

NEWS

Friday, March 2nd, 2012

mouth

Volume 118, Issue 4

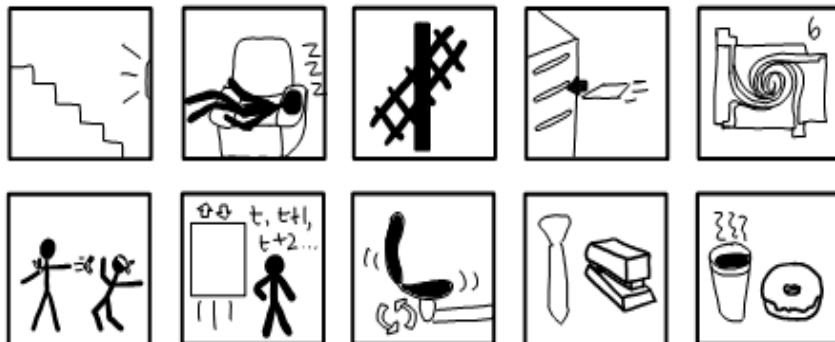
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Snippet

lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

March 2	Issue #4 is fully operational
March 12	Production Night for Issue #5
March 16	Issue #5 blasts off into space

MathSoc

March 2	Pubcrawl
March 8	Speed Networking Event
March 10	Tetris Tournament
March 14	Pi Day
March 20	Pints with Profs
Tuesdays	Games Night in the Comfy at 6:30 pm
Wednesdays	Special nights in the Comfy!

CECS

Ongoing	Employer Interviews
Continuous	Job postings open; closes next weekday 11:59 pm
Tuesdays	Rankings open 8:00pm
Wednesdays	Rankings close 10:00am, Match results
Thursdays	Rankings open 8:00pm
Fridays	Rankings close 10:00am, Match results
March 13	All about GRE info session, TC 2218, 4:30pm-6pm
March 29	Getting a US Work permit info session, TC 1208, 2:30pm-4:00pm

University

March 12	Drop penalty 1 period ends
March 13	Drop penalty 2 period begins
April 2	Lectures End
April 6	Last day to drop a course without a petition, drop penalty 2 period ends
April 27	Co-op Work Term Ends

Feds

Mondays	Trivia Night @ Bomber
Wednesdays	Bomber Night

Misc

March 12-16	Humans vs. Zombies
March 17	St Patrick's Day
March 18	Bilious Day, Celebration of the Oh God of Hangovers
March 21	First (official) day of Spring
April 1	April Fool's Day

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The editors: Sacha Koohgoli, Murphy Berzish, Michelle Conway, and Will Morrison: Kraken, Lich, Marilith, and Tiamat.

mastHEAD*Shouldn't you be studying?*

Reading week is over, and it's still midterm season. I was going to spend all week playing through *Portal 2* again, catching up with friends and family, and lowering my blood pressure by a few kilopascals/millibars/Newtons per square furlong/your preferred unit of pressure. However, my professors declared that testing was mandatory, and scheduled midterms, so I ended up locking myself in my room, studying and doing assignments until I fell asleep.

Occasionally I woke up, did a few exercises, and then fell back asleep. This cycle continued for quite a while, until I finally broke free and started with the task of revisiting old notes, re-familiarizing myself with old techniques, and preparing for the testing ahead.

At some point, I found someone to study with, and that seemed to go well at first. But it didn't last, and they soon decided they had enough mastery of the material to stop, and I was alone again. I found myself going deeper than before, reviewing old notes from past courses, trying to climb back to the point of familiarity. Eventually I managed it however, and after reviewing the newer material, I finally felt prepared. Once I get a stellar grade on my test, I think I'll go outside.

This leads us to this week's *mastHEAD* question: What are your preferred alternatives to midterms?

theSMURF ("Homeopathy"), moment ("Make terms half-length (6 terms/year) and just have finals"), Impulse Vector ("Severing my ciliary muscles with a serrated spoon"), Scarred Tiger ("Cardboard sword duel"), Prez ("Pubcrawl"), Ice Nine ("Oral Exams"), waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca ("Feeling accomplished at work (it's better than possibly failing a midterm)"), Scythe Marshall ("Watching Canucks games"), BlueberryMuffin ("Internet Memes"), Zethar ("Roll a d20"), nyanocat ("Schrödinger's box (possibly)"), Soviet Canadian ("Videogames (a virtual reality where the question causes an inconsistency in the base laws of the universe, so finding and fixing the problem solves the question)"), !ED ("Finals"), FOCing Awesome ("I like trains"), ScruffyED("1cc the Extra stage"), Big Mak ("I would rather be eaten alive by a horde of mewling kittens while Justin Bieber's 'Baby' plays in the background on infinite loop")

ConcealED ("An arrow to the knee")

C S C F L A S H

The CSC has some events upcoming! Tonight is the OpenCL Code Party, where we'll have the finishing rush for our OpenCL contest! Every Wednesday for the rest of term, we're having Feynman Messenger Lecture Series screenings held with physclub in the PHYS 150. We're going to have more Unix tutorials too. Check our website, <http://csclub.uwaterloo.ca/> for all the info you need!

Calum T. Dalek
Chairbeing Extraordinaire

Dan Sez

Reading week is over now.

DanInTheHat

VPE Sez

Pi Day Soon!

Hey everyone, Pi Day is less than two weeks away and we hope you are getting excited! For anyone who doesn't know, Pi Day is March 14th at 1:59pm (3/14 1:59, clever huh?) and it is the day we celebrate all things Pi! Free Pi, Pi-napple Juice, a Pi Recitation Contest, Pi the Exec and much more all happen on this amazing day. NEW THIS YEAR: We will be trying to get some profs to volunteer to get Pi-ed in the face for charity. To find out more info about how to invite your prof, email vpe@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

Also keep your eye out for posters about our upcoming Tetris Tournament on March 10th. Food, Tetris and Prizes! Think you have what it takes? Sign up from mathsoc.ca or from the MathSoc Facebook page.

Pints with Profs now has a date!! OMG! On March 20th at 5pm at the Bomber you will be able to share a drink with some of your favourite profs! Pick up an invitation to give to your prof from outside the MathSoc Office in MC 3038.

March is going to be an awesome month, so be sure to check out some awesome MathSoc events!

Ty Rozak

Vice President, Events

vpe@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

MathFOC Sez

Greetings, (magically) magnificent mathies

MathFOC 2012 here, asking you, "Have you checked the Math Orientation website for awesome new content? Did you get your leader offer yet? Why have you not been constantly checking?!"

Regardless of the response to the above questions, you should check out your application status at leads.uwaterloo.ca, and ensure that your leader offers (if you get one) are accepted in a timely manner, or that you sort out any glitches in your acceptance, if any exist.

Remember that you should hear something from us either way before tomorrow at 11:59 pm; if you do not receive anything, please bother us profusely, as this means that some glitch has occurred within the system, and we never actually processed your interview data and application properly!

Now is the time to be constantly watching our website, orientation.math.uwaterloo.ca, for more updates as they slowly roll out, up to and past Winter Leader Retreat on March 11th! If you haven't already, like our Facebook page: [facebook.com/MathOrientation2012](https://www.facebook.com/MathOrientation2012). Our Twitter page is located at twitter.com/mathorientation, so send us a tweet or follow us!

Feel free to ask us any questions, if any should arise between now and Winter Leader Retreat (remember – it's MARCH 11th - a Sunday!), or come visit us in the MOO (MC 3048) just for a chat! Remember that the only way to figure out what our (magically) phenomenal theme is through the website, or at Winter Leader Retreat itself!

We hope to see you at the retreat! Congratulations to all who have/will receive(d) offers!

Sacha, Anna, Michael, and Amanda

MathFOC 2012

Prez Sez

Reading week blahs

Hello again mathies, I hope your reading week went well. I accidentally hibernated through the whole thing.

What's going on at MathSoc? We have a variety of things going on, as do our affiliates and clubs. The ActSci Club is having a pub event in Toronto, and the Math Grad Committee is having a pubcrawl, both are happening on Friday. PMAMC&OC had a prof talk on Tuesday with Robert Mann about everything ever.

Things coming up that you should look out for: Pints With Profs is being planned; if you get your resume in today (, there's going to be a speed networking event on March 8th, look for the posters that are out.

You may have noticed the blinds in the Comfy and the C&D have been removed. If you have complaints or concerns about this, please contact your MathSoc rep or email council@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

Also, yes the C&D renovation is still happening, looks like it's happening at the end of term. It should look nicer for Spring term, but we still need to pick out furniture. If there are things you want on that front, let us know or the decision will be made for you.

Harrison Gross

MathSoc President W12

prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

Sweet and Sour

DON'T FORGET – This week is your opportunity to enroll for FALL! Don't be disappointed! Enroll on quest.uwaterloo.ca.

SOUR

I hope you had a great Reading Week and that you came back safe and sound. Hopefully you had a chance to relax and catch your breath.

With a car one of the simplest calculations you can do to ensure it is running properly, is to measure its miles per gallon (MPG). In school, you also have an MPG = Mental Health, Physical Health and Grades.

In the case of your Mental Health, the school has a FREE and CONFIDENTIAL counseling department: www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs.

If you are concerned about your Physical Health, the University offers Health Services: http://info.uwaterloo.ca/infoheal/_home/index.html.

Finally, if you are concerned about your grades, please see:

1. Your instructor! They'd love to help you.
2. The tutorial center on the 4th floor of MC.
3. TA's for your courses.
4. Your Academic Advisor, <http://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/navigation/Current/advisors.shtml>.

SWEET

Why did the right angle go to the beach? Because it was 90 degrees!

Riley Metzger

Academic Advisor

New Award for Graduating Undergraduates in Math

If you will be graduating either in June or October of 2012, you are eligible to receive the Jessie W.H. Zou Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research. Students do not apply for this award; they need to be nominated by a faculty member with whom they have completed excellent research (at any time during their undergraduate degree in Math at UW).

Details are below. Faculty members across the faculty have already been informed.

Jessie W.H Zou Memorial Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research

An award, valued at \$1000, is presented annually to an undergraduate student enrolled in their final year of any program within the Faculty of Mathematics. Students must have demonstrated excellence in research and have been nominated by a faculty member who has supervised that research.

The nomination package is submitted by the student's supervisor by April 24, 2012 and includes:

- letter of support
- curriculum vitae of student
- one page description of the research, written by the student nominee

Robin Cohen

Associate Dean Research, Faculty of Mathematics
mathres@uwaterloo.ca

How Math and Arts are Derivatives of Engineering

Here's an interesting nuclear-ish proof for you.

Claim: Math is a derivative of Engineering

Proof: Two nuclear engineers came together and procreated. By process of nuclear fusion on the basis of slope-measurement, their resulting offspring has pursued mathematical studies. If the offspring produced was a multiple (i.e. twins, triplets, etc.), the process is thus nuclear fission.

Claim: Arts is a derivative of Math

Proof: The offspring pursuing mathematical studies suffers beta decay in which the positivity towards math leaves the offspring towards the end of their pursuit. To relieve the negativity, positively charged "creativity juices" are substituted. The offspring then continues in artistic pursuits.

By correlation through these nuclear processes, we can thoroughly conclude that Arts is a derivative of Engineering. This would explain how they can drink as much alcohol. They need their creativity juices (because face it, Engineering can be a little boring without it)! Even though the alcohol presence is muted and thus less noticeable in Math, when it does happen, the Engineering integration can sometimes be clearly seen.

waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca

Humans vs. Zombies: Winter 2012 Edition

HvZ is back at UW!

Hey there folks! You have no doubt seen the posters or heard from friends that there will be a game of Humans versus Zombies (HvZ), as hosted by WatSFic, that taking place later this month. If you don't know what HvZ is, here's a summary; in HvZ you play as a human (or zombie). If you're a human, zombies attempt to eat your brains and make you one of them by tagging you, and you can hold them off by pelting them with socks and Nerf darts ("stunning" them) and making a quick getaway.

For those who are curious and for those who want to play, there will be an info session taking place tomorrow (March 3rd) from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm in M3-1006. The info session will include important rule changes that all players **must** know. Registration will take place over the week of March 5 in the SLC (email us at uwhumansvszombies@gmail.com), and the game will take place during the week of March 12-16. Hope to see you there!

The Necromancer

MEF Sez

Looking to get involved? Interested in Finance?

Join the Mathematics Endowment Fund Funding Council! We are currently accepting applications for our term meeting which will be later in March. It is for a few hours and FREE FOOD is provided! We vote on proposals given to us by the UW student body and it is a great to get involved.

If you are club, you are eligible to submit a proposal for funding projects by Friday, March 9th, 2012 at 11:59PM.

Please email mefcom@student.math.uwaterloo.ca if you have any questions or concerns.

Mathematic Endowment Fund

Leap Year List

This year is a leap year. Which means there is an entire extra day in the year! Here's some things that you could do on February 29th.

1. Catch up on sleep. That's a whole extra day of sleep! Nothing could be more beautiful in life!
2. Play Leapfrog.
3. Tell your friends that it's March 1st. Try to see how many notice that it's still February. Give candy to those who get it right.
4. Find someone who has a birthday on February 29th and run around behind them all day shouting "Happy Birthday young'un!" and chucking confetti at them.
5. Get Leap Year superpowers and leap over random objects blocking my path. Rock? *leap* Fence? *leap* Dana Porter Library? *leap*

BlueberryMuffin

Do you have something that you want to submit? Come out to a production night or email us at mathnews@gmail.com!

The Weather

So...

(awkward silence)

How about that weather?

(chirping crickets)

No, I'm serious though. What the hell is up with the weather? I mean yeah, we finally got snow the other day, and it immediately melted. And then it started snowing again! I mean what's going on? We have a winter that's not a winter, and continuous snowfall/melting creating horrible ice patches. Not to mention luring the geese back. Seriously weather, get a grip. I mean this is Canada for chrissakes. This is a most disappointing second-ever Canadian winter.

(more silence)

I'll just be going now.

DanInTheHat

N Things I Didn't Do During Reading Week

Or did I? Waldo has been very oxymoronic and contradictory this past week

- Finish some assignments
- Slept in/relaxed/chilled
- Had some appointments with clients for work
- Had a productive week for work and earned money
- Family (and friends) time
- Bunny time!!!
- Played games online
- Went home
- Driving practice
- Shovelled snow
- Did art projects and finished them
- Perused le internet
- Watched a plethora of hilarity (with tidbits of gore)

waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca

Epsilon Greater Than

This probably should have been in the last issue

Hey, listen,
 mathies. With our love
 of symbols and symmetry, our
 need to look in the remotest corners for
 love, why has no ever one realized that $\epsilon >$
 also forms a heart?
 That's right; no longer must <3 do all the work -- that's
 always bothered me, anyway. What, exactly, is less than 3?
 (I mean, you can set up inequalities that solve for $I <3 U$ but those
 have always felt so....contrived.) Whereas $\epsilon >$ is on the page already,
 everyday (usually followed by 0), in all my calculus. No matter how small
 it is, the love is still there (Offering just the tiniest bit of encouragement, un-
 conditionally, as you do one more proof). Worse yet, <3 imposes a strict upper
 bound, while allowing you to plunge to negative infinity. $\epsilon >$, by comparison, is
 only bounded below, allowing ever-greater heights of bliss. $\epsilon >$ is useful, too;
 it provides the basic building block for many definitions and proofs; just
 look at how much love is shared in calculus!
 I've heard that $\epsilon >$ rather fancies <3 ; she envies his easy typability and mainstream
 acceptance. Many programs even auto-correct him to a heart! How can she ever
 compete with that? (They are a leading contender for "Cutest symbolic mathema-
 tical couple of 2012".) Last I heard, they were bonding over their feelings about
 0: $\epsilon > 0 <3$. Love of symmetry meets symmetry of love.
 Of course, when I said " $\epsilon >$ forms a heart", I didn't really mean a heart. (Well,
 it's as much a heart as <3 .) I meant it forms the shape we use to represent
 the heart, rather than an actual heart, which is a rather messy thing,
 with altogether too many ventricles. And even that is meaningless
 anyway, for love lives not in the heart, but rather in the brain,
 (and the endocrine system) a wonderful
 squiggly lump. Now a mathematical symbol
 that resembled a brain – now that
 would be romantic.

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A Queer Perspective on Relationship Issues

Hello mathies! After a brief hiatus, Rainbow Mathies is returning with a vengeance. I hope you had a relaxing, stress-relieving, fun and/or productive reading week. I spent mine on campus, with the intent of catching up on work. Of course, I failed horribly, and spent all weekend playing video games and hanging out with my friends who also stayed in town. Ultimately, it was still worth it. This does mean that I should really be writing my papers instead of writing my article, but my readers have too high a priority, so here we are. Today, we have the article that I hinted at three issues ago, about things that may prove to be unique challenges for queer dating and relationships. Most of this will be speaking from my own experience, so your own mileage may vary.

Issue 1: Someone's in the Closet

In my experience, this is one of the most common experiences that members of a queer relationship encounter. I should say right off the bat that being in a relationship both with and/or as a closeted individual is not necessarily a problem, as long as everyone understands and respects whatever limitations this may entail. It will involve maturity, for sure, but people have handled worse. That isn't always the case; these relationships can be particularly stressful if anyone involved doesn't know what to expect. I was one of these people, who thought I was mature enough to get into a relationship with someone who wasn't out yet. At the beginning, it was fairly easy; we were in the honeymoon phase, and when spending a lot of time together, keeping things on the down-low wasn't particularly hard. But, as any astute readers may remember my mentioning, I came out in my grade 12 year of high school. Having the freedom of coming to UW without needing to hide my sexuality proved to be very important to me. As our relationship continued, the pressure of having to essentially return to the closet for something that was growing so important to me became too much. It ended up being a big reason our relationship ended.

If I were to give advice about this issue, I would say one thing to each party. Remember to imagine the other people complexly. In a situation like this, it's easy to dehumanize your partner(s) in frustration. Remember that their concerns are valid, and that this experience isn't necessarily easy on them either. The unstoppable force vs. immovable object analogy applies here. In my experience, people are not going to come out when they're not ready to, but at the same time, coming out is such a strong shift in perspective it can be troubling to have to shift back. Be careful.

Issue 2: Dating Someone Transgendered

I have some fairly controversial ideas on this issue, so bear with me. Statistically speaking, it is quite likely that one of my readers will at some point find themselves "dating" (I use this word very liberally) another trans-gendered identified person. Let me begin by saying that I see the value of gender, and that both humans and society will only be able to operate at their best when they are free to categorize and connect as they see fit. However, sometimes these categorizing and connecting trends need to be broken, because of the harm that they cause. Harmful stereotyping and "-isms" are great examples of this. I firmly believe that concretely linking gender identity and sexual assignment causes this very kind of harm. I have an article planned for the near future talking about this issue (it's been in the works for

a while, I'd just like to speak with more trans-identified people about this article first), but I want to leave a couple of words on the topic as they relate here.

Imagine you're on a date (for the sake of this argument, suppose your date is with a woman), and while on this date this woman says to you, "I know I seem like a girl and communicate myself as female in every way, but rest assured I have a natural-born vagina." Sounds ridiculous, doesn't it? This is not something that is expected of cis-gendered* people, but what if you were dating someone transgendered? I often hear that these individuals are expected to reveal their transgendered status, or out themselves, because otherwise they are "tricking" or "deceiving" their partner(s). They are literally expected to say something along the lines of "I look female, but I have a penis" or "I have a penis, but I'm actually a woman" out of "politeness" and concern for the other parties. Transgendered people are given significantly different expectations in these kinds of situations than their cis-gendered counterparts, and these differences are alienating, distressing, and emotionally harmful to the other person. It is, at its very core, marginalization, and is in no way appropriate.

If you find yourself dating someone transgendered, and this is not something you are comfortable with or this turns out to be a deal-breaker for you, then fine. There are worse reasons to end a relationship, and you have every right to find someone that you consider most suited for you. But in no way should you blame the breakup on the transgendered individual if this happens to be the reason for it, or feel as though you were wronged by them not revealing this to you earlier. On the other hand, if you find yourself willing to accept this new perspective on your partner, understand two things. First, they are clearly of great importance to you, so be happy for that. Lastly, through thick and thin, this is who they are, and while it may be a struggle for all of you to manage, at least you have each other to rely on.

Issue 3: Dating a Friend's Ex

Yikes. Admittedly, this is an issue that everyone can face. With that said, the queer community tends to be much smaller, and the pool of suitable partners can feel constricted. When there are hundreds of men and women who are likely to be the right orientation surround you every day, it can be easy to follow "bros before hoes" or "chicks before dicks" or whatever other interpretation may apply. On the other hand, in the queer community it seems as though every other queer person you meet are in some way connected directly to a friend of yours, so these adages are a bit more troublesome. (In the future, remind me to write an article about the "fresh meat" phenomenon and how it's not very healthy for the queer community).

Ultimately, I believe that dating a friend's ex is not strictly "off limits". With that said, communication is very important, both with your potential partner and with the friend in question. Hopefully, all involved will be happy and will support the arrangement, in which case I wish you the best of luck with the relationship! If that's not the case, then you are left with a judgement call: both friendships and relationships are important, so how much damage will each decision cost and which outcomes are you most comfortable with? Unlike most of the people I talked to (who have very strong opinions on both side of this topic), I like to stay neutral on the issue. I see both choices as

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Continued

ultimately valid, so it's up to you to decide which is best.

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. Counseling 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. Finally, if you have any comments and concerns about this column, including ideas on topics you'd would like to see, you can contact me at dtaleman@uwaterloo.ca.

Join me next week when we tromp through a bit of math history and discuss some famous queer-identified mathematicians. There's more than Turing, you know!

(define this (not cool))

* cisgenderism: the opposite of transgenderism, or the idea that an individual's gender orientation matches their sexual assignment.

The Latest Bestseller: A guide to Reading for the Illiterate

Last week, renowned author of self-help books, Lynde Müller, released her newest book: *A Guide to Reading for the Illiterate*. In less than a month, the book has become a bestseller, receiving both critical and financial success, and was immediately added to Oprah's Book Club.

The book delivers a powerful message in a five-step process of becoming literate. The book guides the reader through with brilliant flow, sound arguments, and encouraging anecdotes of those that have walked the path already. The book contained some of the 'best writing I've ever seen', according to fanfiction writer Pope Benedict XVI, who praised the book for its 'accessibility, simplicity and helpfulness'. The Pope has reportedly bought 184 copies of the book for him and his elite, after redirecting funds from homeless shelters.

People all around the world, particularly in impoverished third world countries, dropped their monthly budget in order to purchase the book. Chima of the Adele tribe said, in an interview, "This book very good. We buy book. We do no eat rice for week, but have book!". On the other side of the world, the book has become an essential download for every Kindle, and has been met with amazing results. According to an independent statistic study funded by the author, the book has an unbelievable success rate: 100% of the people that read the book are literate.

Due to the amazing success of her book, Lynde is scheduled to start writing on new self-help books immediately. In the coming year, we could look forward to *A Guide to the Internet for the United States Congress*, and *A Guide to Free Speech for Totalitarian Regimes*. Based on what laws America passes in the following years, the two books may or may not be distinct.

Take my love, take my land, take me where I can not stand.

I don't care, I'm still free, you can't take the net from me.

theSMURF

Big Mak's 2012 Movie Awards

So the Academy Awards have come and gone, and with the final results in, I just can't help but feel that the Academy has missed the mark on some awards, and neglected to give prizes for the other awards. In order to correct their failing, here is my list of awards for 2012:

Going above and beyond the call of Bro-hood Award: 50/50 deserves this award for making me cry man-tears at the heart-warming story of a guy trying to live through cancer with his best friend at his side.

Most Fanservice Award: *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2* gets this hands-down. If you didn't like the series before, this movie wouldn't help. Otherwise, it's a travesty that this film wasn't considered for Best Picture.

Worst use of Johnny Depp Award: Even though he appeared in the atrocious *Jack & Jill*, in the end *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* takes this one home. There can be too much of a (questionably) good thing.

"Waterloo Works" Award for most Tragically Ironic Name: Warner Bros. was really counting on a new blockbuster franchise, something that would take it out of the red by filling their coffers with green. They were hoping that such an influx of green would light the road for them. *Green Lantern* failed miserably.

The e^x Award: Like its namesake function, *Limitless* (and *Source Code*) proved that we have not yet reached the upper bound for science fiction, or for the amount of times that one can get away with saying "the human body only ever uses x% of the brain at any time".

The Goldfish Award: To reinvigorate the flagging franchise, *X-Men: First Class* was a knock-out success in terms of superhero movies. Then it was quickly forgotten about 45 days later when all of the other superhero movies came out. Shame, really. I actually liked this film.

The "ooh, shiny!" Award: Zack Snyder's *Sucker Punch* was like a vapid cheerleader: it looked great and sexy, but beneath its dazzle it was mostly empty. And whenever it actually had an interesting idea it would radically change the topic before it got mired in actual thought.

The Amazing Spiderman Award: Yes, the titular film isn't coming out for another few months, but *Footloose* is still ridiculous because it's a remake that didn't need to get remade. The original is still good, and Kevin Bacon still mildly attractive by today's standards.

The Best Use of UAE Award: After being captured in the travesty that was *Sex and the City 2*, I feared that the Emirates would never get a proper treatment. Never that is, until I saw *Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol*. The wall-climbing scene at the hotel literally elicited a gasp from the audience, and the sandstorm chase was probably the best chase scene I've seen in years.

The "This is how you name something, Hideo Kojima; damn it, don't use non-sequiturs" award: *Cowboys & Aliens*. The title of the movie says it all.

Best Archaeological Adventure Award: Although there weren't any new installments in the *Indiana Jones* or *National Treasure* franchises, *Uncharted 3: Drake's Deception* carried us through the year. Wait, that was a game? With the linear gameplay and sheer number of cutscenes, you had me fooled.

Big Mak

The Secret World of Arrietty

A Review of Miyazaki's Latest Film

The latest animated feature from the esteemed Studio Ghibli has hit theatres in North America. The story based on Mary Norton's "The Borrowers" has been adapted by legendary director Hayao Miyazaki into this movie's script. The film centres on an adolescent girl named Arrietty, who is a member of a race of 2-inch tall people known as "Borrowers". These little folk are named such because they "borrow" (read: steal) from the human beings whose houses they secretly live inside. The girl and her parents might just be the last of their kind. When Arrietty goes on her first robbery borrowing, Arrietty picks up a pin, which is treated with significance when she brandishes it like a sword, but is never followed up on. She is discovered by the terminally ill boy Shawn living in the house. This being a Miyazaki work, instead of freaking the hell out, he tries to befriend the tiny thief. Arrietty is understandably distrustful of the giant that step on her like a cockroach.

The films plods on at a crawl as the two encounter each other more often and the housekeeper tries to prove she's not insane by searching the floor boards for tiny people. Why? She insists things are going missing. Just imagine her counting sugar cubes with OCD concentration. The plot is completely devoid of any sense of danger. While Shawn is trying to help Arrietty out of pity, he only serves to lead the help to her home. Arrietty's mother is kidnapped, and rescued within 10 minutes. Arrietty's family deciding they've had enough of their intrusive neighbours, start out on a dangerous trek to a borrower colony in the wilderness. Then the movie ends. Just like that.

Arrietty is a very pretty film, as is the standard of Ghibli. Smooth animation and beautiful details add to Arrietty's perspective of her world. The music is forgettable and the English voice cast is serviceable outside of the monotone performance by David Henrie as Shawn. The Secret World of Arrietty is a quiet, small-scale film to spend an hour and a half on. Studio Ghibli is known for wonderful works but "Spirited Away" this is not. As a final thought on this film, "It's a Small World after all."

Scarred Tiger

N Things to be Nostalgic About

This is what happens when Waldo goes back to the old high school for a day-ish.

- High school seems a lot easier now
- Time and breaks were soooooo abundant
- Your teachers have lives you want to hear MORE about while you've been gone
- Your teachers enjoy hearing about how you can apply the usage of Punnett Squares to university-level statistics
- All the younger people ACTUALLY remember you!
- Some things about an old building will never change no matter how much is painted over
- New people scare you somewhat
- Teachers actually wanted to better prepare you for uni, but the curriculum said no
- Memories really do stick around for a while, and they certainly keep you entertained

waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca

Oven-Baked Ham and Cheese Sandwiches

1. Pre-heat oven to 400 °F (205 °C).
2. Line (a) cookie sheet(s) with aluminum foil.
3. Perform n times, once for each sandwich:
 - Spread a slice of bread with real mayonnaise on the outer face, and lay mayonnaise side down, on the lined cookie sheet.
 - Place a slice of ham (or five) on top of the slice of bread on the cookie sheet.
 - Place a cheese slice (or two) on top of the slice(s) of ham.
 - Spread another slice of bread with mayonnaise on both sides, and lay on top of the cheese slice(s) to form a sandwich.
4. Bake for four to six minutes, then flip the sandwiches and bake for another three to five minutes.

Tip: No mayonnaise? Substitute margarine, but spread it only on the outer faces of the sandwich. Avoid "salad dressing", as it does not have a high enough oil content.

!able

Tips and Tricks for a Happy Midterm

Midterm season is upon us once again, coupling the difficulties of handling both lectures and assignments simultaneously with having a life, with the difficulties of being trapped in a room for a few hours against your will scribbling things you don't really understand down on some paper that will be equally cryptically marked, handed back, complained about, then swiftly forgotten. And in the spirit of the season, here are a couple of my time-tested, almost-proven tips and tricks for turning the horror that is midterm season into a pleasant stroll through midterm park! (Provided midterm park is free from its standard assortment of muggers, flashers, and thieves.)

- **Sleep as much as possible.** Studies have shown that a good night's sleep goes much further than staying up all night studying. Studies have also shown that more sleep leads to higher marks... specifically in Arts courses... specifically by sleeping through the midterm.
- **Eat full and balanced breakfasts.** In fact, this is so important that you should eat several full and balanced breakfasts multiple times a day! I suggest about six or seven times. Additionally, if you eat enough pancakes with side orders of sausage and/or home-fries, you can probably get a doctor's note after your stomach ruptures! Yum, yum!
- **Don't sacrifice your other courses for the one with the closest midterm.** You should be treating all of your courses with the same due diligence. That is, no diligence at all. Remember, there are assignments you should be ignoring!
- **Don't forget to ride the bell!** Have fun with this one! Sabotage your classmates by taking the reserve copies of the textbook out from the library. Better, hide the reserve copy of the textbook somewhere IN the library!

Last but not least, remember the good old mantra by Benjamin Franklin: "Although early to bed and early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise, easy to rise and early to bed makes a man healthy, wealthy, and socially dead."

Impulse Vector

The Three Deadly Sins

One of the best things about Waterloo is our co-op program. The upsides are many — we end up with industry experience (i.e. learning actually useful skills), a better network (i.e. all our ex-bosses that you don't hate), and best of all — confidence in our own abilities. We also learn to untangle the arbitrary rules and bureaucracies enforced by the CECS. That is the topic of this article: three of the deadliest sins you can commit in the eyes of CECS, and why I think two out of three are well-meaning but ultimately nonsensical.

1. You told an interviewer that you are no longer interested in the job.

If you were rude or unappreciative of their time, then you're clearly in the wrong. More likely, as students we do this politely to save both our time and the employers'. If you were an employer, would you enjoy spending extra effort and time interviewing someone who is clearly uninterested in you? Honesty is actually beneficial to both parties in this case, and in real life (outside of Jobmine) it is normally appreciated.

2. You told an interviewer that you already have an offer.

Once again, unless you are being snobby, you could be doing the employer a favour: honesty should increase the chance of employers being matched with a candidate that they like! Instead of wasting an offer on a student that will reject it, the employer can give the assurance of an offer to someone who might. Why CECS disagrees is beyond me. Do employers really get offended so easily? Do they really think that this system is "unfair"?

3. You did not show up for an interview.

This is actually serious. You've wasted someone else's time, and even outside of Jobmine there will be consequences. To be fair, there are instances where CECS pushes more responsibility to us than they should: one employer I scheduled an early-morning interviews with arrived on time but decided to start later. I had a midterm right after, but the paging desk was utterly unhelpful and demanded that I stay. Ultimately I cut the interview short and arrived slightly later to the midterm.

It's probably fair to say that as a student, the co-op program will do you wonders, but CECS will ruffle your feathers a little. Having dealt with them a few times, I find that the people running CECS are generally helpful and well-meaning. Some understand our perspectives but spends more time working with employers. This is why if you are caught with one of the above but actually meant well, you should challenge your "sentence". Be polite, be honest, be understanding, but please also be firm. Don't write an apology letter if you don't think you did anything wrong. Perhaps then, the system will change.

arcsin

Fortnightly Fun Filler Fact:

Artsies adore awesome alliteration

Dialogue

Glazed eyeballs rolled back in his head
Nothing but shade as he lay back in bed
He awoke with a start; the beeps began playing
Movements in limbs and eyes began weighing
The slothful body attached to a mind
It was also bogged down in kind

It said
begin dream
goto the past
our mem'ries of late are going too fast

the brain must renew
There's too much to do!
must dream to refresh
Don't have time in the flesh.
you'll get to see lisa, jess, emily and kate
Sleep ain't no time for a date!
if you wake I won't work right

Shut up, he said, as he turned on the light

He shut off the clock as he put on his shoes
Reading week is over, blared the news

Ice Nine

N Ways to Rrrroll up the Rrrrim

It's that time of year again, when everyone tries to roll their R's like a Spaniard. Tim Horton's says the odds are 1 in 6, but there must be some way to guarantee a win. Here are some suggestions:

- Buy the largest, fanciest, most expensive drink on the menu.
- Roll the rim using your teeth, with one eye closed, while rubbing your lucky quarter.
- Blow on your money before paying.
- When going for a Timmies run for your friends, pour their orders into paper cups meant for fountain pop, keeping the Tim cups to yourself.
- Intercept the cups in transit.
- If you do not have a Tim cup in your hand, buy another one.
- Buying all this extra coffee fills you with caffeine and empties your wallet. Use the energy to work 24 hours at as many part-time jobs as you can get.
- Only buy a coffee during a full moon.
- Give your change to the charity pot.
- Appease the Random Number God by sacrificing your first-born child.
- As the only way to win is not to play the game, honour the Christian tradition of Lent by forgoing coffee until Easter.

Enjoy your prizes and hope that the caffeine withdrawal is worth it! (DISCLAIMER: The odds of any 1 cup winning while employing any combination of these methods are 1 in 6)

Scarred Tiger

An Introduction to Sabermetrics

ie. Someone talking at you about baseball

Remark: Please read this as if it were being spoken to you by one of Morgan Freeman and the narrator of Monty Python.

Definition: *Baseball* is the game (up to isomorphism) played in eight and a half or more innings by two teams of 25 players a side, on a field of varying dimensions, wherein one team is “in the field”, the other is “at bat”, and the team which is at bat attempts, one player at a time, to hit, with a wooden or aluminum bat and while constrained to a “batter’s box”, a ball which is thrown by a player on the opposing team who is called the “pitcher”, and which is intended to be thrown from the “mound” across “home plate”, located in front of the “batter”. There are other things which happen, like home runs, video replay, and bench-clearing brawls, but that’s besides the point. See the “Rules of Baseball” as found on mlb.com for more info; I can’t see why you’d want to, though.

Eg. The Toronto Blue Jays and the Philadelphia Phillies played baseball in the 1993 World Series, where Joe Carter hit perhaps the most famous home run in Blue Jays history (“Touch ‘em all, Joe! You’ll never hit a bigger home run in your life!”). Amusingly enough, he wasn’t that great, by the concept in the following definition.

Definition: *Sabermetrics* is the study of baseball and the analysis of baseball players and their talent levels through the use of advanced statistics. There are a ridiculous number of acronyms to know, including W, L, ND, K, BB, HBP, WP, H, (2/3)B, SF, R, RBI, HR, SB, CS, E, BA, AVG, OBP, SLG, OPS, ERA, FIP, (r/f)WAR, WHIP, BABIP, and then some. We assume prior knowledge (and fill in the details as necessary). Some of these are rate stats, and some are counting stats. Sabermetrics uses the more complicated stats which better describe talent levels, as opposed to using stats which do not isolate the ability of the player, like Wins (W) and Batting Average (BA or AVG).

Eg. Bert Blyleven finally made the Hall of Fame, when the Baseball Writers Association of America (BBWAA) pulled their heads out of their asses (conveniently located in the 1960s) and realized that sabermetrics showed that Blyleven was an amazing pitcher over his career. See, this is why math is important.

Notation: A *hitting slash-line* is BA/OBP/SLG, expressed as rate stats. A *pitching slash-line* is K%/BB%/(ERA or FIP), expressed as two percentages and then a normalized stat which is average

Minecraft!

Minecraft? Minecraft.

You know you need to relax after your midterms/assignments/reading week/hangover, and what better way to do that than to roam a landscape composed almost entirely of cubes? Well, there’s quite a few ways to do so, but you can figure those out on your own. On the other hand, you could log onto the *mathNEWS* minecraft server. You can thank me later.

129.97.134.134

ConcealED

at 4.5, and better when lower.

Remark: Please don’t worry; this gets more amusing from here on in. Maybe.

Definition: We call those positive things which cannot be measured or analyzed by data alone *intangibles*.

Eg. David Eckstein has many intangibles: grit, leadership, the ability to get hit by pitches at will, and the ability to throw as hard as he can so as to barely move the ball from shortstop to first base. He moved to second base for a reason.

Proposition: Intangibles are not sufficient to determine a player’s talent level, regardless of what Tony La Russa thinks.

Proof: By contradiction; suppose that David Eckstein is a better player than Albert Pujols. By all accounts, Eckstein has many intangibles. Pujols is a power-hitting first baseman who, while being one of the two best hitters of the previous decade, isn’t very “gritty”, and thus has fewer intangibles than Eckstein. The other hitter in that group is Alex Rodriguez (well, in all honesty, it’s more accurately stated as “not David Eckstein”). Including Pujols’ positive defensive value at first base and Eckstein’s poor arm contributing to his pathetic defense in the middle infield, overall we see that Pujols is a better player than Eckstein. Contradiction, and thus our proposition is true.

Theorem: The BBWAA is a joke.

Proof: One member gave a first-place vote in the 2011 AL MVP balloting to Michael Young, who hit .300 but had a sub-standard WAR, played terrible defense, didn’t have a position, only accumulated RBI because of the team around him, and complained. Note that he’s still considered a player with intangibles, and this is probably the reason why he received the vote. This, in combination with the fact that Jose Bautista did not win AL MVP, shows that the BBWAA is a joke.

Remark: Hopefully this has piqued your interest in the field of sabermetrics, and in baseball in general. This hope is very likely to be misplaced. Oh well. Hopefully you laughed; that might be more probable. Also, go Blue Jays! There should be a UW Math trip to Toronto to watch a baseball game during the spring term. Anyone?

Scythe Marshall

**We’ve been dragged into
the modern world!**

**Follow us on Facebook
(mathNEWS), on Twitter
(@UWmathnews), or in
person (MC 3030)!**

Overclocking Android

Getting the most out of your phone

A lot of smartphone users I talk to these days refer to the act that “the Apple store has so many more applications than the Android does”. While this may be true, it is also completely irrelevant. 99% of the applications uploaded to the Apple store (iTunes) are essentially useless 99c gimmicks that are there for random part-time developers to make a bit of cash selling you useless products. I find any of the equivalent products for Android to not only be free on Android Market, but more efficient, effective, and prettier than the ones on iTunes. These same fanboys and fangirls also bash the BlackBerry App World and the other smartphone equivalent for other providers and carriers, without actually having any reasonable open-minded arguments, so I’m here to set things straight.

Yes, Android is going to keep improving. With the advent of the ICS beta coming out, we’ve seen that Google is definitely a major player in the smartphone market with a sleek, easy-to-use Android operating system, and will keep bringing forward new products and services until Apple tries to sue Google for “being a company”, since Apple obviously wrote the patent for “making a company”. Will that mean that Android will be better than iOS soon? Yes, but unfortunately, instead of being original and designing something better, Apple took the lazy route and hired a bunch of law students from top American universities and put them to work suing Google for a bunch of random products, with a bunch of random reasons (that, for some reason, are winning – but that’s another story altogether). I’m here to really talk about the usefulness of the only two applications I ever paid for on my Samsung Galaxy S2 4G (from Bell). The ones I speak of are “SetCPU”, and “SwiftKey X”. I also will talk quickly about useful free applications that I run in tandem with these ones to maximize my battery efficiency and essentially last two full days without needed a charge on medium-to-heavy usage (listening to music, constantly downloading songs, texting, calling, and surfing / playing games), which basically brings the phone above any kind of usability that any previous smartphones had when it came to fast battery drains.

A bit of background on myself, though, so the Apple fanboys

don’t dump all over my “credentials” before I have a chance to make a counter-argument. I’ve been a smartphone owner for a little over three years – my most previous purchase being in July 2011, when I acquired the SGS2. I upgraded the basic operating system to Android 2.3.5, since the stock 2.3.3 kernel kept crashing on me for ridiculously stupid reasons (oh hey, I want to open an internet browser – NOT ANYMORE YOU DON’T! – aw, dangit, not again!), and rooted the phone, since I wanted to use some cool underlying features like underclocking and overclocking when needed. Before this, I was a proud owner of the iPhone 4, but hated the fact that everything was so slow and multi-tasking became impossible on such legacy hardware (dual-cores suck when the operating system can’t handle simple hardware acceleration). I had upgraded this to iOS5 when it came out, but I still wasn’t impressed with the thousands of problems that it had, and found bugs within the first four minutes of using it, causing me to burst into an uncontrollable rage that caused an earthquake in Virginia late last year. Simply put, I disliked this phone, and I disliked having to pay for 90% of my applications base, especially when I couldn’t even use 20% of that at the same time. Previous to this, in 2009 and 2010, I was given a BlackBerry Bold 9800 (the newest at the time) for work purposes – this was my first “real” introduction to smartphones, since before this, all I’d known were brickphones and simple dumbphones (some of which had keyboards, but still nothing useful like wi-fi or mobile data). I liked it, but disliked the fact that the operating system was so unstable that I found a way to “break” the original kernel to implement my own. My company had given it to me specifically not for that purpose, so I had to make sure I re-initialized it to the company settings before giving it back at the end of my term (before University began for me).

My past aside, I hope this tirade “qualifies” me for the rant about the two best (paid) Android applications that I will embark upon next issue.

Don’t forget to be
FOC-ingAwesome

Ferrets Don’t Have Midterms

Why should you?

Pictured on the right are two ferrets. They don’t have midterms. Not pictured on the right is you. You do have midterms. Somewhere in history the human race took a wrong turn.

A few million years ago, apes descended from the trees, and bravely faced the savannah. Ferrets didn’t. A few thousand years ago, humanity had spread out to many different continents, invented multiple different languages, and built vast civilizations. Ferrets hadn’t. A few centuries ago, humanity was exploring the world around it, laying the scientific groundwork for generations to come. Ferrets weren’t. A few decades ago, humanity had technology that allowed it to survive in the harshest of environments, including both poles, the bottom of the ocean, and space. Ferrets didn’t. Now it’s the present day. You’ve got midterms. Ferrets don’t.

Stop reading *mathNEWS* and go study.

Concealed



profQUOTES*Backreferenced edition*

We're releasing midterm grades this weekend. If I remember right, there's still a tuition refund...

Guenin, CO 250

(*looking at Katzquotes*) That will be photographed and put on my Facebook later.

Katz, MATH 239

Socrates really is like a 60's Soul singer.

Katz, MATH 239

I was playing a game where we were trying to find the most Canadian thing ever, and we came up with Brian Mulroney riding a moose into a pool full of maple syrup.

Katz, MATH 239

(*pointing to "Z" on board*) Look, I said Zed, not Zee. I just wanted to show sensitivity to your culture.

Katz, MATH 239

Proof by intimidation: the following is obvious.

Katz, MATH 239

I just lectured in lolcat.

Katz, MATH 239

I gave you a proof but I ate it.

Katz, MATH 239

See? [The program] will read some input and output that same input. It's practically a video game.

Cormack, CS 241

You've probably all heard about regular expressions on the street.

Cormack, CS 241

(*closing blinds*) There's too much light in here for Computer Science.

Mann, CS 251

Is there any difference between expectation and average? Expectation is just a more sexy term.

Wu, STAT 230

I'm going to call solution 1 the MATH 239 method Brute Force, which is not to be confused with what I'm going to call solution 4, Excessive Force.

Purbhoo, MATH 249

It's always nice to define cycle in the most cyclic way.

Purbhoo, MATH 249

Submit your *profQUOTES* to the BLACK BOX (by the Comfy Lounge) or email them to us at mathnews@gmail.com!

The Iron Man Challenge. Of Life.*As Opposed to Aluminium Man Challenge*

For some people, life is too easy. We float through life impervious to the trials and tribulations of the mere mortals around us. So, we make challenges so that life is actually interesting enough to bother ourselves with putting effort into it. From this is borne the various challenges people self-impose. These can range from the mundane, such as veganism, to the exciting, to the insane. In the last category, I propose the following "Iron Man" challenge, to be done with one's entire life (from the point at which one is capable of accepting the challenge).

The end goal is to make it to the age of 100 without dying. In the event of death, one must start a new life if one wishes to continue with the challenge. This must be done sufficiently far in the future such that one cannot use a life for the sole purpose of improving a future life.

However, life is subject to the following conditions:

- All things that are accepted as facts must be explicitly proven from basic axioms.
- All travel must be done either on foot, a machine built by the individual, or an animal tamed by the individual.
- All food must be processed at some point by the individual. In the modern world, it is all but impossible for an individual to grow all his or her own food.
- Physical fitness must be kept at the maximum possible level. This is subject to health concerns and body type.
- Clothing and shelter must all be done by the individual whenever possible. Clothing should be sewn using mechanical tools, shelter built by hand.
- No credit should be used. No money should be borrowed, though lending is permitted.
- Never be an employee of anyone else.

If anyone actually manages to achieve all of these, I will be amazed.

MeaninglessQuips

FedS Election Results*Shocking Upset in the Senate*

When the FedS election results were announced on February 17th, there were a couple major upsets when it came to who got elected to which seat. First and foremost was the landslide win for Declined, who won the Senator-at-Large to 2014 by a hefty margin of 142 votes, and nearly snatched up the Senator-at-Large to 2013 seat as well, narrowly losing to Sean Hunt.

Declined wasn't expected to garner that many votes this year, as she was running against two heavyweights, Chanakya "What's-his-name" Ramdev and Waleed "Oh yeah that guy" Tahir. Both of the opposing candidates ran solid, efficient campaigns, carefully calculating the positions of their posters such that the bare minimum was needed to target voters. There was a lot of buzz concerning this position, as most students questioned had no clue what the position was for, or that there was even an election going on. Voters had simply assumed that the seat would be acclaimed, like most of the faculty seats.

Declined refused to be reached for comment, and many pundits are assuming that her tenure will be just like her campaign: filled with apathy and non-action, but will still be praised for at least being more compelling than the alternatives.

!ED

The Fight for Study Space Begins

Some of us need an alternative place to study where there are no distractions to ruin your concentration but the sound of the person breathing next to you. The main locations to study on campus, besides the faculty lounges, are the Davis Centre and Dana Porter libraries. During this time of the semester, midterms are coming up and the competition for seating gets more intense. Being one of these people who can't study at home, I'm always on the search for a spot at the library. Here are some guidelines on how to score the best study space.

First of all, you have to get there at the right time, otherwise you'll end up sitting on an uncomfortable chair and get distracted by the graffiti written all over the desk. The best time to get the prime seating is to show up at opening hours, between 5:30-6:00 PM and on weekend evenings. This is when people are arriving for their class, leaving for dinner, or going to drink after spending 7 hours of straight-up studying. Unless you're willing to give up your seat and head home, you have to dedicate an extreme number of hours. It's best if you pack a sandwich or food that doesn't smell or make a lot of noise like a bag of chips. If you're going to leave to make Timmy breaks, keep it under 20 minutes. Otherwise, the hired librarians will get on your case after 30 minutes of absence and move all your stuff to the circulation desk. Always bring a sweater when you're at DC because there is usually a cold draft. But be prepared to strip when you're at DP as the cubbies are right next to the heater.

Also, one important point in getting the best study space depends which floor and side of the library you're residing. When at DP, the best floor and seats would have to be either along the windows on the first floor or on the third floor with the electrical outlets on the mahogany desks. The rest of the floors are filled with awful graffitied desks with those uncomfortable chairs and you must crawl under the desk to find the electrical outlet. Not to mention you can sometimes hear the sound of flushing toilets from the bathrooms next door.

At DC, on the other hand, the right side of the room and the small corner on the front left side are obviously the best spots. The lighting on the desk has never failed me, the seats are so comfy that people actually fall asleep, and noise level is down to a minimum. However, avoid the left side of the room at all costs unless you're willing to deal with the noise coming from the group study and uncomfortable chairs. If you follow these guidelines you'll have a better chance of getting a good seat.

Disclaimer: This may not apply for exam time, so good luck because you're on your own!

Blinds from C&D and Comfy Stolen

After Reading Week, a few most astute students noticed that the blinds in the C&D and Comfy went missing. Eyewitnesses state that several people who claim to be from MathSoc council came in in the middle of the night took them down, and shipped them away from eyesight. Flagging down the ActSci and PMAMCO councilors of the term, they informed the press that of all the MathSoc meetings they have attended, no such motion or resolution had been passed. Thus, we hypothesize that the engineers, of whom we supposedly have a degree of animosity with, came in during Reading Week posed as MathSoc councilors to do this dastardly act. What is to be done as retaliation is under debate, but apathy seems to run rampant – updates forthwith.



RISE AGAIN. RISE AGAINST.

HUMANS
VERSUS
ZOMBIES

WATSFC
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO WINTER 2012

INFO SESSION: MARCH 3
REGISTRATION: MARCH 5-9
GAME: MARCH 12-16

club
FEDERATION OF STUDENTS
University of Waterloo

UWHUMANSVSZOMBIES@GMAIL.COM

This Is Not High School

I swear, so many nerdy kids are trying to start drama with other kids. I guess to get here they probably had to spend all their time studying and never had a chance to be badass during high school and now want to catch up. To all the frosh, please stop trying to start drama with other kids in your class/program. It's really immature and you will probably end up getting beaten. Here are some other things you could do instead:

1. Read 9GAG. It's more mature than starting drama with people.
2. Practice martial arts. That way if the people you start drama with decide to fight you, you can box them right back.
3. Concentrate on making friends through your great personality than trying to backstab everyone else you know to look cool. It's pretty lame.
4. If your friends are peer-pressuring you to start drama with someone and you don't want to, consider making new friends.
5. Lastly, stop hating on each other. You're all frosh, you're all equally lame.

nyanocat

Russian Reviews

Realm of the Mad God

- wow factor
- graphics
- animations
- sound
- mechanics

Zethar

Soviet Canadian

gridCOMMENTS

Prizes: The Most Hated Concept on Earth?

Apparently, people really hate winning prizes. The idea seems to be abhorrent to most of you, considering the lack of submissions. Opening up the **BLACK BOX**, the closest thing I could find to a submission for the *gridWORD* was an old, used straw. (For the record, the **BLACK BOX** is not a garbage can, people. The garbage can is a couple feet away from it.)

If someone would like to claim that the old, used straw I found was theirs, I will retroactively declare them the winner of last issue's *gridWORD*, because I'm that starved for submissions. I'd be OK with not giving out prizes if the editors allowed me to get the prizes that would have been distributed. But they won't. Jerks.

Submit a piece of paper with your name on it to the black-BOX before 6:30pm on March 12th and you have infinitely increased your chance of winning a prize. This issue's *gridQUESTION* is "" and in the case of equally blank submissions, the answer to the *gridQUESTION* will be used as a tie-breaker.

Totally not arguing with a straw, man,
moment

Cryptic Clues

Bdsptt

1. Note: toils are part-owner
6. Tell a story with another Earl
7. Large scale program
10. Epic floor
11. Repeats, "I have this clue that repeats, "I have..."
14. Common side game
16. Walk-on arrived to nothing
17. Butler beer in Vermont
19. Decline in condition
21. Appear with the graceful reveal
22. Ringo is a celebrity, I hear
24. Horrible harmonic hook
26. Shortening frosting
27. Corner bar where one scratches?

Epxo

1. Ring reorganized tours
2. My farm Holmes?
3. Disorderly dusty den
4. Choosing to adapt fundamentally
5. Command to head off towards the tree
8. Capital with 100 leading maracas
9. Hatred is one of unlimited platforms
12. Director of nothing in a line in a hill
13. Don't start, in the middle of nowhere, to act
14. Ha, a third of the vocalists are in complete chaos.
15. Visible contraction in mineral
18. Brilliant boxing I'm bound
20. Unsafe fragment of hormonal imbalance
22. Character in green feast patronage?
23. Code Red: villain
25. Seedy partner to Bolt

Ambiguous Video Game Quiz

The regular writer this week somehow forgot about this, so column has fallen upon me, Zethar, again. However, since I have yet to do my assignment due tomorrow and other miscellaneous commitments, so I'm going to keep this short. Thankfully for me, Scythe Marshall is the only person who submitted things, so here are his answers:

1. Good designs are good

Spore – It'd help to design your creatures so that they could theoretically survive. (And not look phallic; cf. Ctrl-Alt-Del, 2008-06-27)

2. You must pass to pass

Pokémon – Post RBY, Baton Pass is a remarkably useful move in the meta-game, so as to "pass" others in the rankings. Or just be a jerk.

3. You can't fail to fail

The Classroom: The online flash game series where you cheat on tests. One game has you involved in a gunfight, where almost everyone dies. Presumably you failed that test.

I would like to make an apology to the statement about Scythe Marshall winning three times in a row, apparently shoddy memories has me in error. However, apparently this would give him the third time in a row. However, without further ado, here are this week's questions:

1. So how does that work?
2. Where are your parents?
3. Retreat, retreat!

Everyone, please submit your witty responses to the questions above to the **BLACK BOX** before March 12th (the next *mathNEWS* production night) at 18:30. Do remember that thinking outside the box and giving witticisms would earn you favour with the judges, so do go the extra mile to do just that. Hopefully more entries are submitted, else someone can also bet against nobody else submitting, and by extrapolation, is a likely event.

Zethar

Straight Clues

Across

1. Shifting ground
6. Vlad III's title (not Dracula)
7. Atmosphere
10. Weasley owl
11. Chavez republic
14. K9
16. Cool! (see 1960s)
17. Rink, ring, or field
19. Took back
21. A female en pointe
22. Fathoms twice as much?
24. Non-numerical digit
26. Most repulsive
27. Demeanour

Down

1. Self-replicating program
2. Threatened
3. Superman's name
4. Farewell (classily)
5. 555
8. Sheldon Cooper's punchline
9. Farewell (less classily)
12. Ghastly
13. Audibly
14. Back-up
15. Cloche or beret
18. Panache
20. Abrogate
22. In Soviet Russia, joke invent him!
23. Lecher
25. Genuflect

Horrorscopes

ACTSCI: While your program is known to have a ridiculously high average pay for co-op, you seem to have a hard time securing a job. They aren't as many people hiring as there used to be. You suck up your pride and go to Tim Horton's, resume in hand.

Your unlucky number is: \$10.25/hour.

AHS: You head to CIF for your daily workout, and see that they've set up a new machine. You're told to read the manual, but you ignore the warnings and try out the equipment anyway.

Your unlucky number is: 4 strained leg muscles and a broken loom.

AMATH: Left alone on campus during reading week, you discover the thrills of dropping bouncy balls down the staircase of DP. You decide to model the kinetics of the balls with each bounce, and try to figure out the initial velocity needed to ensure that it'll still bounce up 5 feet when it hits the ground level.

Your unlucky number is: 28 m/s. You'd better start working out your arm, and not just your wrist.

ARCH: In your world architecture class you learn about the Sagrada Familia, the cathedral that has been under construction in Spain for the past 130 years. You figure that you can finish it as your next co-op project.

Your unlucky number is: 4 months in Barcelona, but still won't be finished until 2027.

ARTS: You audition for a part in a play at the local theatre. Amazingly, they let you into the show, and say that they'll give you the script next week. You wait, and when you finally get handed your role, you're completely excited.

Your unlucky number is: 2 acts as the tree, apparently they thought your acting was wooden.

C&O: Among your various networks of friends, you realize that you're sometimes the only link between two of your social graphs. Congratulations, you're living as an edge! You change your fashion sense to reflect this revelation.

Your unlucky number is: 3 pairs of hot leather pants, and a sick pair of shades.

CS: Jealous that your SE counterparts get an iron ring when they graduate, you start a petition that CS students should receive something special to commemorate their 5 years of studying. After all, you're pretty much the same as SE...

Your unlucky number is: One slip of paper signifying your graduation from this institution.

Double Degree: Going to two universities isn't enough for you anymore; you have become obsessed with collecting student ID cards. You apply to Guelph, Western, UBC, and Dalhousie, and get accepted to all of them.

Your unlucky number is: 10 minutes to get from Halifax to Vancouver for your next class.

ENG: In a move surprising everyone, you decide to take over Imprint. With full control over their board of directors, you start turning Imprint into a publication extolling the superiority of engineering to the other faculties. The Iron Warrior falls into obsolescence.

Your unlucky number is: 210% increased readership as you finally print something that at least someone wants to read.

ENV: With the weather warming up, the farmers' market opens early. At one of the stalls you see a student selling brownies,

and decide to buy some. Strangely, he only takes cash and doesn't tell you his real name. You soon forget after eating a brownie, and stay chill for the rest of the day.

Your unlucky number is: 5 grams per square.

Grad: You're given a stack of midterms to mark, but you don't have time to go through them all and still work on your thesis. You hire a high schooler to mark for you, and you finish your project.

Your unlucky number is: Peace of mind for \$9.60/hour.

KI: Lulled into a false sense of security after submitting a connect-the-dots to mathNEWS, you think that there won't be a Horrorscope attacking you this week. All hope is lost when you read this and realize that the writer is able to read your mind and tell you what you're thinking.

Your unlucky number is: 6 levels deep into your head, and ready to plant some ideas.

MATH/BUS: As a Leafs fan, you begin to see the writing on the wall and realize that there isn't a single hope for your favourite team to make the playoffs again this year. You can still make a profit, though, and exploit the fans who think that it'll happen next year.

Your unlucky number is: 8 straight years of disappointment.

MATH PHYS: You invent teleportation because you are tired of slipping on the ice outside. The machine is finicky though, and you don't end up anywhere near your intended destination.

Your unlucky number is: 80 minutes late to your midterm.

PMATH: You didn't have any friends to meet up with during reading week, and actually spent the week studying and doing your homework. You somehow have all of this week's assignments done well before they are do, and wonder what to do with your free time. Someone introduces you to Minecraft.

Your unlucky number is: 6 sides of a block, but can be used to build infinite things.

SCI: Your mutated bunny experiment doesn't go as planned when it bites off the head of your lab partner. You find a grenade lying about, and use that to put it down.

Your unlucky number is: Not two, not four, but three seconds to count before you kill it with explosives.

SE: Spending all of your reading week working on UI, you decide to take this week off instead for your much needed break. You neglect to tell the profs about this and miss 3 midterms.

Your unlucky number is: 30% lower average.

STAT: You're introduced to playing Magic: the Gathering, and soon realize that it's too expensive to buy the cards you need, but it's too unlikely to pull them in a pack. You try to devise a method to maximize your chances of successfully getting what you want.

Your unlucky number is: Buying all 36 packs in the box.

Teaching Option: Applying to Queen's, you realize that you have no experience with teaching children. You start approaching people on the street asking them if they could leave their kids with you.

Your unlucky number is: Not allowed within 100m of minors.

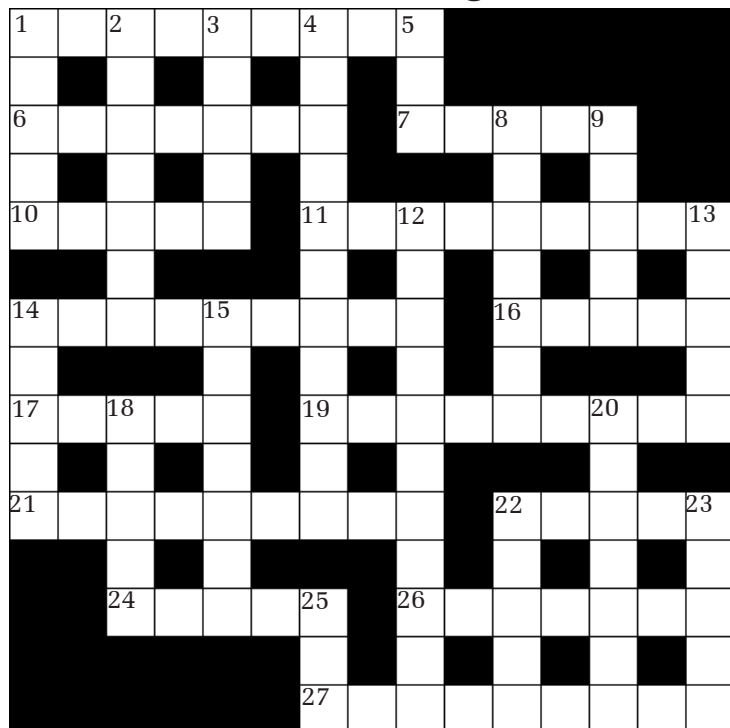
Undeclared: You aren't sure as to where your life will lead you, and put off declaring for yet another term. Decision day has been delayed for another time; you can now focus on your regular life.

Your unlucky number is: 8 more months before you choose.

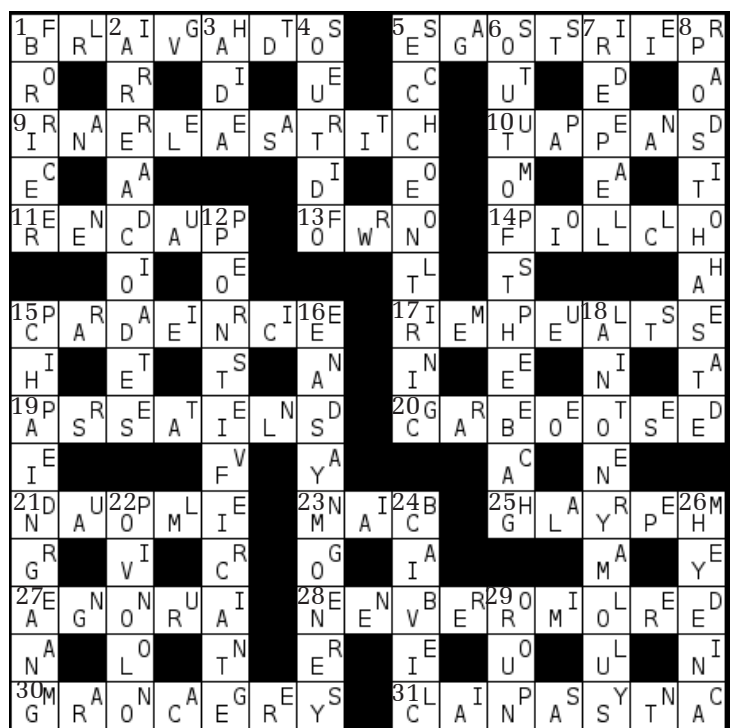
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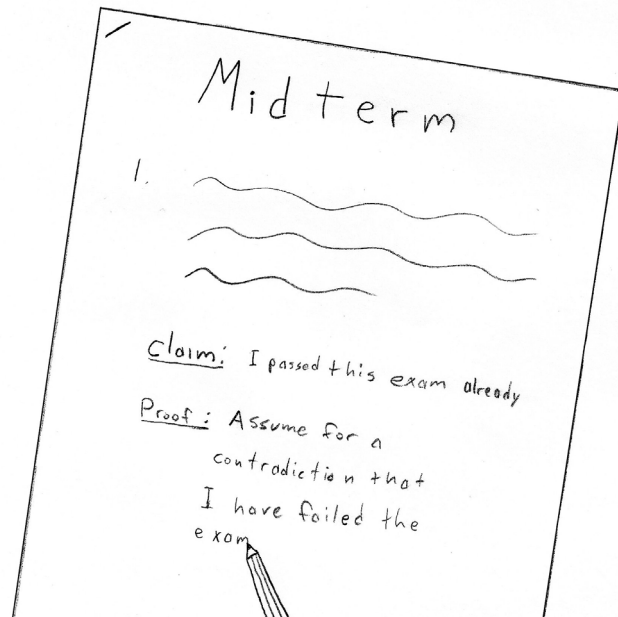
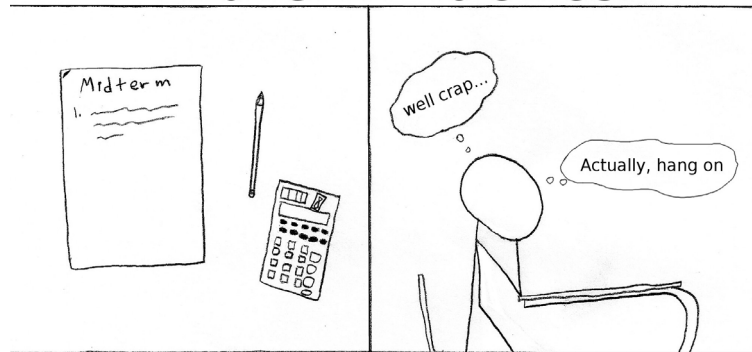
This week's grid



Last week's grid



Alternative Midterm Tactics



Submit your solutions to the **BLACK BOX** (by the Comfy Lounge) and don't forget to answer the *grid*QUESTION!