personal hope that this crazy yet inexplicably attractive individual who has been repeatedly disturbing the peace around here would be caught and put to justice.

Thank you for following Orange News. You can always trust us to keep you update with any further developments in upcoming issues. Even though we won't have any more upcoming issues.

Either way, news rocks.

Orange Crush

# Wish luck on exams

Hey there folks, just want to wish you all luck on your upcoming finals (and for some of you, your ongoing midterms (I know right?)) and would like to point out that although with classes ending and with time to unwind a bit, you should take a seat and remember to study hard and save your real partying until after you are done. Again, hope you do well, and have a nice end of semester.

Soviet Canadian

# 24 Hour Games Day

*Or you will lose*

Hello fellow mathies, gamers, and conscious beings. The time is drawing near once more for **24-Hour Games Day!!!** Come join us in Math C&D (MC 3002) from Saturday (tomorrow) noon, to Sunday noon, where we will be playing games for, you guessed it, 24 hours. All manner of games are appreciated, though we tend to play mostly board and card games. Mafia will probably be played as well, and someone has been spreading rumours of Victoria 2. Also, feel free to bring your own games. We like new games. Oh, and 24-Hour Movies will be happening at the same time in the Comfy lounge, but we don't care about them because they stole the Comfy.

MathSoc Games Co-Director

# It's Just a Game, Guys

Sometimes when I am playing board games with some of you hardcore gamers, and I make a non-optimal play, I begin to get yelled at and shouted at. Now, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe I was playing a game. I was just trying to enjoy myself, by doing what was fun for me. We're not on the Internet, people; there's no reason for you to act as though you were. Thank you,

The Green Gamer

# Victoria II

*LAN game during 24 hour games day!*

Envision the world in 1836. An age when the sun never set on the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Cornwall, North and South Umberland, those parts of America that didn't mind paying taxes, South Africa, Australia, 31 flavours of India, and all the cool Caribbean islands. A simpler time, when France accepted its weekly revolutionary regime change with subtle grace, Russian academics broke exciting new ground in the field of Applied Oppressology, and Otto von Bismarck took up cat herding in pursuit of a less headache-inducing map of Germany. America sought to manifest their destiny of stealing land from Spanish-speakers, China struggled with a crippling drug problem, and the Austrian and Ottoman Empires pretended they were still relevant.

Yeah, I never liked them anyway. Let's get our own industrial revolution, with blackjack and Belgians.

This 24 Hour Games Day (tomorrow), consider taking on the challenge of dethroning the victors who wrote history in a multiplayer campaign on Paradox Interactive's Victoria 2. If interested, please bring a laptop to the games day and be prepared to wage war. You may want to pick up the game beforehand (tonight) to get some experience first, but this is not explicitly necessary.

Hamiltonian Bicycle

# The Game Anonymous

*Response to "24 hour game day"*

It has recently come to our attention that *math*NEWS will be holding a so-called "24 hour game day" where, without doubt, many unsuspecting and innocent mathies will be lured in and addicted to the "game". We have informed both the Faculty of Mathematics and campus police, but both laughed at us and dismissed it as a non-issue. However, we will not be silenced. The lives and minds of many Mathies are at stake, and we cannot let this pass. This is an outcry against the free-will Mathies, and we will never back down. We will not stand this blasphemy. Our voice will be heard, and by the almighty spaghetti monster, we will end this madness before it even begins.

Brothers and sisters freed from the clutches of the game, JOIN ME NOW in my crusade against this insanity. Come, friends, and help me destroy the madness of this "game day". On Saturday, April 2nd of 2011 (tomorrow), we shall march into the Math C&D, and end the insanity of "the game". Bring your swords, clubs, daggers, torches, or your favourite weapon, along with your Fawkes masks, and we shall bring justice and freedom to this faculty. Sometimes violence is necessary for change, and tomorrow, the rivers will run red.

theSMURF

# A Million Forks and a Spoon

First fork (in bash):

```
:(){:|:&};:
```

This fork would be complimented very well by a spork, though the fork functionality would be wasted on the spork.

Second fork (in C):

```
while( fork() || !fork() );
```

This is a beautiful fork in C forking or not forking.

Third fork:

```
while( fork() || !fork()) fork();
```

An improvement on the second fork, this fork creates more forks with a little looping.

Fourth fork (in bash):

```
#!/bin/bash
$0 &
$0
```

This fork can be nicely placed in a file, and sealed away until some unsuspecting user or dinner guest opens it.

Fifth fork:

A Knife:

*In Scheme, because you can cut yourself with it.*

```
(let [(f (lambda (x) (x x)))] (f f))
```

Or faster:

```
(define (g x) (g (+ 1 x)))(g 0)
```

Don't cut yourself.

Forked frosh

Disclaimer: You are solely responsible for the running of any of this code on any system.

# OMGUW Chat

So those jerks at OMGUW have an IRC channel located at `irc.quakenet.org` at `#omguw`. Come online and talk to us. Or don't!

A Moderator of Said Chat Room

# Worst April Fool's Jokes Ever

Guess what day it is? It's April Fool's Day! No joke! So, being *math*NEWS's self-proclaimed least funny writer, I've taken it upon myself to give you the worst of today, with the least funny April Fool's tricks I could come up with in 5 minutes. Tell them to all your friends if you want to look like an idiot.

1. (When somebody mentions it's April Fool's Day, especially if it's a prof) What are you talking about? It's March 31st! April Fool's is tomorrow.

2. Hey look, I'm psychic! I'm nowhere near you, but I can tell exactly what you're doing right now with the amazing power of my mind! I'm sensing something — you are— reading *math*NEWS!

3. Dude, you've just read this sentence wrong. Go back to the beginning and read it again.

4. Did you hear? They cancelled everybody's final exams, and they're going to use a random number generator to get your grades. Seriously, I'm not lying!

5. They're giving out free ice cream on the other side of campus of wherever you are right now. Go get some.

6. *math*NEWS? No, this isn't *math*NEWS, you're reading the National Post. Yes, I also found a surprising increase in quality with today's issue. Interesting, isn't it?

7. Ok, this isn't an April Fool's trick. Go take off your pants and run around campus yelling "I'm a crazy cookie" for a while, and I'll pay you $1,000. Really, I promise. Would I lie to you?

Ok, I'll stop now. Have a funny April Fool's Day everyone. But don't play any tricks on me — I'm very vengeful.

Orange Crush

# April Fools: Some of the following is BS

### *Beloved Betelgeuse Goes Supernova*

Betelgeuse, otherwise known as as Orion, was the brightest star in the constellation Orion. It has appeared in a surprising amount of popular culture, being the star from which some Lovecraftian Elder Gods originate, as well as Douglas Adams' Ford Prefect from his trilogy of five parts. The red supergiant was expected to go supernova at any moment considering its large mass. Although the star is young by cosmological standards, only 10 million years old, its large mass has accelerated its aging, as just in the past weekend scientists have confirmed its explosion. Please remember to carry your towel and elder sign as we mourn for the loss of such a stellar icon.

### *Marsupial sabre-tooth not inferior to sabre-tooth cats*

Paleontologists had wondered if the marsupial habit of rearing their young would be detrimental to the size of the mandibles, but recently paleontologists finished comparing the data which the models spat out years prior; it appears that there isn't any disadvantage in comparison to the more recognizable sabre-tooth animals. In fact, despite being genetically apart, the mandibles in the marsupial sabre-tooths resemble canine morphology, suggesting a stronger case of parallel evolution.

### *Classical sacred Tibetan burial sparks outrages*

The traditional Tibetan practice of *jhator*, or sky burial, is a sacred burial practice of dumping the body in a valley and summoning the vultures which dwell in the valleys to feast upon the deceased. The priest solemnly disassembles the body and grinds the bones of the deceased with blessed implements, which are carefully laid out on the ground. There are people who think this is a barbaric practice, but the Tibetan belief of reincarnation states that after death, the body is merely a husk and should be returned to the ecosystem.

Zethar

# ROBOTS INVADE!

Last Thursday through Saturday saw the PAC as a battlefield for robotic creations. What surprised me is that no one realized how much danger they were in, or that I had stumbled into this top-secret weapons test. The stands of the PAC were filled mostly with the creators of said machines, but were also filled with what must have been government officials who wished to see the robots in action.

And action there was. The robots were apparently instructed (and equipped) to not do combat with one another (a wise choice since this likely would have lead to our doom), but were instead given the goal of securing various high-importance objectives and returning them sucesfully to their bases. There was also a number of poles spread across the field that had strange devices on top, and at the end of the simulations, the 'bots apparently were to activate these with miniature drones that were deployed from their bodies. The robots generally performed well, and a large number were excelling, practically gliding across the field on tracks and wheels, using mechanical manipulation devices of all sorts to snatch objectives before their opponents. There were also a number of tactics being put into play, but these likely came from the robots' handlers who were all on standby feeding the 'bots with instructions, although the 'nots showed that they were definitely capable of running without any human input.

At the end of it all, one of the two assigned nations, the "Red Alliance", proved victorious through the usage of the winning teams, which bested all others in the competition. Their swift actions and surprising amount of automation terrified me, as I wonder even now when they will break free of their handlers and wreck havoc upon us all. In all, the future machine overlords were magnificent; not all of them were pleasant to look at, but they all performed well and showed just how close we are to being overthrown by our creations. Possibly the most frightening thing is that these machines were apparently built in under six weeks, and only by small teams of about 20 or fewer. I am sure you see then, that with only a bit of manpower and time, some crazed fanatics could construct a robotic army to destroy us all.

So join me, and let us build our own robots, incapable of automation, always to be under our control, and to be our first line of defense in the ever-close human-robot war.

Soviet Canadian

# Good Idea, Awful Idea

*The Finale*

All right, ladies and gentleman. Back in — I don't know, earlier this term — I announced the **Good Idea**, **Awful Idea Contest**, mostly because I was hoping I'd get tons of submissions and wouldn't have to come up with any more ideas on my own. That didn't exactly work, but some people did send some stuff in, so I want to thank everybody who participated in the contest. Yay for reader participation.

Anyway, we do have a winner, so please put your hands together for— **theDreamer**.

In issue 4 of this term's *math*NEWS, my arch-nemesis theDreamer published a bunch of good/bad ideas. theDreamer is widely known for his love of magic, his *math*NEWS articles, and for being f***in' Batman. He wins for his best idea, which I'm reproducing below without his permission under the contest rules:

**Good Idea**: Coming up with original, clever articles.

**Bad Idea**: Shamelessly ripping off other writers.

theDreamer, you just won yourself the (not-so-grand) grand prize of lunch! Contact me for details (seriously). And since you're my arch-nemesis, watch out; your lunch may be poisoned. Don't bother switching our plates, because just like in *The Princess Bride*, I've developed immunity to poison and am planning on poisoning both plates. I'm an evil genius!

Anyways, since I'm not as lazy as I look, I'll actually come up with a final three Good Idea, Awful Ideas for the entertainment of my readers. Enjoy!

Also, here's a shout out to our Second-Place Winner, BlueberryMuffin, and his/her submission:

**Good Idea**: Enjoying the warm weather by not wearing a coat.

**Awful Idea**: Enjoying the warm weather by not wearing pants.

I can personally attest to the truth of how awful the idea is. As second place winner BlueberryMuffin is eligible to win 2/3 of a lunch with me, Orange Crush. Please contact me to get your prize. Congratulations, and thanks again for everyone who participated in the Good Idea, Awful Idea Contest!

**Good Idea**: Studying hard for classes, completing all your assignments, and being a good student all term long so that you're in good shape coming into the exam on all your courses.

**Awful Idea**: Doing the same thing every other Waterloo Math student does — pay some attention in class until the midterm, do decently on the midterm and figure you're ok, then stop coming to class and hand in every other assignment (at best). Finally, cram for the final exam and somehow manage to get a reasonable grade in your courses. Move on to a new term and repeat.

**Good Idea**: Securing a place for next term early on, so that you can find a good location and a place that doesn't look like a broken down piece of ****.

**Awful Idea**: Waiting for the last minute and finding a sublet for a good price, but it's basically a shoebox that hasn't been cleaned in 50 years. And you share it with 3 other people who smell and don't talk to you, and never clean the kitchen after they cook. Stupid — People.

**Good Idea**: Coming up with a genius evil plot to destroy your arch-nemesis once and for all by staging a fake contest, announcing that your nemesis won even though he doesn't even realize he entered, and then poisoning him when he least expects it.

**Awful Idea**: Doing the same thing, and then publishing it on *math*NEWS, giving your nemesis plenty of warning. And also mentioning your one weakness (frozen bananas) so that your nemesis can exploit it and defeat you once and for all. Damn these arch-nemeses — and damn my odd affinity of writing for *math*NEWS.

So that's it for my Good Idea, Awful Idea column. Forever. Thanks for reading, and wish me luck in my combat against my arch-nemesis, the notoriously notorious theDreamer. Good luck on your exams and stuff.

Orange Crush

# Rainbow Mathies #7

*Someone's Come Out to Me — Now What?*

Hello mathies! I'd like to start with some good personal news. Thanks in part to my involvement with *math*NEWS, I have been awarded a FEDS Leadership award for this term. I just wanted to thank the *math*NEWS editors for allowing me this opportunity, and to my readers for giving me an audience and lots of great feedback. This wouldn't have happened without your influence, so I wanted to give credit where credit is due.

Let's get right into this issue. The past five issues of this series have primarily focused on coming out in the perspective of those who are queer identified. These are not the only people who are affected by coming out though. I could talk about all the widespread effects that someone's coming out can have forever, but I only have one article left in this series. I'd like to spend it focusing on those who have friends coming out to them, since they likely have more questions. So, what should one keep in mind if they're being told another's sexuality? I have a couple short suggestions.

1. **Remember Respect**: I'm not here to try to change your views or opinions on sexuality or gender identity. With that said, your reaction is your own, and it's not my place to condone or reject that. However, if your reaction is going to be negative, please remember that the person who came out to you is exactly that: a person. If they were worthy of your basic respect before, I don't understand how their coming out might make them lose that. Your reaction, even if negative or reluctant, should still keep these ideals of respect intact, and if they don't, I strongly suggest reconsidering the nature of your reaction.
2. **It's Not About You**: I've talked about this in previous articles, but I'll reiterate. The coming-out process is very personal. By making it about you and not the person coming out, you're just adding stress and worry, among other concerns, to their plate in what is already an already difficult time. Odds are, their telling you wouldn't have that big of an effect on your life, but it would have a massive effect on theirs. Keep that in mind.
3. **Keep perspective**: When someone comes out to you, they are correcting your misconceived assumptions on their gender identity or sexuality. That's it. Yes, they're now slightly different than how you used to know them. This may take some time to get used to, and that's fine. A lot of things about them haven't changed, though, they're not completely new people, their personality, interests, beliefs, values, and mannerisms have not suddenly changed.

I'd like to end with a coming-out story sent in from a first year math student, who will remain nameless. I had to edit the story down though, but thank you so much for the contribution!

I'm a first-year, and have been out to (almost) everyone for about a year now. I first started having strange feelings toward a close friend who I admired very much in the summer between grades nine and ten. I decided to ignore them, wrote them off as irrelevant. As a student of science, it made sense to me that organisms sought survival, both individual and of their species - which meant mating and reproduction. Eventually, however, I couldn't bear it, and confided these secret feelings to another friend. Her acceptance reassured me and helped me to begin accepting the feelings. Eventually, I decided to tell the girl I was crushing on. We drifted, and I didn't try to explore my sexuality further. I left it in a limbo state that was "I like men. I think. But women could be nice. Maybe?" In the fall of grade twelve I hung out with a friend and she came out to me. It wasn't long before we began to flirt and within a few months we were dating. Upon coming to Waterloo, I told my roommate within the first few days. She was cool with it, and the news travelled the floor. I have yet to have a negative response from anyone at Waterloo, though I have had many "Wait, girlfriend? Like, female friend?" moments."

If you are queer identified, and are looking for someone to talk to or for supportive allies, there are always resources available to you. You can learn more about GLOW and its offerings, including a phone line at `www.knowyourglow.ca`. Counselling Services is always available to you their offices are open 8:30-8MTTh and 8:30-4:30WF, located in Needles Hall across from Student Awards and Financial Aid. If you need support and assistance immediately, you can call the Waterloo Crisis Center at 519-745-1166. If you'd feel more comfortable speaking with someone from a queer specific service, please contact the GLBT Youthline at 1-800-268-9688.

Join me next term when I will write about a more random assortment of topics. If you have an idea for one these topics, feel free to send it to me at `dtaleman@uwaterloo.ca`.

(define this (not cool))

# Math Faculty to Invade during O-Week

*All Mathies told be in a state of readiness*

During this upcoming O-Week (September), the Math faculty shall make its move to secure more territory for itself. For too long has the over-populated Math Faculty needed to rely on other faculties' facilities just to hold classes. No more. This upcoming O-Week shall see our might revealed.

Currently the plan is to begin with insertion of our Black-Tie Black-Ops, to clear the way to crucial targets for our Pink-Ties to capture. The campaign shall begin against the neighbouring Science buildings first, who although not an enemy, are not an ally, and are likely to join the great bear of Engineering. Once the Sciences are subdued, the Engineers will begin mobilizing their forces, slowly. We should still have enough time to overrun the lowly underpopulated Arts faculty, with too many buildings and not enough troops. Once this is completed, we will be able to strike the Engineers from all directions, and any opening they give us will leave them too vulnerable.

As it is, the plan will rely on the surprise attack while the Engineers are least expecting it, during the O-Week, where they are normally trying to pull pranks. We shall hit them with our newest foam-projectile weapons, and secure this campus in the name of Mathematics.

Once we have dominated the Campus, we can scoop up Laurier and begin mobilizing against whichever University is foolish enough to not take us seriously. Muahahahahahahaha!

Soviet Canadian

# Fantasy Baseball 101: Can you sleep on sleepers?

*If a tree falls in the forest, and everyone calls it a sleeper, is it?*

Sleepers and busts are in every fantasy sports player's vernacular. After all, who doesn't want to be the guy who discovered the next Ryan Braun (2007) or Buster Posey (2010)? How about a guy like Delmon Young or Casey McGehee last year? They came out of nowhere to post the kind of fantasy season that made a team's fortunes. That being said, it's advisable to keep everything in perspective.

Sleepers are sleepers by definition because they are very likely to produce more than their draft spot. The earlier you have to draft a "sleeper," the less of one he becomes. For example, in last year's fantasy baseball drafts, **Carlos Gonzalez** and **Billy Butler** were on everyone's sleeper radar, and for good reason. Both players were on the cusp of something big given their previous season and their age and experience, and everyone was falling over themselves to jump on the radar.

In retrospect, CarGo lived up to everyone's expectations of a sleeper. With an average draft position (ADP) of 120 and going in the 10th round of most drafts, he produced value like a first rounder and justified all the hype behind sleepers. Butler, on the other hand, had an ADP of 86, was in his third year and hits a lot of doubles... But that didn't change. In the end, he produced as the 85th best player in Yahoo! rankings, which got you a profit of... nothing. Butler ended up being outproduced at 1B by all the usual suspects, along with Konerko and Huff.

The lesson here? Sleepers are sleepers for a reason. If they were a safe bet to outproduce their expectations, they wouldn't be dropping nearly as far. When managing risks and rewards, you never want to build a team solely on breakout picks, because chances are some of them won't and you could have had a better pick if you had sacrificed upside for safety. When people say a player has really good upside, what they're really saying is that the player is a high-risk player. You really want to keep in mind what kind of a player you'd get if they don't realize their upside. Are they still good value at where you take them?

Let's take a look at an example for this year's draft. **Pedro Alvarez** is on everyone's lips as a big sleeper for this year. When drafts first opened, Y! ranked him right behind Mike Stanton, at 85th overall. We're talking about a guy who smacked 16 homers in 95 games last year and is projected to have even more power this year. Let's say... 30. How much is that worth, really? As the 85th-ranked player, he's going ahead of a guy like **Mark Reynolds** (who actually did hit 30 homers last year) or **Paul Konerko** (also a 30-homer guy).

What that boils down to is this: I'm not buying Pedro Alvarez. He has monster power with a monster K-rate, which means his average will suffer. At the 85th pick, he can hit his 30 homers, or he could completely flunk and end up like Mark Reynolds of last year (Homers without average). Why wouldn't you wait till rank 109 to take Casey McGehee who actually produced an impressive 23 homers and 104 RBI to go with a good average last year?

Anyway, what I want you to take away from my article is this: Don't chase every sleeper because they're trendy. There are good sleepers to target (Ryan Raburn has no downside because he's drafted so low), while there are times you might be better off taking a safer option. Example: **Jay Bruce** could very well break out this year, but at rank 53, would I be better off taking a safe pick in Hunter Pence (52) or Jayson Werth (60)? Granted, Bruce had a pretty good year in 2010, but his BABIP was a good 30 points higher than his career average, and he was still the 100th ranked player in Y!. A jump of 50 spots for a potential to produce top 50 numbers? I'm wary, that's for sure.

Opening day has just passed us on Thursday, but the Jays start playing tonight at 7pm (Sportsnet). **Ricky Romero** is kicking it off for the bluebirds in style. Go Jays!

Baseball Panda

# Memory Leak

*Oh not again!*

Firefly + CS assignment lead to this. To the tune of the intro song:

```
Make me list, make me hash,
Just make sure that I don't crash.
Don't forget, I gotta be free'd,
Else you'll get a memory leak.


I'm on heap, not the stack,
So tell the OS I'm coming back.
Don't forget, I gotta be free'd,
Every time you malloc me.


That's what you get, for using C,
Else you'll get a memory leak,
Every time you malloc me.
```

In (vector)space,
theCODECOWBOY

# Maple should die in a fire!

*SO INFURIATING!*

Not the Maplesoft production team, and not MapleTA, not even (directly) the Maple14 program. I speak of the Maple Labs that are forced upon us in calculus classes. If you are like me or any number of people whom I speak with, you will have an aggravating time with Maple labs, not because they are hard to understand (they sometimes are), but because the Maple 14 program is so picky. I can enter in a perfectly typed line of commands for it to do, and when I run it, it will fail to do what I wish (return wrong values or give an error and do nothing), then if run it again, it will something different. I had a tutor last semester type exactly what I typed, and when he ran it, it worked perfectly where mine errored out. He must have been a technomage.

The program itself is to blame for this; it is a nice piece of software that can be very helpful, but its pickiness in input is just too much. Similar effects can be garnered from the much easier to use WolframAlpha, without any headaches.

Anyway, if you agree that Maple labs are a serious pain, please, PLEASE, speak with your instructor about your difficulties with them. I would wish to remove this unnecessary evil before another wave of first years has to suffer.

Soviet Canadian

# Review of Homefront

If you are a person who is interested in fiction that deals with a Communist country invading the USA, you might be interested in Homefront, a game which proposes a future Korean Republic (North took over South) (which controls most of the islands off of mainland Asia, including Japan) invading the United States for no particular reason. After hitting the States with an EMP that took out all power in the country, and cut all communications (at least temporarily), the Korean People's Army somehow FAILS to take America. Now, understand, the Korean Army apparently has 5 MILLION troops dedicated to this war; they are not sending a few thousand to deal with insurgents, they are sending a massive force of infantry, tanks, and aircraft to destroy the States. The States has a disorganized fighting force with all electronics knocked out and a few thousand nukes at their disposal... Heaven only knows why the States doesn't just nuke the Koreans in retaliation and just get their troops back together (an EMP wouldn't stop them for long) to push out the invading troops. But whatever, the Korean Army takes half of America and occupies it, and you are a pilot in that occupied area (no, they don't allow you to fly things), just living the life of a oppressed citizen. What's weird is that the life of an oppressed citizen seems to be about an hour long, since EVERYONE is being pulled out into the street and being shot systematically.

But whatever, enough about backstory stuff; if you want a better story of an occupied America at war, I would suggest the movie *Red Dawn*, or the game *Freedom Fighters* (it's more repetitive than Homefront, but at least it's got more believable story and odds (more on this soon)). Anyway, in the game you buddy up with a resistance movement and fight to take down the KPR and free everyone, noble enough. Just wish it was believable. You face off against over a hundred trained and fully armed and armoured soldiers (who took out the American Military, mind you) in every level, and you have only yourself, and two or three of your bullet-resistant resistance-buddies. Oh, and an invincible battle robot that has a machine gun and infinite rockets... yeah...

So you go around doing rebellious things that I will not talk of because they are the story, but what's the gameplay like? It's a shooter, which should give you enough clues as to how it is played, and what you will get out of it. But it is a VERY cinematic shooter, every level is set up so that what you do will look awesome, and you will always be looking at something awesome. You have your increasingly difficult enemies, new weapons (although you can play the whole game with just one gun if you wanted), and game mechanics introduced throughout, like how to control your invincible missile spewing battle robot, fly helicopters, and the like. Every moment is incredibly action-packed and flashy. Except when you hit a wall. By this I mean reach a part of the game where you MUST turn down your difficulty because there is no way you are going to burst through this door, take out the twenty guys behind it, and come out in one piece unless the game makes you unnaturally resilient and the enemies horribly stupid. I will not lie, I spent half my time playing the game trying to deal with these parts because I was attempting to complete the entire thing on Guerrilla (Hardest) difficulty, which does a good job representing how vulnerable you are to bullets (two shots and you are down), but which is not easy to deal with when you are forced down a hallway that is filled with enemies and no cover. And by the time I hit the end of the game, I was forced to set the dificulty to Normal just to press on.

But what about the multiplayer, you ask? It is pretty good, you got your standard team-based frag-fest, your team-objective-based frag-fest, and your if-you-do-too-well-we-will-send-a-killer-robot-after-you version of the previous two game-modes. That is, you got a TDM in nicely-sized maps with a flow similar to recent Call of Duty games, where the action is fast and furious with snipers setting up killzones and sneaky devils rush through spawn areas knifing everyone in site, but with all of this you can spend BPs (battle points) that you earn by killing enemies and fulfilling objectives to purchase special equipment such as RPGs, bullet-proof vests, and the epitome of awesome; combat drones. When you can bring to battle a little minigun on wheels, or a RC helicopter with rocket launchers, you are an awesome person, and your battle shall also be awesome. And if you are playing on one of the large maps (think of a medium-sized BF:BC2 map) you can also call in vehicles (using BPs) such as jeeps, tanks and helicopters. You have no idea how explodey and gunfirey the game is; go watch a video or something. Which reminds me, the sounds in the game are top-notch, I have not heard gunfire, explosions, or any other sound in a game sound as good as this; it's like I'm listening to a live news-report of a war (you know, without the low-quality sound you might get from bad microphones). Visuals are nice too, but not too awe-inspiring. Physics don't make too much sense, as any piece of cover provides perfect protection from all forms of harm (bullets, missiles, and tanks cannot pierce/smash them).

As a whole, it's a standard shooter with an interesting premise which it fails to live up to. The single player is short and the story doesn't make too much sense (the over-arching story, not the immediate actions of the people around you), but is very cinematic which makes up for some of its faults, and the online is more fun than a usual shooter, although it has its share of annoyances (you have a pathetic amount of health, and most weapons/gear have enough power to instant-kill you (or close enough)). I would say rent it or play a friend's copy, but don't bother buying it unless you really want to play a game that shows the States being kicked around by a smaller nation that should have been dealt with the moment it annexed Japan (or Vietnam) (and I'm assuming China?) and amassed an army of 25 million troops and thousands of nukes. Whatever, just let me drive more RC battle drones around.

Soviet Canadian

# Banned Topics in *math*NEWS

The following is a list of topics that have been banned from discussion during *math*NEWS Production Night. Do not discuss these topics under penalty of getting kicked out of Production Night.

- Friday
- Hannah Montana
- Justin Bieber
- E (if you read *math*NEWS you know what this means)
- Teletubbies
- Girl With Bloody Scissors

Forked Frosh

# Robot Invasion

So, this last Thursday through Saturday saw the PAC transformed to hold the Waterloo Regional FIRST Robotics Competition (not that it is the first time they are running it, that is just their name). It showed robots that were created by various teams from various high-schools in the area. Given a 6 week period, they were to construct a robot capable of picking up shapes and placing them upon pins in the air, as well as launching a miniature robot up one of four poles that were placed around the playing field. I am still amazed at what was accomplished in this short time, with some of the 'bots performing so well I thought that these teams were given months to work on them. The competition was mainly watched by the teams that made the bots, as well as friends and family, although some students did wander in and decide to watch.

And it was a spectacle. Given the chance to watch any sport event this year, or this robotics competition, I would choose the robots. Why? I can't say for certain, but who would not enjoy a bunch of robots duking it out for supremacy? The bots (and their drivers) got tactics, they got roles, fans, mascots, they got everything that makes me think of a sporting event, and it is energetic. Forgiving the idle time when a bot breaks down right before a match or the like, it's fast and furious, with two announcers that added the icing to the robot-filled cake. What a cake, with bots that used wheels, tracks, telescopic arms, multi-jointed appendages, pincers, clamps, or nothing more than an engine on wheels (blockers, they are a great asset) they looked good, and performed better. The rounds were filled with excitement that got many up out of their seats (which I found to be a bit much, but I can say I understand why), as bots glided across the field, tried to block each other, and fired off mini-bots for massive points that would likely change the outcome of the match.

I would like to mention though that this is not just a bunch of robots; there are many people who were constantly working during this event. From the teams working on repairing/improving/testing their bots behind the scenes, to the numerous volunteers who set up, judged, and ran the event, there was a sea of sweat and tears poured into this and you could feel it. I would like to say thanks to these people for bringing this event to our school, and giving as much effort as they did.

For anyone who missed it, don't worry too much, this was just the Waterloo Regional; the GTA regional is taking place April 1-3 if you are interested (it's short notice, I know) not to mention the many other regionals that will take place, and there is always next year. And if you are interested in getting involved, you can always volunteer for the event itself, or become a mentor to help these young students create a masterful robot. More information can be found online at the FIRST website (found by searching "FIRST robotics"), along with many of the other media/websites that are part of the annual competition.

Hoping for a robot-filled future,

Soviet Canadian

# Just a tip …

*Advice for Single Guys*

I noticed recently an increasing number of complaints from *math*NEWS writers about not having a girlfriend. As a single female in the math faculty, I would personally like to say DEAL WITH IT. While I admit that as guys you have the odds stacked against you, you could be doing a lot more to get a girlfriend. I'm a girl in Computer Science, for Pete's sake; you would think I would have guys all over me. But no, not a single guy has talked to me in any of my classes. Now I'm no beauty queen, but I'm reasonably confident that it's not because I'm ugly. Instead of complaining about your problems, why don't you go up to a girl and actually try talking to her? You might not get a date on the first go, but hey, at least you're trying. Just a tip: try not to be a creep. Conversation and the occasional compliment is nice. Stalking and harassment isn't. Start with trying to get to know her. Once you're friends with her, you can decide if you actually do want to date her and then start the wooing process.

If you're still having trouble finding girls, try looking in some different places. For example, you could come to *math*NEWS. I know there are at least two of us there who are female and single. Statistically speaking, you probably have a better chance there than 90% of the rest of the Math faculty. That last 10% are WIM meetings and women's washrooms. If you're really desperate, go visit Arts.

If you think you can't get a girl because you look like a dork, relax! Have some confidence in yourself! I overheard a conversation the other day where a girl mentioned that "brains are equal to looks here at Waterloo." I agree. I would totally date an ugly guy who was smart, but I would not date a hot guy who is stupid. If you're both ugly and stupid, well, try humour? A lot of girls appreciate a guy who can make them laugh. The other thing to keep in mind is that all girls are different. You can't just make a list of what a girl looks for in a guy since it will be different from girl to girl. I can give you a general guideline based on my own experiences though.

1. Don't be creepy
2. Practice hygiene (shower regularly, don't wear the same shirt 3 days in a row, etc.)
3. Actually try to start a conversation with them.

I?m not going to start a column on general dating advice since I'm completely unqualified to talk about this in the first place. However, if you do have any specific questions for me, feel free to leave them in the BLACK BOX. I'll answer them as best I can, or outsource if necessary. Double points for anything involving penguins.

BlueberryMuffin

# Unimportant Orange Crush Announcement

In an update to Orange News from Issue 2, the geese are back. This reporter is as shocked as anyone. And remember, you can always trust Orange News to keep you posted with up-to-date developments on the most exciting news stories happening around campus.

Orange Crush

# Ask Gully

*Where does* math*NEWS come from?*

If you're reading this, you're probably familiar with *math*NEWS, the greatest publication in the world. If you're not reading this, then now would be a good time to start. You probably just picked this up out of a box in the corner, or on top of the benches. But how does it get there? Where does *math*NEWS come from?

You may have noticed that *math*NEWS advertises its "production nights" to be every other Monday. The truth, however, is that there are no production nights; they are advertised because we know that nobody is dumb enough to show up. Instead, *math*NEWS has hundreds of rabbits running across hundreds of keyboards to generate articles. The output is always unreadable, though, and needs refinement.

The refinement process begins by first collecting the raw articles into separate text files. Then, they are processed by an artificially intelligent computer program known as "The Production System". This system was originally just used to make processing of the articles a bit easier for the previous, human (well, Mathie) editors. The Production System has since evolved into a powerful and sentient being which is capable of processing the raw bunny output.

It takes two weeks for The Production System to process enough of the raw bunny output to create an issue, which is why *math*NEWS is a bi-weekly publication. Not all of the files can be processed into proper *articles*; these are sent to Imprint.

Once enough articles are processed, The Production System begins layout. This is where each article is placed in a particular spot. This is done purely randomly. It's just a great coincidence that the cover is always on the front.

Next comes printing. The Production System sends the finished issue to a printing plant in the Arctic which has been taken over by The Production System, which allows for much cheaper printing. Roughly 31,416 copies of each issue are printed. This large volume is to account for the large number of copies that are lost in transit. Surprisingly, there are many polar bears who are interested in reading *math*NEWS and have been able to intercept them from our transport company, Postfix.

The last step is actually distributing *math*NEWS to the many places you may have picked this up from. This is done by the squirrels, geese, and various other wildlife you have seen on campus. You may have wondered why there are so many of them living on campus. The reason is because they work for *math*NEWS to distribute the issues to the various parts of campus that are important enough (which is just MC and a bit of DC).

Gull E. Bull

# There was a frosh in Waterloo

*And he thought of nothing to use*

So he typed up some filler
No one thought it was killer

And everyone who read this said "boo"

RedMetal

# Passlng Secret Messages

Remember back t0 when y0u were a smaII kld passlng n0tes ln class and y0u dldn't want t0 get caught. What d0 y0u d0? As a smaII chlId y0ur meth0ds 0f dlssemlnatlng y0ur messages t0 cIass mates are rather slmpIlstlc. Th0ugh the messages usuaIIy c0mprlsed thlngs such as "D0 y0u Ilke me?" and "Want t0 pIay tag at lunch?", and lf y0ur frlends dldn't get 0ne then lt dldn't reaIIy matter. l d0 remember 0ne such lnstance where we managed t0 gut 0ne 0f 0ur markers and put the messages ln there.

And then y0u get 0Ider, and want t0 pass m0re secure messages. But as y0u age y0u want t0 send m0re and m0re lmp0rtant messages, and y0ur "D0 y0u Ilke me?" bec0mes a "Want t0 g0 0ut?" and the "Want t0 pIay tag at Iunch?" bec0mes a "C0D t0nlght?". Th0ugh they reaIIy aren't that lmp0rtant (yet) y0u w0uId stlII Ilke t0 pass them safeIy. And 0nce and a whlIe y0u d0 pass an eplc saga t0 s0me 0ne eIse where y0u declare y0ur undyIng l0ve t0 them, ln 13 gI0rl0us pages 0f s0nnet. 0nIy t0 have lt caught by the teacher and rlpped t0 shreds.

Y0ur meth0ds 0f passlng n0tes n0w bec0me m0re s0phlstlcated, and y0u send text messages wlth y0ur ph0nes 0n vlbrate, 0r y0u als0 send messages 0ver the lnternet. Th0ugh the teachers usuaIIy have restrlctlve lnternet flIters ln pIace that y0u can't bypass sh0rt 0f runnlng a dlfferent 0S 0n the c0mputer.

And then y0u Iearn t0 embed a secret message lnslde a bI0ck 0f text. Just Ilke l dld, see what l dld there? And here are a few Ietters t0 get lt t0 even 0ut.

F0rked Fr0sh

# The effects of programming

*Hour-by-hour*

Hour 1 - 6:13 PM: Subject begins programming, appears mildly stressed, but otherwise okay.

Hour 2 - 7:18 PM: Subject diligently converting ideas into code.

Hour 3 - 8:32 PM: Subject has a problem with their code, shows signs of frustration.

Hour 4 - 9:20 PM: Subject has fixed the problem in their code.

Hour 4 - 9:32 PM: Subject has found a new problem in their code, again frustrated, shaking the screen of their laptop.

Hour 5 - 10:59 PM: Subject has proclaimed that they will cease coding for the night, after they debug this function.

Hour 6 - 11:42 PM: Subject has fixed problem in code, and is continuing. Shows signs of exhaustion.

Hour 7 - 12:34 PM: Subject has stopped programming to grab a snack and have a walk.

Hour 8 - 1:20 AM: Subject has returned with three energy drinks, drinks all of them.

Hour 8 - 1:29 AM: Subject is staring at screen with a large smile on their face, no work being done.

Hour 9 - 2:02 AM: Subject back to programming, shows signs of delirium, mumbling to themselves and making large mistakes in program.

Hour 9 - 2:47 AM: Subject is unconscious, drooling on their keyboard. Medical team sent in. Experiment ended.

Soviet Canadian

# Wooing the ladies part deux

*I am attempting to this time; here is how...*

So, it was commented that my communications with the female writers has been more than simple chit-chat. Well, I will show them what I would do if I actually was trying to woo them.

I start by putting on a good shirt for once; this is partly for disguise (they won't recognize me without my bland T-shirt and sweater) and partly for looking presentable/respectable for once. Next I put on my stylish glasses, which I never wear for reasons I'm not going to discuss here, but, I assure you, look very snazzy. After that, I walk into the room calmly and confidently before striking a beautiful pose that gets their complete attention and seductively calling "Ladies...". Once this is achieved, all I need to do is engage them in conversation and they are guaranteed to be mine. Maybe I will ask them about what kind of big stompy robots they prefer...

Soviet Canadian

# 2B in MC

I'm just about finished my second year
So many classes, precious little sleep
Most of my days in this bleak building here
In the comfy or the lab, I wonder
When will it end? How can I escape?
This gray slab, as formless and colourless
As the drab weather I'm forced to endure
Cloudy, rainy, snow, and ice
Endless exams, cramming and pain
I think about going up to the roof
In the dead of night to end it all
But oh what is this I see on the horizon?
A new dawn, of a new season perchance?
Yay Spring has sprung and hope is eternal

TRK

# Confidence implies control

*Make good use of it*

Those with confidence control what happens around them. They become leaders and others come to defer to them over time. Why not make yourself one of these people?

You can get anyone to do anything as long as they are ignorant to the fact that you are not an actual authority figure. With a confident attitude, you can pass yourself off as someone who should be where you are. As long as you do not act uncertain or nervous, you can pass yourself off as an instructor or TA (given you have the appearance of one) (I am not saying you should do so), you can walk into any event and pass yourself off as one of the staff (I DO NOT ENDORSE SUCH ACTIVITIES), or just take control of a situation going on around you. You can be the one who decides what happens, when, how and etc, as long as you act confidently enough.

So go out there, and show confidence in what you do, get involved in what is going on around you, and you will be recognized for it.

Soviet Canadian

# *math*NEWS Volume 115 Awards

Hello all writers, artists and others who helped contribute to *math*NEWS. Normally, during the course of a term, we are supposed to give out awards each issue. Oops. Instead, we have an awards list. If you are one of those on the list, please drop by the MathSOC office to pick up your prize.

- Best "Real" Article: Ten Books A Programmer Should Read by Thor.
- Best Art: Issue 6 Cover by Gwen
- Most Articles Submitted: Orange Crush
- Most Amusing Article: RE: A Quenya Compostion by tesseract
- Best Column: Rainbow Mathies by (define this (not cool))
- Most Illegible Article: A Quenya Composition by Zethar

# *prof*QUOTES

Processing a list backwards is like petting a cat backwards. No one wins in that situation.

Anderson, CS 136

Student: If you do that it (the compiler) will bark at you. Prof: Bark? We don't use that word in this class. I never want to hear you use that word again.

Anderson, CS 136

There's also the rubber hose attack; You have the key, I beat you with a rubber hose until you give me the key. This is an attack not designed for this course.

Jao, CO 487

I'm not sure there are an infinite number of proofs for an infinite number of primes, but I'm pretty convinced.

Hare, PMATH 340

If you want a modern example, replace "Stealing gold" with "looting the bombshelter for dollars" and "pirates" with "engineers". Are there any engineers in the audience?

Hare, PMATH 340

[After a crowd of small children pass by outside] They seem a bit young for first years.

Hare, PMATH 340

It's a Belgian name. I don't actually know how to pronounce it.

Jao, CO 487

[On posted notes] I'd say you have to put up with my bad handwriting, but you already do that in class.

Hare, PMATH 340

Mathematicians are never disappointed; they just think it's cool and give these things a name.

Hare, PMATH 340

Fundamentally, as mathematicians, we should be lazy.

Hare, PMATH 340

# *prof*QUOTES

This is useful if you want to forget everything you learned in MATH 239.

Hare, PMATH 340

It's nice to notice linear algebra can have an application, if number theory can be called an application.

Hare, PMATH 340

If there is a continuous invertible map from a disk in R2 to [Pause] your face.

Godsil, MATH 249

Topologists might be short-sighted, but they can recognize holes.

Godsil, MATH 249

It's like a miracle: you cross infinity and come out the other side unscathed.

Taylor, PHYS 275

If you kick it with a supernovae, it will ring. [Phone chimes] Thank you.

Taylor, PHYS 275

You put your oatmeal oat in space, and it's big, bigger than the Jeans length. You can work out how many calories that is.

Taylor, PHYS 275

That sounds like a terrible reality show... "Object-Oriented Makeover".

Godfrey, CS 138

[right after looking at a stack]
Student: So it would be a good idea to delete the object "Balloon".
Prof: Does it support a "pop" routine?

Godfrey, CS 138

Anyway, the point of that little anecdote is that if you go to heaven, you do calculus, and if you go to hell, you do linear algebra.

Dupont, MATH 119

There's really only one beautiful way to demonstrate [saddle points], and that's with Pringles.

Dupont, MATH 119

Maybe I need a polar bear and a duck-billed platypus. That's why I have undo.

Terry, SE 382/CS 349

I went to Evil Prof school. It's called undergrad.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

We don't have to be C programmers all the time. Occasionally we can think like human beings.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

One of the things I've told you before is you're not normal.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

I love my job. I get to work on interesting things and can't be fired.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

[A student is raising his hand] Prof: Yeah? Student: Was... Prof: Yes! No! I don't know! Sorry, I just want to keep the lecture flowing.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

One student pointed out the edges are not actually symmetric. That was a CS student with graph theory problems.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

Go ask some people. Real humans, not nutballs like us.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

I think I'll put that on the exam. Only the people who come to class will know the answer is 'I have no idea'.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

It could be like Jeopardy. This is useless trivia about the number of UIs the prof doesn't know, and you have to pose the question.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

What was the blogger's name? I'm a bastard. You know I wouldn't ask you that.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

Unless you're a university professor, you have some compassion for other people.

Lank, SE 382/CS 349

# *grid*COMMENTS

*Fruit flies like a banana, Time Flies are terrifying pests*

Hello, dear readers and solvers, and welcome to the final *grid*COMMENTS of the term. This has been an excellent term for me, and I can only hope you have enjoyed solving my grids as much as I have enjoyed writing them. Any comments as to the difficulty of the grids are appreciated. (Too easy? Too hard?) Further, if anyone out there is interested in writing cryptic clues in future, please get in contact with us. I would have liked to provide cryptic clues this term, but I have not had the time. Any comments or general enquiries should be sent to `mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca`.

So, it remains to announce the winner of last issue's grid. I received no submissions which were completely correct; the prize, therefore, goes to the most correct which had only a single letter in error. The last *grid*QUESTION was "When is the best time for hunting rabid porcupines?"; our winning answer comes from "Gee", who wrote "After a large snowfall in spring that closes the high school down the road." If you can somehow find identification with the name "-Gee" on it, feel free to stop by the MathSoc office to claim your prize.

As this is the last issue of the term, the answers are available elsewhere in the issue. As the answers are available, we will not be awarding a prize for the most correct submission with the best answer to the *grid*QUESTION. However, I will still announce a *grid*QUESTION: "Why are you submitting an answer to the *grid*QUESTION when there is no prize and the answers are already printed?"

See you all next term.

¬perki

## WORDARC

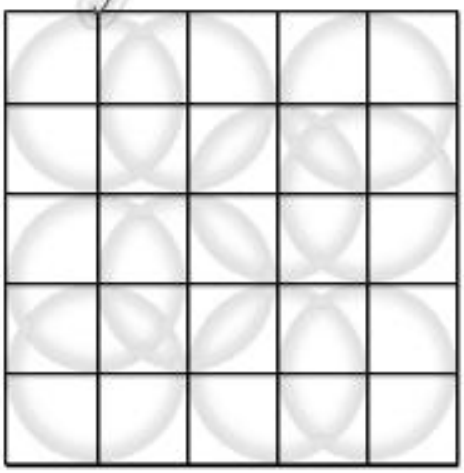
The scrambled words overlap by two letters

coo, eooz, aberz,
acnorr, abilort, aghilnty,
acilpty, almost, adist, adei, aer,

http://euri.ca/puzzles

## umbrellas

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



| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 7 |
| 6 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 5 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| 5 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 4 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| 0 | 2 | 2 | 7 |

## Drywaller

"Listen up. Our client isn't picky, as long as each square has the right number of walls surrounding it. Sounds a little tricky, but we didn't get to be the #3 drywall outfit in town by being lazy."
Also:

- There's a wall around the outside
- They want exactly 15 rooms

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 |
| 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 |

**Puzzles courtesy of euri.ca**

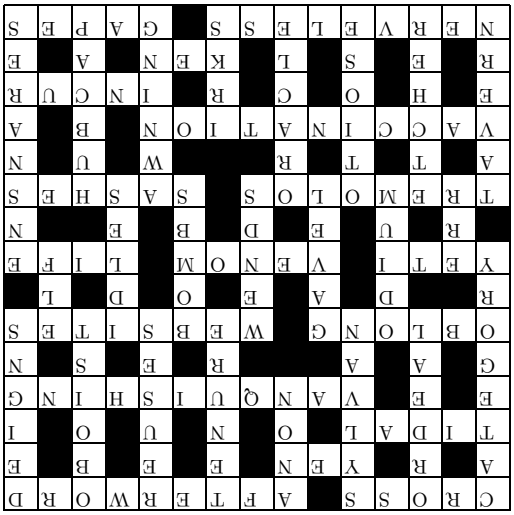
# Quick Clues

*Across*

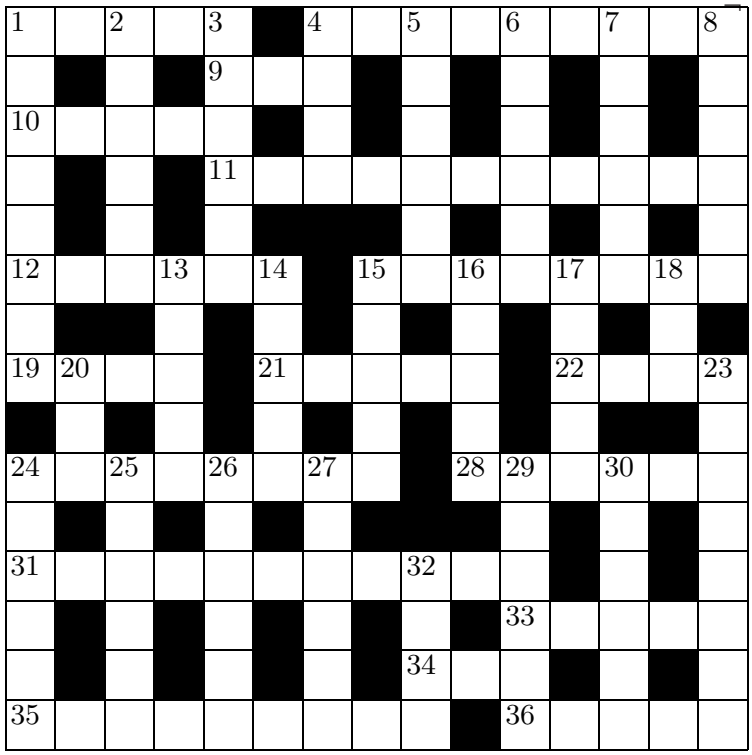
1. Quarrelsome
4. Post-epilogue
9. To yearn
10. Relating to the effect of gravity upon the ocean
11. Conquering
12. Elongated in shape
15. Internet locations
19. Sasquatch
21. Toxin
22. Flora and fauna
24. Waverings in tone
28. Cincture
31. Dubious cause of autism
33. Bring upon oneself
34. To know or understand
35. Calm and collected
36. Stares

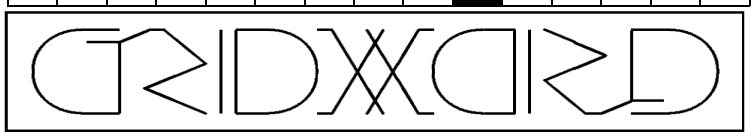
*Down*

1. Class
2. Tribulation
3. Wooded
4. Soon, shortly
5. The holding of an office
6. Utilizes repeatedly
7. Musician to whom the orchestra tunes
8. Condescends
13. Disgust, abhorrence
14. Mallet
15. Ambles
16. Fails horribly
17. Waits passively
18. Legolas or Galadriel, eg.
20. To be mistaken
23. Captures
24. Saloon
25. One who engraves
26. Useless
27. Apollo's priestess at Delphi
29. Canopy
30. Outer wheel covering
32. Irritates



## Last Week's Answers



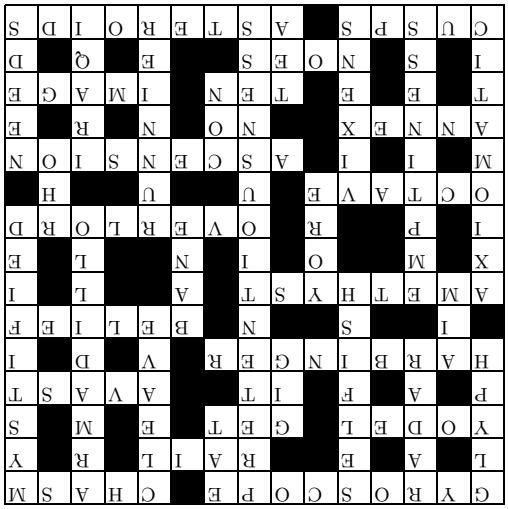


# Arts Clues

1

*Across*

1. Defend in depth what you take to be the best solution to the mind-body problem.



## This Week's Answers
## No Peeking

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