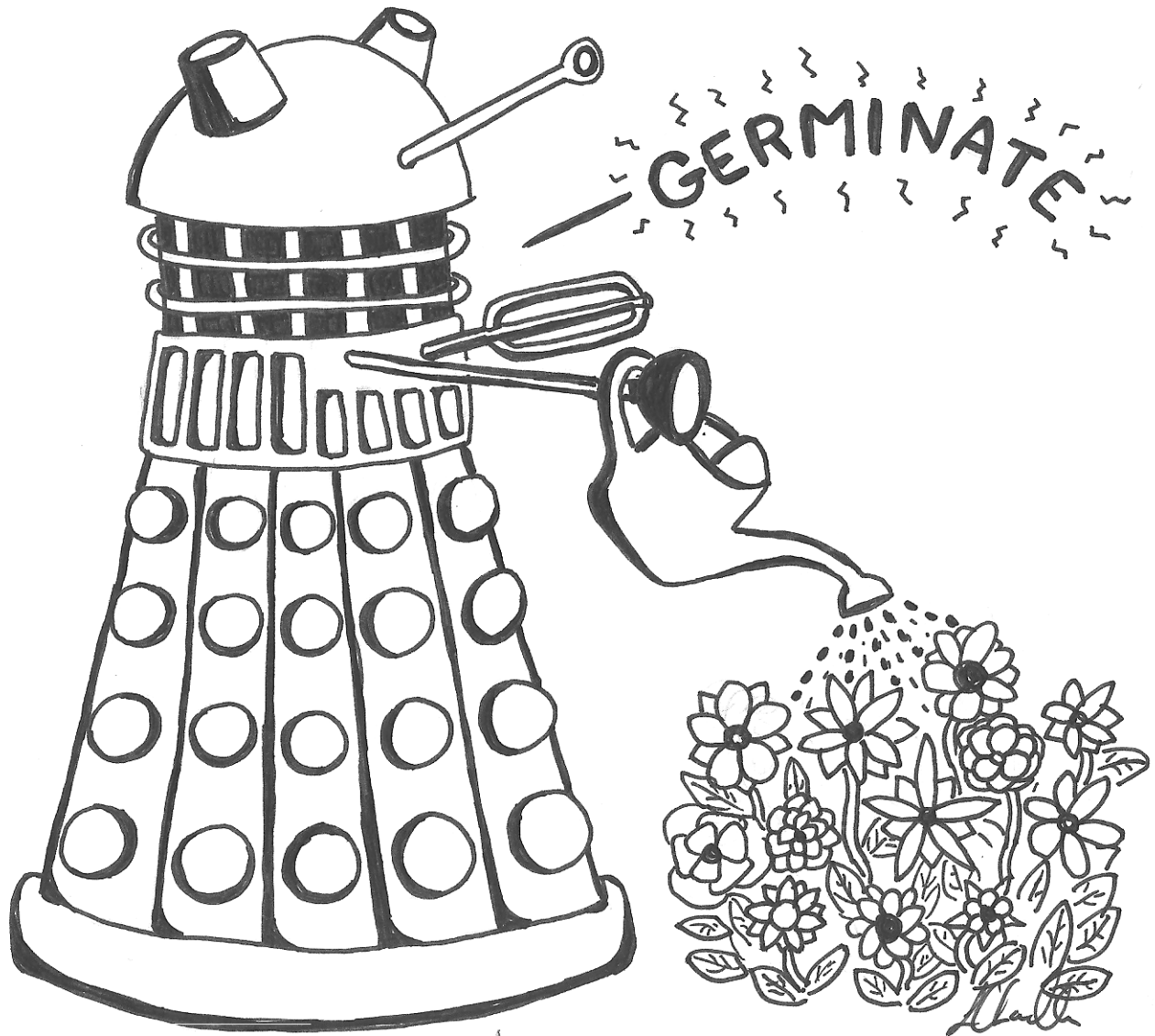


math NEWS



Volume 121, Issue 2
Friday, February 1st, 2013

lookAHEAD**MathSoc**

Tuesdays Games Nights in the Comfy

mathNEWS

Feb. 1 Issue #2 is released to the wild
 Feb. 11 Production #3 stays up late
 Feb. 15 Issue #3 goes home early

University

Feb. 6 Job Fair in RIM Park
 Feb. 7 FedS Debate
 Feb. 18-22 Reading Week

Misc

Feb. 4 Create a Vacuum Day
 Feb. 12 Abraham Lincoln, Vampire Hunter's Birthday
 Feb. 14 Valentine's Day
 Feb. 15 Cheap Chocolate Day

GAMES Sez

Everybody loves board games, right? Yes, I'm asking you specifically if you like board games. If you do, show up to the Math C&D* on Tuesday nights after 6:30 PM, and play games. Also, there will be snacks and drinks, freely available to participants. So show up, play games, and snag some free food. It's also a great way to socialize and have fun with other people, for those who enjoy that sort of thing.

* Third floor of the MC, one of the two big rooms along the south corridor

DanInTheHat

ISSN 0705—0410*Founded 1973*

mathNEWS is normally a fortnightly publication funded by and responsible to the undergraduate math students of the University of Waterloo, as represented by the Mathematics Society of the University of Waterloo, hereafter referred to as MathSoc. *mathNEWS* is editorially independent of MathSoc. Content is the responsibility of the *mathNEWS* editors; however, any opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of MathSoc or *mathNEWS*. Current and back issues of *mathNEWS* are available electronically via the World Wide Web at <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca/>. Send your correspondence to: *mathNEWS*, MC3046, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, or to userid.mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca on the Internet.

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Robot Roll Call: !ED(Jon Pertwee), GingerbrED(Matt Smith), ScruffyED(David Tennant), ObjectED(Tom Baker)

mastHEAD

So there's this thing called the Super Bowl happening this weekend. According to my father, it's a time for dudes to sit around a (rather large) TV, eating buffalo wings and other things their wives would otherwise never let them touch, yelling at professionals to do better even when they care for neither team. I've also heard something about beer, but my dad hates beer, so he didn't mention it.

According to our resident sports reporter, Scythe Marshall, it's the annual championship game of the National Football League (NFL), the highest level of professional American football in the United States, culminating a season that begins in the late summer of the previous calendar year (Scythe Marshall may have been unreachable for comment at time of writing, thus was [potentially] replaced with a Wikipedia article. This is a transition from normal, as I often use him as a Wolfram Alpha proxy.). Considering we're the media, by some very generous definition of media, and the Super Bowl is the largest event of the everything (again, according to my dad), we asked our writers to cover the game.

After many confused looks, and several hours of "Football Appreciation Classes" to explain the sport, most everyone in the room decided football was stupid. The "barbaric, homoerotic war proxy" (as described by one offended *League of Legends* fan) just seemed too ridiculous to be a real sport to the entirety of *mathNEWS*.

Apparently, "grown men running around in padding giving each other concussions and broken bones" counts as a sport. What sport would you like to make up?

DanInTheHat ("Professional zero-gravity human foozball, 'Nuff said."), Zethar ("Competitive 1000 Blank White Cards."), Beyond Meta ("Card games on motorcycles"), theSMURF ("making up sports."), because_its_hard ("one where the winner is whoever can strip fastest."), maplebaconburgr ("Major League Farmville."), Element118 ("Nuclear Reactor Water Polo Fisticuffs"), cotton candy ("Puking competition."), Big Mak ("Professional Professor Professing"), unit ("Iterated wreath products."), Soviet Canadian ("The Battle Room from *Ender's Game*. 30 children go in..."), GingerbrED ("Synchronized complaining."), moment ("Competitive piano tuning."), (define this (not cool)) ("Mud Wrestling, but male."), waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca ("Cleaning N tonnes of snow off n cars."), ScruffyED ("Multi-event rules lawyering."), Nietzsche ("Calvin Ball."), MustardMap ("Danger Wanking"), Scythe Marshall ("Professional Zero Wing League: 'Who can have the most base belong to them?'"), k! ("Competitive rabbit-cuddling").

("There's this guy with a stick. And then he stands at a plate.

No not a dinner plate you asshole, a plate, like a shield or something. And then, this other guy, he throws a ball at him. A hard one. Fast. 100 Miles per Hour or something. Then the first guy, he hits it with his stick — it's not impossible, have some faith — and then he runs around until the other guy's team hits him with the ball. Yeah, you're right, it's stupid.")

ObjectED

Sweet and Sour

Sour Lemons – A Course Reduction

If you were a 1A student who failed one or more courses in the fall term, your course load has been reduced for the Winter term. Why?

As an academic advisor in math, I and my colleagues have sadly noted the following pattern: A student takes 5 courses in term 1, and fails 2. This student subsequently takes 5 courses in term 2, and fails 2. The maximum number of failures a student can have is 6 in honours math; so within 4 terms this particular student will no longer be in the faculty.

The best thing about UW Math is that the instructors/advisors here truly care about you. We do not want to see you fail. We want you to succeed. By giving you a course reduction, we hope to break the pattern. We hope that by taking fewer courses you will see that:

- Your average goes up.
- You don't fail/WD...
- You are enjoying your education more than before.

Make Lemonade – Sweet!

You now have an opportunity to see if your average increases... etc. You also have a little more spare time that you can use to take a sport or join a club or make new friends; things that perhaps you couldn't do before. Is this permanent?

This rule only affects students in 1A/1B. After this, your load will be reset at 5 courses. The faculty will not again interfere with your course load, using this policy. As Stan Lee says, with great power comes great responsibility – so be careful!

"How can I catch up?" I would ask you if this is the right question. This is not a race. If, however, you are desperate to get a few more courses under your belt, here are a few ideas:

- As a co-op student you can take a course on a work term; and you may be able to take courses during the off term some of the sequences have.
- As a regular student you can take courses in the summer/spring.

As always, if you have any questions, please see your academic advisor: <http://math.uwaterloo.ca/math/current-undergraduates/academic-advisors>

Riley Metzger

VPE SEZ

Hello Mathies,

In the next two weeks we have a bunch of events coming up.

- Tomorrow: Ski Trip to Blue Mountain : \$60 for Lift Ticket and Transportation, register in the MathSoc office.
- Saturday February 9th: Cubing competition, there will also be a presentation about how to solve Rubik's cubes blindfolded.

WatSFic Sez

Hello Mathies. WatSFic (the Waterloo Science Fiction and Fantasy Club) is continuing to meet every week, and host events. Our various schedules are:

- We will be hosting our annual D&D tournament again this term, on Saturday March 23rd. It's a lot of fun, with many folks from out of town showing up to play D&D and compete for prizes.
- We will be running a book club this term, on "The Long Earth", by Terry Pratchett and Stephen Baxter. If you want to participate, you will need to obtain a copy.
- We will be hosting another HvZ event this term, with details as yet undecided.
- Movies on every other Wednesday night from Feb 6, at around 19:00, in PHYS 150. Reading week does not affect this schedule.
- Games Days every other Saturday from Feb 2nd in the MC Comfy Lounge (MC 3001), starting from around noon. This weekend, we will also be running Artemis, a video game that places you on the bridge of a star ship, Star Trek style, as you fight off fleets of enemies. Bring a laptop if you plan to play – it's FREE!
- RPGA (for roleplaying games like D&D) every Friday at 7PM, in MC 2017.
- FNM (Friday Night Magic, for those interested in Magic the Gathering) every Friday at 6PM in MC 2034.
- General meetings every Wednesday at 6PM in PHYS 150. Fun times and important topics are had.

We hope to see you at some of our events,

Daniel Resnick

WatSFic VP/Minister of Propaganda, W13

Attention Magic Players: Interested in a Commander League?

Hey prospective Magic players in Math! I'm looking to organize a Commander League on campus. What's a Commander league, you ask? A good article explaining what I'm talking about can be found here: <http://www.gatheringmagic.com/building-a-commander-league-part-1/>. If you are interested in participating in such a league, please send me an email (dtaleman@uwaterloo.ca) with the following information: Your contact information, and what day(s) of the week you are most available during the evenings. If I hear enough interest, I'll start organizing the nights, figuring out costs (likely free), and working out prize support.

(define this (not cool))

- Tuesday-Thursday 12th-14th : Valentine's day : We will be selling roses from the 12th-14th and will be having an event in the evening of the 14th.

Stephane Hamade

N Reasons to Get Your Girlfriend to Tabletop

- It's a bonding experience
- It's a bondage experience
- The RPG aspect of it translates well to other areas of life
- Roleplay is always fun
- One step closer to convincing her to put on sexy costumes
- She's the only one that can help you against the Gazebo
- She will start acting like a cat and will begin killing things to impress you.
- It'll teach her all of your fantasies
- It's easier to wipe juice off of the table than cleaning the sheets
- She'll have a great Great Cleavage
- She can have the Pull Mastery
- Rogues can do it from behind
- You'll be the envy of all of your friends
- Good way to practice your grapple check.
- For the Emperor!
- She already has her own WD 20s
- It'll give her intimate knowledge of your dragon
- It'll give you intimate knowledge of her dungeon
- You can show her your +5 bursting longsword
- You'll have an excuse to put on your robe and wizard hat
- Because it's really fun

The *mathNEWS* crew

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

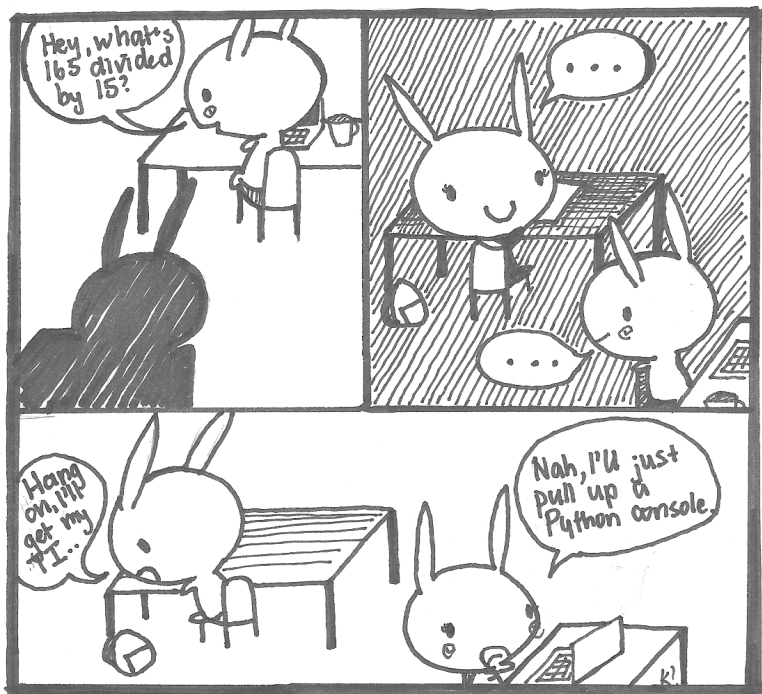


fig2. We are math majors, right?

MFCF Sez

MC 3009 Renovations

The Windows PCs in MC 3009 have reached their end-of-life and MFCF is considering how to repurpose the room to best suit students' needs. The popularity of the collaboration room in MC 3011 suggests that a similar configuration would be the most effective use of the space. Some ideas are:

- New desks and chairs
- Some desks with large widescreen displays for connecting to personal laptops
- Rearranging furniture into smaller groups
- One row of standalone terminals for general use.

Please take a few minutes to help MFCF understand students' priorities in a brief survey at:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/XMPH2LF

Please note that any new desktop computers that are installed into MC 3009 in the future will be thin clients rather than Windows desktops. There is a significant amount of overhead (hardware, software, security) involved in maintaining a large number of standalone PCs, while the thin clients can be more efficiently managed and can provide access to different environments (e.g. Windows or Linux). Therefore MFCF will concentrate on making the thin clients as flexible as possible and dealing with the most commonly reported issues (related to performing course-related tasks).

Note that the thin clients will read your USB flash drive: log into Nexus and navigate to Computer from the Start menu, and the drive should show up in the left-hand pane. Please visit the Help Centre in MC 3017 if you have problems.

MFCF is also aware of sound issues with some of the thin clients and is working to correct this problem. If you are aware of any other issues with the thin clients (that hinder your course-related work), please let us know; either visit the Help Centre in MC 3017 or email mathtech@uwaterloo.ca.

Wireless Printing to the Math Self-Serve Printers

If you have a Nexus account, you should be able to print wirelessly from your personal laptop to the MFCF self-serve printers. Instructions are available for Windows and Macintosh:

http://webtest.mfcf.uwaterloo.ca/wiki/index.php/Wireless_Printing

If you have problems or questions, please visit the MFCF Help Centre in MC 3017, or email. MFCF

mineCRAFT

Drop your Minecraft username in the BLACK BOX to be whitelisted on our server. (129.97.134.134)

N Reasons to Watch FASS!

Waldo is excited to be a part of another theatre production!

- See student government and the actual government get mocked profusely!
- Jokes and puns galore!
- The show is right on campus in Hagey Hall! It's close enough to get to.
- Shipping and spoons
- Daleks, or poorly misrepresented Daleks, whichever techies prefer
- Inspired performances
- Props
- Whose Line is it Anyway?
- We've been doing this for over 50 years, we're bound to be good enough!
- You get to participate in the late show on Friday and add your own snarky comments to the script! (Usually this show is NOT for the faint of heart)
- Walls of text!
- Steam tunnels and large keys
- All the new FASSies that will be performing! Go support them! They're fresh!
- Musical numbers that will make the band go nuts!
- First-years (i.e. if you're in 1A or 1B) get to see the Thursday show for only \$2!!! What could be better?
- All the FASSies have been working on this for practically ALL of January, we kind of want people to see it otherwise we will all remain unfulfilled in our plight as wannabe-theatre geeks.

waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca

Russian Reviews: Star Ruler

For when you absolutely must shoot Jupiter-sized projectiles at that other guy.

Star Ruler is a basic 3D 4X (eXplore, eXpand, eXploit, eXterminate) strategy game built on top of a Newtonian Physics Simulator, with bad AI, a hard-to-balance economy, and plenty of things to research and construct. The true joy is designing ships and deploying a diverse fleet to crush the massive amount of enemies. You won't be designing the look of your ships, merely choosing the components, and the relative positions and scale of said components within the ship. You then have to make decisions on how long these ships will be operating, how far from your planets, and more so you know how much ammo/fuel to put in and the limitations of your fleet, as well as any needs for supply ships to keep your fleet operating away from home.

The game is not the best, and I am constantly baffled by the scales used, but even so, it is fun to watch my thousand strong fleet set off to do battle, then watching the battle as it unfolds, pausing to give orders, and maybe designing a new ship that I think will help.

Soviet Canadian

FASS for President!

A scandal hits the Feds President and execs, forcing an election to be called. Rich kid enters race and seems likely front runner with his crack team of advisers bought and paid for. The advisers bombard UW students with Robocalls to ensure victory, despite being told of their potentially dangerous nature. An underdog candidate is convinced to enter the race by a crazed sociology grad student who is desperate to put their research to the test. Underdog ends up trouncing the Front Runner in a debate.

Unbeknownst to anyone the Robocalls are controlled by an Artificial Intelligence which decides neither candidate is sufficient. They brainwash everyone in order to win the election and take Front Runner and Underdog captive at the end of Act 1. At the start of Act 2 the AI has assumed power and begins wreaking havoc by trying to solve issues with cold, robotic logic. Eventually a group of UW students form a resistance and manage to free Front Runner, Underdog and the Inventor of the AI, who knows how to defeat the AI threat...

Showtimes are:

- Thursday, February 7th at 8:00pm
- Friday, February 8th at 7:00pm & 10:30pm
- Saturday, February 9th at 7:00pm

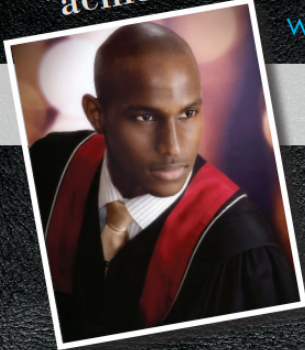
Prices are:

- Thursday Advanced \$6.99 (for First Year Students \$2.00)
- Thursday @ Door \$9.00
- Regular Advanced \$10.00
- Regular @ Door \$12.00
- Group Advanced \$6.99
- Group @ Door \$9.00

Humanities Theatre, UW. Tickets available at the Humanities Theatre box office 519-888-4908 (The 10:30 pm Friday show encourages audience participation. Not for the easily offended) Website: www.fass.uwaterloo.ca

wibz


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FedS Candidate Impressions

It's the end of January, which means that the annual fluff-fest/popularity contest known as the Federation of Students election is underway. The Federation of Students (more commonly known as FedS), the main student government on campus, is an important (and often-forgotten) group that serves the entire undergraduate student body. The upcoming elections are to replace the main executive positions, VP Internal, VP Education, VP Finance, and President. As seems to be the trend, these candidates have allied together into teams, turning this more and more into a party-based election, with an odd independent running for president. After attending the first of the main candidate debates (hosted by *The Imprint*), these are the impressions that I have formed of each candidate:

VP Internal

Devin Drury (Team Yellow): Doesn't really seem to know what he is doing, but once he does know he'll use all of the resources available to him to get it done. Has had prior experience with FedS, and feels that CRT requires more funding because of the (justifiably) high equipment costs. Agrees with his opponent.

Mujeeb Durani (Team Teal): Doesn't have any idea what he's doing either, but at least knows enough acronyms to get himself by in the debates. Feels that the International Student Connection requires more funding and support, and that it would be more effective if partnered with the university. Agrees with his opponent.

VP Education

Adam Garcia (Team Yellow): The current VPE and running for reelection, his biggest claim to fame is lowering FedS status in CASA (a big student association) and thus saving \$25000 in funding. Student success a mid-level priority, fostered good connection with pharmacy.

Christina Romualdo (Team Teal): Active in student affairs, former don, was provincial affairs commissioner for FedS. Student success a high priority, has fostered good connection with Architecture. Had previously run for this role last year as well, but lost to Garcia.

VP Finance

Natasha Pozega (Team Yellow): Assistant Manager at the Bomber, knows what she's doing and is approaching FedS as a business requiring clients, instead of as a service to the students. No prior experience with student government.

Elizabeth McFaul (Team Teal): Three-time MathSoc Prez, has had experience managing large budgets both in class and in MathSoc, and understands the bigger picture of a student government. Wants to start a grocery store on campus.

President

David Collins (Team Yellow): All candour and little substance, his platform seems to attract student attention by saying controversial statements. Wants to reduce student apathy by creating a division to gather student input. Sensitive of student needs for new student building.

Jesse McGinnis (Team Teal): Most measured of the three candidates, has had lots of previous experience as a two-time FOC and FedS member. Wants to make FedS more transparent and student driven.

Moe Bdeir (Independent): Seems to have the engineering mentality of "I don't like how it's working, so I might as well do something to fix it." Heart's in the right place, but has no prior experience.

Big Mak

Rainbow Mathies 26

Queer Positive? Apply to be an Orientation Leader!

Orientation Week has been a huge part of my university identity. I've been involved in many different capacities, performing a diverse collection of roles, across three different faculties (if you can count Cross Campus as a faculty). Some of my closest friends, as well as some of the more influential people in my life, I met because of the week. Despite all of these wonderful things that OWeek has provided me, I'm one of the first to say that it has some growing to do. I don't want to spend yet another article going over these things, since it's been a common theme of my series. With that said, one of the biggest improvements we can make is having more leaders willing and excited to openly express their queer-positivity during the week! Are you someone who matches this description? If you think you'd do a great job and have a great time hanging out with and supporting new students, especially openly queer students, I'd strongly encourage you to apply!

Applications are open now, and as a math student you have a couple options. One choice is to apply for Math faculty, working with or organizing for other Math students most directly. Details on this application process can be found at <http://orientation.math.uwaterloo.ca>. You can also apply for Cross Campus orientation, which works on implementing large events like Monte Carlo, Move In, or Variety Night. I'd suggest

applying with them if you are an organization buff or would love to interact with a large variety of first years from all corners of campus. You can find details and apply at <https://leads.uwaterloo.ca/>. (Sorry about the shorter length of this article. Magic Prereleases have left your esteemed writer quite drained; expect to get back into the swing of things next issue!)

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 centre and its offerings, including a phone line at www.knowyourglow.ca. Counselling Services is always available to you; their offices are open 8:30-8MTWTh and 8:30-5F, located in Needles Hall across from Student Awards and Financial Aid. If you need support and assistance immediately, you can call the KW Distress Line at 519-745-1166. If you'd feel more comfortable speaking with someone from a queer specific service, please contact the LGBT Youthline at 1-800-268-9688. Finally, if you have any comments and concerns about this column, including ideas on topics you'd like to see, you can contact me at dtaleman@uwaterloo.ca.

Until next week,
(define this (not cool))

Math Orientation 2013

Apply NOW!

Visit MC4021 or apply on
leads.uwaterloo.ca



Student Caught Dead Wearing Ugly Sweater

Waterloo – 4th year student Stacey Grey was found dead in class on Wednesday after she was seen earlier on campus wearing a woolen sweater. After making many remarks a month ago when receiving the item, she was found lifeless at her desk when her lecture began.

“It’s awful,” says Jennifer Saunders, her best friend. “It was laundry day, and she didn’t have anything else to wear. I know that she hated that ugly thing, but I didn’t know that she would be serious about what would happen if she wore it.”

The coroner’s office is having a difficult time with the autopsy report. None of the morticians want to touch the woolen sweater, with white reindeer patterns prancing about the chest and red snowflakes adorned on the arms. Professionals at this time have speculated that if the sweater is removed without anybody looking, it can be safely disposed of.

More on this story as it develops,
Big Mak

Blanket forts

Blanket forts — surely these things belong to our childhood memories! As in, not for anyone whose age is in the double digits, or triple digits, for that matter. But the cozy cocoon of being surrounded by warm fuzziness, and in this case, multicoloured Christmas lights, should be available for everyone. In fact, I propose that we build a blanket fort in the comfy lounge! A happy place or a room of solace for any stressed-out math students who’ve overcommitted themselves to the many activities available to university students. There is very little more comforting and satisfying than being rocked to sleep by tons of twinkling multicoloured lights.

wibz



fig3. Networking Conference.

Mysterious Hauntings Resume on Campus

Waterloo — At 7:38 pm last night, Professor Brendan Walsh was disturbed from his office by a series of strange noises and thumping coming from the walls. Allegedly the noises lasted for approximately half an hour, before petering out with a sigh and a few small giggles.

“It was eerie,” says Walsh. “My desk was shaking, and my warm coffee spilt on my keyboard, completely frying it and halting any progress on my marking. I heard grunting and screaming, and I very nearly jumped under my desk in shock”.

“I looked outside my office, and all I saw were two students exiting the classroom next door. They looked rather flushed; they must have heard the noises too. The girl must have been so scared that her blouse had popped open.”

While paranormal activity isn’t uncommon on campus, with spikes around exam periods and reading week, this is the first reported case this term.

Big Mak

The Tale of Marmoset

<spoiler>Go get the new and improved Marmoset here: www.lishid.com/Marmo-UI </spoiler>

“Excuse me, but you have failed testNormal”, said Marmoset. For many, the Math and Computer building is a wonderful building to live in, and this was no different for Marmoset. That was long ago, when Marmoset was first programmed to be a good-looking and attractive male human being, and there were an abundance of females in Computer Science. His job was to accept code from CS students and politely inform them of the test results. One day, he allowed a drunk TA to write a test case which rejected all solutions containing an extra space. Punished by the god of CS, Marmoset was turned into a monkey with red and yellow stripes and was locked in the dark MFCF server room. Since then, students feed it code instead of bananas and it dumps test results from behind. According to rumors, this was one of the primary causes for the recent lack of female creatures within the faculty of CS.

Though things changed just recently. The wet halls inside the MC building have gained more ground due to snowy weather and an unlucky CS student ‘fell’ victim to the slipperiness, accidentally kissing Marmoset. The curse was suddenly removed and Marmoset quickly regained his original self. He is now attractive again – and hopefully he will continue to lure more girls to CS next year.

For those with a browser that can run userscripts (Chrome, Firefox and Opera), see the brand new Marmoset for yourself at www.lishid.com/Marmo-UI

theSMURF's Pro Tips for Interviews

Hello mathies! It turns out that of the people looking for co-op jobs this term, I'm in the senior level. The class of 2013 is graduating, and the class of 2014 is off-stream on co-op. As one of the "experts" in the area of acquiring jobs, here are some pro tips that are sure to increase your chances with employers. I mean, it's not like I have any desire to see you fail or anything like that. Just follow these, to the letter, and you'll definitely get an offer for every interview you have:

1. Arrive exactly 2.2 minutes later than the posted time. At this point, the interviewer should have pinged the paging desk at least once to inquire whether you are showing up or not. By doing this, you give them the slightest of hope that you have skipped the interview and they would get a break, which you then promptly crush by showing up. Thus, you establish your power and dominance over them, giving yourself an upper hand before the interview even starts.

2. When the interviewer is speaking, lightly tap your index and middle finger on the desk with irregular frequency and no pattern, occasionally alternating hands. Studies¹ have showed that this irregular tapping will distract the interviewer and disrupt the flow of their thoughts. Essentially, you make them stumble through their sentences and feel less intelligent. This way, when you show them your awesome $O(n^3 + |E|)$ (where $|E| = \#$ of edges in a graph with $n \times 2^3$ vertices and randomly generated edges between them) sorting algorithm they will applaud your problem solving skills.

1 From an episode of a TV show I watched ~4 years ago. I think it was from The Unit.

3. Either get sick or learn how to fake a cough very well. Then, during the interview, break into coughing fits when the interviewer is defining the problem for you. Halfway through the description of the problem, excuse yourself, and go to the bathroom. When you return, ask them to repeat the problem from the start, thus giving you more time to think. Alternatively, when there is a problem that you are stuck on, cough and excuse yourself. When outside of the room, use your smartphone to Google (or Bing, if your interview is with Google) the answer.

4. Help your interviewer get to know you better by preparing a montage [*paragraph deleted for being too drawn out of a How I Met Your Mother reference — ObjectED*].

5. This is just the tip of the iceberg. There are many other great ways to improving your chances during interviews that are outside of the scope of this article. These range from simple acts such as maintaining constant eye contact throughout the entire interview (up to the point where you close the door) to something extremely complicated involving a goat, two meters of dental floss and a bucket of yellow paint (the process takes about three pages to describe, so I won't go into details here).

So with that, I conclude my tips, and wish you luck in your upcoming interviews.
theSMURF

PD 1.2 – How to Impress Interviewers

Did you read my article last issue where I gave you a bunch of helpful and insightful advice about how to apply to co-op jobs? Did it work, and now you have so many interviews that you can barely attend class? If not, don't worry! I have a whole new batch of helpful advice to make you ace those few precious interviews you did get:

- One issue with interviews is that they're so repetitive and spaced out. Because of this, it is incredibly easy to forget which interviewer said what, which can lead to very awkward conversations later on! The solution to this is, quite simply, to take notes. You have to be careful to never let note-taking distract you from the interview at hand, but writing down the important points your interview mentions can be incredibly useful later on! Also, be sure to write down both a contact address for your interviewer and how much they would pay you. These are easy to forget about, but getting this information can come in handy!

- PD1, as a course, did a very good job of emphasizing the importance of researching the companies you are applying to. They fail to mention, however, that you can also research the actual person interviewing you! An interview is like a very personal battle between you and your interviewer. A friendly battle perhaps, but there is definitely competition nonetheless. Since knowing is half the battle, researching your interviewer in depth is an obvious step in your preparations! If your interviewer is a Waterloo Math alumnus, wear your pink tie to the interview! If they are an Engineering alumni, DO NOT wear your pink tie, and instead pretend you wish you were an Engineer too!

- One topic that is often brought up for debate when it comes to interviews is when you should wear a suit. Some people say that you should wear a suit to every interview, while others claim that any cool jobs would appreciate your fancy new jeans. The one thing you have to realize is that it matters less what you wear, and more how good you look! Most people look good in suits, which makes that a good bet, but really just look as cool as you can! Furthermore, if a job title is something along the lines of "Code Magician", feel free to put on your robe and wizard hat for an interview! You will have to put it on in the CECA basement to avoid the prudes at the front desk, but overall interviewers will be impressed by your dedication to the job!

Overall, the one trick to job interviews is to appear confident. This can be done by dressing up fancy, looking important while taking notes, and doing your research. This could be generalized by the fact that you should be prepared, but if you aren't prepared, at least make sure you look important while you are noting down what your interviewer says!

maplebaconburg

*Want to write for mathNEWS? Come join us at
MC 3038 on February 11th at 6:25 pm!*

Diploma

A university student aims to graduate, a wise one wants evidence of this graduation, and the wisest aims to have evidence that the evidence is worth anything. In order to graduate, a student must fill out forms. These forms declare what forms will later need to be filled out by other persons provided that prerequisite forms are correctly filled out. Filling out a form is easy, you say? Here is a counterexample: I want to prove my knowledge of chemistry so I must fill out these forms called “midterms” and “exams”. These forms can be difficult to fill out correctly, especially as your in-depth knowledge of thermo-nuclear reactions is not relevant 99% of the time.

Luckily, institutions provide forms called “transcripts” which serve as a record of your form-filling accuracy throughout your time there. Evidence that someone was once a student and has now graduated is stored on a form called a “diploma”. A diploma is a reward for having filled out enough forms in the correct prerequisite orders to make the transcript unnecessary. Unlike a transcript, a diploma contains virtually no information whatsoever. This is why it is often suggested as a wall decoration; unoffensive and meaningless.

Some people may find themselves dissatisfied with this reward for so much form filling effort. Odds are that those people are proud of the big numbers on their transcripts or feel that the diploma inadequately describes those hard earned 60s that barely scraped them through to the next round of forms. These people quickly realize that maybe one job in their entire life will feature an interviewer or manager that cares. People who graduate and find employment in a form-filling industry will likely have their form-filling history scrutinized, for obvious reasons.

In the event that a diploma is not enough, it can be easily supplemented. A detailed manifest of alcohol consumption during the form-filling period prior to the diploma will represent the difficulty of the achievement and the liquor stains on the document will match the beige. Picture evidence of time not spent filling forms is also in vogue; whether it takes the form of digital images, videos, gaming achievements, or trophies from intramural hockey. The key is that unless a livelihood is to be drawn from the filling of forms, it is the non-form-filling activities that define the student.

To translate for the mathematical readers: Some people aspire for a $\$x/\text{year}$ job with y kids and z_1 spouses, z_2 adulterous affairs, z_3 etc. where all variables involved are (hopefully) integers greater than 0. The relationship between these goals and a University education is trivial, so I leave the proof as an exercise to the reader. (I forgot my notes and can't do it on the spot)

Element118

Hey, *mathNEWS* is now over 40 years old!
We should be getting our mid-life crisis in 3...2....1....

Interesting Math

You may have heard about, or heard your PMathie friends talk about, “Fields” and “Rings”. Maybe you were curious. Maybe none of that is true, but you want to learn about some interesting math anyway.

At any rate, this column is intended as a sampler of these topics. Essentially, what a field or ring is, mathematically speaking, is a number system that supports basic arithmetic – addition, subtraction, multiplication – with the difference being that a field also supports division. These notions exist to generalize the numbers we’re used to dealing with (natural numbers, integers, rational numbers, real numbers, and complex numbers), which is of interest to mathematicians, and applicable to the sciences.

As a basic example, consider the notion of “odd” and “even”. When working in the integers, if you add two odd numbers or two even numbers, you get an even number, and adding an odd to an even gives an odd. Multiplying an even by anything gives an even, and multiplying an odd by an odd gives an odd. Look at the tables below to get a quick summary:

Table 1: Even-Odd Additions

+	even	odd
even	even	odd
odd	odd	even

Table 2: Even-Odd Multiplication

×	even	odd
even	even	even
odd	even	odd

Another example is “clock arithmetic”. Consider how you would figure out what hour it would be several hours from now – you add the hours, then reduce by multiples of either 12 or 24 (depending on your system). [An interesting exercise for the inspired reader is to consider what happens when you multiply an hour by some number, then reduce by multiples of 12 or 24, and what this means].

These two examples consist of a system of number-like objects (hours and classes of numbers) together with rules for addition and multiplication; mathematicians call such systems rings.

I hope these examples show that the things pure mathematicians study can actually be relevant and understandable. I’m fairly sure that most of you will have encountered these particular rules for addition and multiplication, and will have already used them yourselves.

Next issue, I hope to expand a little more on the particular type of ring that both these rings belong to – Integers modulo an integer (this is what modular arithmetic is).

Thanks for reading,
 DanInTheHat

A Brief (?) Sports Intermission

Surprise! We actually have an NHL season this year! The 48-game RACE TO THE FINISH </Super Smash Brothers announcer voice> started two Saturdays ago, and will last until the end of April, at which point the playoffs start. The Stanley Cup Finals are scheduled to finish by the end of June. Hopefully there isn't a game on Canada Day. That would not go over well.

In other news (pfft, who needs other sports news when hockey's back!?!1!?!one!), this weekend is Super Bowl weekend! The Baltimore Ravens play the San Francisco 49ers on Sunday, February 3rd, at 6:30 pm Eastern, in the New Orleans Mercedes-Benz Superdome. NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell cannot show his face in Louisiana without being mugged (what would happen is probably worse than what would happen to Bettman if he were to show up, well, anywhere), so we'll see who presents the winners with the trophy. Raven Ray Lewis is playing his last NFL game, 49er rookie QB Colin Kaepernick is making his 11th or so career start in the Super Bowl, and the brothers Jim (49ers) and John (Ravens) Harbough are coaching against each other; plenty of storylines for the masses to eagerly devour! Or, if you're like the rest of us, just to ignore while watching the commercials. RIM has a Blackberry 10 advertisement lined up for us! Make sure you're watching an American network feed, because CTV fails miserably at showing the commercials (which makes sense).

Note that the Toronto Blue Jays made a couple absolutely ridiculous trades this offseason, and now actually look dangerous, even in the AL Beast. Stay tuned for the season to start in April; hopefully this goes well! Also, perhaps in the future, there will be an article regarding how much of a complete and utter douchebag Jeffrey Loria is. Yes, this is necessary. Montréal will never be forgotten!

Happy watching!
Scythe Marshall

N Miscallenous Thoughts on Neopets!

Waldo has been quite distracted by this website lately.

- So many neopoints! MUST HAVE MOAR!
- OOHH! Pretty pixels and images! WANT.
- Do ALL the daily things!
- YAY! Flash games for mindless soothing-ness
- Selling items...makin' the monies....
- I like the word "miscellaneous"
- Key Quest = Rare items? I think so :D
- MOAR POINTS, MOAR POINTS, MOAR POINTS
- Randomly random-ness!
- 15 million points in the bank....still need MOAR!
- Wait, there's features on this site we have to pay ACTUAL money for? Mmeh, moving on.
- I'm glad I get to shut my mind off and just do pointless things on the internet, (especially Neopets since it seems productive when it's actually not).

waldo@<3.LE-GASP.ca

Movie Synopses

Here are some movie synopses! I haven't seen any of these movies, but I'm sure I know what happens based on the title and poster.

Life of Pi

A spirit tiger named Pi inspires a young man to discover the mathematical π while on a journey on a boat. A touching tale of a boy becoming a man through discovery of the constant, guided by nature.

Silver Linings Playbook

Katniss Everdeen and the guy from The Hangover decide to look on the bright side of life. After all the terrible events in their respective movies brought them together, they create a playbook with all acceptable reactions to anything that happens. One that will last the ages that will help all those who are depressed see the silver lining on the crying clouds.

Skyfall

Chicken Little joins James Bond to combat the terrible event threatening humanity. As Chicken Little works behind the scenes, James Bond acts as the frontman in order to deflect attention from Little, codename 00L. Their mission, should they choose to accept it: prevent the sky from falling.

Amazing Spider-Man

A man with a bizarre skin condition that turns his skin red and blue. His eyes cause everyone to experience irrational terror as he stares into the depths of your soul. He can convince everyone he is actually an amazing hero. The plot of the movie is the citizens of the unnaturally bright city triumphing over this floating being.

Lord of the Flies

A bunch of schoolboys are chilling on a beach. Little do they know, they must travel across the land, fighting dark creatures in order to destroy the One Fly to Rule Them All. If they fail, the land will fall to the mighty floating pig head.

Cloud Atlas

Storm, the Phantom of the Opera, a creepy doll, and a zillion other people star in an unnecessarily complicated poster.

Breaking Dawn Part II

As the sun dawns, the eyes of the man are burnt golden, freeing him. The woman is still captivated by a sinister being: a too-perfect doll with eyes that urge you to obey. Can the woman be freed and her emotions restored?

Zero Dark Thirty

There is a woman. She does stuff at 12:30am.

Yours in misrepresentation,
Shay Blair.

Canada and America

Resolving the dispute the Canadian Way

As a Canadian citizen who has spent most of her life in America and has just recently returned to her northern homeland, I have had a delightful few months discovering and discussing the many differences between our two great countries. Besides the well known stereotypes like the excessive use of ‘eh’ and adding u’s in words that don’t need them, like color and favorite, I’ve had many more insights into how life differs between these two countries.

This process has involved many heated arguments and social blunders, including not knowing what toques were, or poutine, but it has been an altogether enlightening experience. Perhaps my first mistake was when one of my friends announced she would be buying Christmas lights at Canadian Tire and I ignorantly blurted, “Why would you get Christmas lights at a TIRE store?” To this day, my friends will not let this incident go.

I’m sure you can imagine my joy at finding that hockey is, indeed, the reigning monarch of sports here, and my despair when I realized football in Canada, and especially at UW, is both played differently and of little importance. I was bewildered at bagged milk, shocked by the high sales tax, and spent a good month confusing everyone by referring to university as “college”.

I can’t say I haven’t had arguments with people over which country is better, but there really is no better country. These differences are just that — differences — and we should all be proud of whatever country we hail from.

wibz

Problem solving with Vaddi Bec

Do you have a problem, dilemma, quandary, or predicament perhaps of a confidential nature? Well rejoice since I, Vaddi Bec, in my great kindness, have decided to start an advice column. However, unlike a normal advice column, which gives normal/predictable/sensible advice, mine will be original, be more effective at solving whatever stated problem you have, funnier, and (generally speaking) technically correct but utterly useless advice. For example:

Dear Vaddi Bec,

How do I get out of the friendzone?

Sincerely,

generic question generally seen in every advice panel.

Well that’s easy. Be sure to insult the object of your desire at every possible opportunity, steal their stuff and destroy it, and just generally make their life as miserable as possible. Now if you do this right you should find yourself out of the friendzone almost immediately and into the enemy zone. You’re welcome.

If you have a problem that you want advice on, don’t hesitate to submit your question to the **mathNEWS BLACK BOX**.

Vaddi Bec

A Story in n Parts

Part II

An endless abyss of water; so full, so dark – except in one place: an orb light, next to a woman figure of breathtaking beauty. A picturesque nymph, not unlike the idealized supernatural creatures of lore, with her long golden hair loose in the water. Her clothes, a size too small: no imagination necessary for the body; a ripe fruit on a tree, the biggest fish in the ocean.

The nymph, sleeping: lonely, listless, lost; abducted from her home without warning. Now, nothingness. Where? In a void.

Hunger. Even the water, with regards to sustenance, nothing. Morning, until then no sustenance. But how? Darkness everywhere but here eternal, only magic—

Waves and ripples in the water; although impossible, nevertheless. Perhaps, an outside to this blackness? Hope with regards to escape in spite of weaknesses: eyes open, amidst the darkness something – or perhaps only a vivid mirage from deficiency of nutrition? To this extent, for the sake of life, no more.

All the same, why here? Anybody with sense and of their own volition, here? Prison, a caged bird, here in accordance to the will of those close to her superiors, but against her own will, and those of the those superiors, to what purpose? Regardless, despite her best: nothing.

Day, night, day, night; more phantasmagorias. Of help regarding this situation, where? Sadness, despair. Hope? Underneath reason.

“Zyl...”

Zethar

Origin of Words

Congratulations to Glenys, the winner of last issue’s quiz. Your prize is the fact that you will be the only person to ever win a vocabulary quiz printed in **mathNEWS**. Wear the title with pride. From now on, this series will probably consist of random facts about words. In this article, I shall discuss hats and draw connections to Russian cross-dressers, cardiology, and Satan.

- Fedoras got their first popularity boost from a 19th-century Russian cross-dressing actress. Fedoras are literally gifts from God.
- The bicuspid valve of the heart resembles the Pope’s hat.
- The traditional Scottish man’s bonnet gets its name from a drunk farmer being chased by the Devil.
- A ten-gallon hat holds 0.75 gallons.

Words can be fun, if you’re intentionally vague,
moment

BlackBerry 10

At the time you are reading this, it will be past the January 30th release date for BlackBerry 10. Since today is NOT after January 30th, I can't actually tell you anything useful. But here are some things you probably know:

- BB10 was originally going to be marketed as BBX. After realizing that marketing a letter is lame, they decided to not go the iCOPY or thingX route.
- The first phone being released is a full-touchscreen. It may sound like a clone of every other touchscreen device ever, but seriously, they are all just handheld finger grease spreaders. If I hear another "not innovative" comment from someone who has bought their nth touchscreen smartphone, grrrrrr.
- There will be a keyboard phone. I have seen one. It has a keyboard. True story.

Just Another Co-op

Apple Announces iOS 11

Cupertino – Tim Cook announced this morning to a group Apple shareholders about the latest version of Apple's proprietary mobile operating system: iOS 11. This new version will be pushed out to devices worldwide in the upcoming weeks, and will be preloaded with all Apple hardware from here on out.

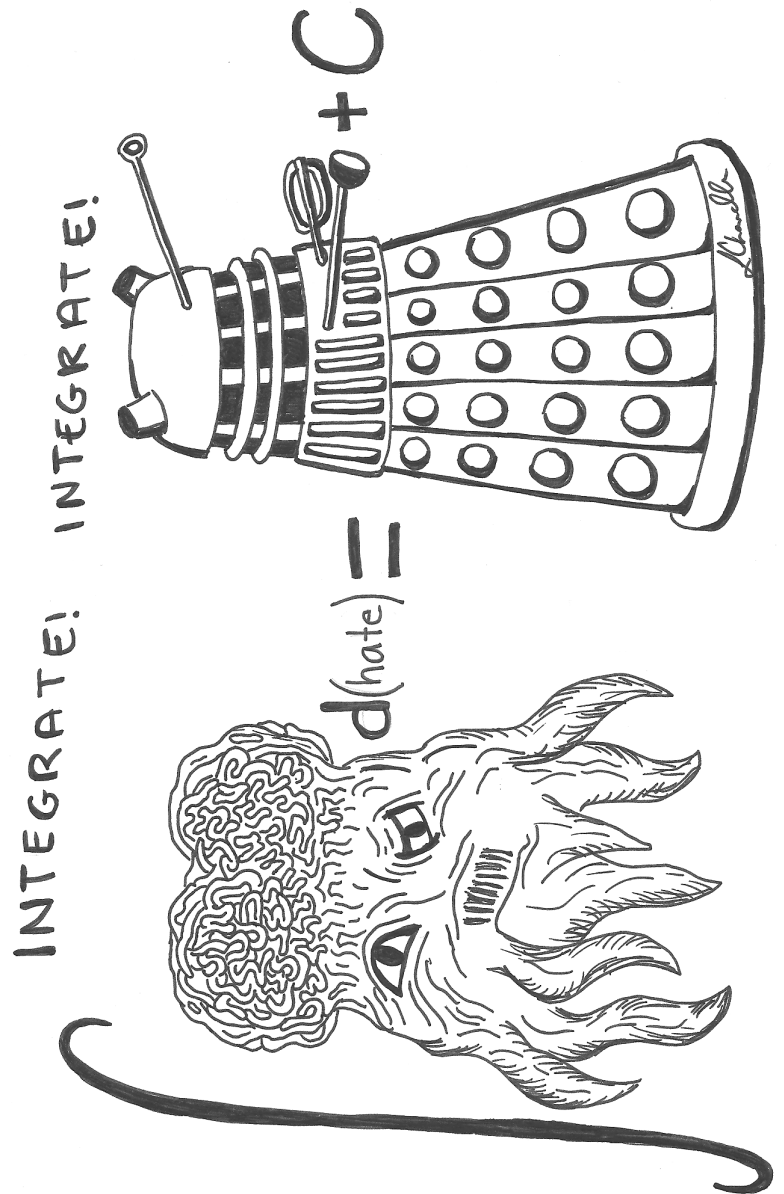
The new software update will bring a new screen upon turning on the device, which will proudly show "11" in a bright and colourful font, with images of half-eaten blackberries being thrown onto a heap and crushed by a giant apple. Siri will be updated to recommend users to the nearest Apple store whenever someone asks for computer support. Maps will remove Redmond, Washington; San Francisco, California; and Waterloo, Ontario from the earth. Finally, the app store will now support alternative payment methods, including debit, credit, cheque, blood, and firstborn children.

When asked about the jump in the numbering system, Cook replied: "With the advent of RIM's BB10 operating system, our consumers were being mislead about our claims of having the world's most advanced phones. With iOS 11, we will not only be greater than BB10, but also more powerful than Microsoft's WP8 and will be over twice as good as Google's Android 4.2."

In other news, Google has recently announced the codename of the latest Android version. Mud Pie will be a congregate of all of their previous operating systems.

Big Mak

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



elseWHEN

A Short Poem

H stands for hypothesis,
All C means conclusion.
Whether you believe in Math,
Or think it's all a delusion,
You may need these theorems
At one o'clock in the night.
Whern your eyes burn in your head,
And no answer comes out right.

From Vol 58, No 2
Printed on January 31, 1992
The Unnatural Historian

horrorSCOPES

ActSci: You are annoyed that you're still single, so you start calculating how long the relationships of couples around you will last. You prep yourself for meaningless rebound sex.
Your unlucky number is: 3 broken condoms.

AHS: You haven't attended a single class this term. Instead, you put the Leisure back in Rec & Leisure.
Your unlucky number is: 1/1 failed midterms.

AMATH: The profs voice is a monotonically decreasing function, your attention oscillates between class and the window by your desk.
Your unlucky number is: 6342 bricks on the east side of MC.

ARTS: In your last term of study you realize you need to get one more social sciences course to fulfill your breadth requirements. The only thing available is ECON 101, and you find yourself in a 400 person class, for the first time since second year. You fail to find a seat aggressively enough and get trampled.
Your unlucky number is: 7 shoe marks on your abdomen.

BioInformatics: You keep bothering *mathNEWS* about the fact that you don't show up in *horrorSCOPES*. *mathNEWS* eventually caves and adds you to *horrorSCOPES*.
Your unlucky number is: 1 *mathNEWS* issue with a BioInformatics *horrorSCOPE*.

C&O: You think you've devised the perfect security scheme, relying on the perfect blend of secrecy, 46 bit integers, the time it takes for the sun to rotate around the earth, and a spoon full of sugar. Unfortunately it's cracked by a twelve year old with an iPhone.
Your unlucky number is: 6 billion dollars in broken NSA contracts.

CS: With the help of your PMATH friends you try to determine an $O(n \log n)$ algorithm for the 3-sum problem. You thought you had it, but you defined the sorted array b_i wrong.
Your unlucky number is: Infinity, your algorithm never terminates.

Double Degree: Last term, while you studied all the time, all your Laurier and Waterloo friends partied too hard. Now you want to party, and they want to study.
Your unlucky number is: 1/2 a term to find new friends to party with.

ENG: After a few terms you feel like you are cynical and jaded enough to write *mathNEWS* horrorSCOPES. You didn't realize how much work it would be.
Your unlucky number is: 3 *mathNEWS* editors who are more than happy to give you another bi-weekly assignment.

ENV: Going broke, you see that you have to cut costs somewhere. You decide to save on your energy bill by installing solar panels on your house. It starts raining for the next week.
Your unlucky number is: 168 hours in the dark.

Grad: A month into the new term, and you still haven't heard from your supervisor. You're not sure if you need to start looking for a new one.
Your unlucky number is: 4 months spent working under the wrong person.

Math Bus: The forecast seems to be dark and gloomy in the days ahead. Wait, you think I was talking about the weather? I meant your stock portfolio.
Your unlucky number is: \$523 down.

Math Phys: People have been buzzing about their super powerful smartphones, but you're not interested. Not until they can quantum computing to work in a handheld device. Who needs a big ugly supercomputer when you can harness the power of quantum physics in your pocket?
Your unlucky number is: 32 years of waiting.

PMATH: Your partner decides exclusivity is too restrictive of a requirement for your relationship model, and brings another partner to bed with you to prove their theory.
Your unlucky number is: 1 3(simga) 2 many.

SCI: Tired of doing the same old boring science labs for classes, you decide to do some mad, sexy science! You show up only wearing a lab coat, and go straight to the materials marked "Dangerous" and "Do not bounce". In the midst of doing your fabulous new science, you drop a beaker of acid, and it splashes right up your leg.
Your unlucky number is: 3rd degree burns by the unmentionables. Maybe you should have worn underwear.

Soft Eng: You realize that the competition for jobs is pretty much non-existent for you. The only SE people with more experience are graduating, and the froshlings wouldn't dare encroach on your jobs. Not to mention that the folks in CS are beneath you. You spend so much time gloating that you forget to apply.
Your unlucky number is: 4 months unemployed.

Stats: After being told by the cute Science girl that you aren't normal, you decide to calculate what the "normal" is. You're midway through your calculations when you think that this sort of behaviour was probably what she was talking about.
Your unlucky number is: , and you're an outlier.

Teaching Option: You've picked out math and french as your two teachable options, and have actually been doing a really good job in those courses. Turns out that everyone takes those options as their teachables, and they're all better than you. You get assigned to teach at a daycare.
Your unlucky number is: 24-month old students.

Undeclared: It's lunchtime, and you don't know whether you should get the steak or the fish. Panicked, you choose the lasagna. That was yesterday's special, and you find yourself with a serving of salmonella.
Your unlucky number is: 45 minutes in the bathroom.

Maple Bacon Cheeseburger Poutine

As someone that goes under the pseudonym of maplebacon-burg, people often tell me that my name makes them hungry. If you are one of these people, I humbly apologize. To make up for this, I wanted to publish a recipe for homemade maple bacon burgers, but then I realized that I haven't actually cooked anything in over a year! Instead, I present my self-researched recipe for the one dish more delicious than maple bacon burgers:

Maple Bacon Cheeseburger Poutine!

Ingredients:

2 hours
A Monday
A Watcard
18 dollars and 48 cents

Directions:

- Starting from campus, travel to DC and wait for the 200 iXpress bus.
- When the bus arrives, display your Watcard to the driver, and take the bus to Uptown Waterloo.
- Once in uptown, locate the Valu-Mart inside Waterloo Town Square
- Locate and pick up the \$7.99 President's Choice 100% Maple Syrup. Many people make mistakes here, picking up the \$1.29 corn syrup instead, but that is anything but a valid substitution.
- Provided that you brought a \$20 dollar bill instead of the exact \$18.48, you may also wish to purchase a drink at this point.
- Using your Watcard to receive a 10% student discount, pay \$7.19 for the syrup.
- Go back to King Street and take a bus to King and University. Most buses will get you there, but if one doesn't, just try again.
- Walk further down King Street until you notice Smoke's Poutinerie.
- Purchase a large bacon cheeseburger poutine for \$11.29. If you really wish, you may get a regular sized poutine instead, but I recommend against it.
- Douse the poutine in maple syrup. You are looking for about half a centimeter to a centimeter of syrup soaking the fries on the bottom, but this is up to you.
- Eat immediately! Poutine is a food that only really tastes good warm, and you want to avoid letting the maple syrup making the fries unbearably soggy! You will also want to pick up a handful of napkins, because this is an extremely messy meal!

maplebaconburg

Too Poor to Afford a Title

Or a subtitle

Being broke students, we are always on the lookout for free meals. This endeavor and its success has a number of parallels with the skills needed in the corporate world.

- Free pizza every second Monday, provided that you write (or draw) for **mathNEWS**. You need the ability to write at least about something and adding fluff to those few lines so that it becomes a whole paragraph or more. Voila! You are all set for writing reports in your workplace.
- Free food all around campus, especially at the beginning of the term. Particularly, this term during Frost Week, there was a free lunch at SLC and a free breakfast at the Bomber for the first 150 people who showed up. This requires you to stay updated, be resourceful, and be punctual. More of the qualities you need for any job.
- Scoring yourself an invitation for dinner at your friends' place and your friends' friends place plus re-invitations. Usually this only happens when you are on a whole different level of friendship with them. So, building close relationships can be really useful in both situations. Making lots of friends who can cook and friends whose friends who can cook are equivalent to making the right connection with the right people and networking as well.
- Feeding off people's leftovers. Getting the word out that you consume what they don't want to or can't says a lot about your talent of self promoting.
- Starve if no food can be found and stuff yourself silly if copious amount is available. This not only means that you have a flexible tummy, but that you also adapt easily to different circumstances and environments – a trait sought after by many employers.
- Working with one or more friends to avoid missing free food opportunities. This translates to working well in teams.

If you find yourself fed almost every day without having to spend a single penny, congratulations! You are ready to take on the world.

CottonCandy

Hungry Question of the Day

Q: How much om could an om nom nom if an om nom could om nom?

A: It would om what an om nom could nom if an om nom could om nom.

Diglett



gridWORD Clues

Across

1. Tattered tome
5. Big (cf. 53A)
10. At once
11. Cleopatra's killer
12. High-schooler
13. Stinginess
17. One, to Olivier
20. Dreidel
21. Lasso
22. Loom malignant
23. Can-can's Cuban companion
25. Writing unit
28. Proud porters
31. Hemingway's habitat (7,4)
33. $90^\circ < \Theta < 180^\circ$
34. Letter set
36. Behind
37. Excite, electrify
40. Scoundrel
42. Abu Dhabi rules it
43. An explosive
44. Supercomputer
48. Fencing sword
51. Until
52. Inert orange
53. Small (cf. 5A)
54. Radio code

Down

1. List
2. Unity
3. Hind (cf. last issue's 26A)
4. La maladie d'Henri, le chat noir
5. Cartographer's concern
6. Cookie container
7. American ship prefix
8. Ill will
9. Famous champs
14. Inscribed letter set
15. If you killed his father, you should prepare to die.
16. Dutch dad's dad
18. Mexican munchies
19. Supernal, sublime, fairy, and fine
22. Eyehole (4,4)
24. French friend
26. Sternward
27. Rainy
29. Iran's capital
30. Computer key
32. Tale's tail
33. Best
35. 43A/3
38. Little Rodney in Lisbon
39. Sinister sides
41. Shorthand short form
45. Waterloo's Prof. Holt
46. Math circuit
47. She-sheep
49. %/2
50. Dawn goddess

Last Issue's Solutions

W	E	T	C	E	T	B	E	R	A		M	A	R	I	N
W				S	L	O	B		R						
D	T	O	O	L											
H	M	A	G		C	U	B	E	L						
	L	E	D		B	A	R	O	G	I					
V	S	L	E	P		V		I							
		L	E			N	E	T		S					
N		G	N	B	T	E	G	A	C	H	E	S			
R	E	V	E	N	D		I	R	A		S		I	B	A
T	H	R	A	U	S	A	N	G	E						
T	R	A	N	Q	U	I	L								

***gridWORD* and *gridCOMMENTS*
on the next page**

**Submit your *gridWORD*
solutions to the BLACK
BOX outside the Comfy
Lounge (MC3001)**



gridCOMMENTS v121i2

A Writing Lesson

Last issue's grid was purportedly too easy, so I spent a few extra days crafting this one. I apologize for the former's many two-letter words—there shall be no more of those. I've also (perhaps merely temporarily) done away with asterisked clues; turn to symmetry for pairs of themed words.

Out of six submissions, four were perfect; the other two had, alas, but one incorrect letter each. Since I don't have a cat (Henry Fung), can't afford a rug (jdonland), and would prefer not to be disemboweled (David Luong), the winning answer to last issue's **gridQUESTION** "How do I stop my bedroom floor from squeaking?" is "Eradicate the mice", submitted by Jasmine Leckey. Congratulations, Jasmine! You may pick up your prize at MathSOC.

When y'all complete as much of the **gridWORD** as you can, submit your work to the **BLACK BOX** (outside the Comfy Lounge on the third floor of MC) by 18:30 on Monday the 11th of February. Include your name and your answer to this issue's **gridQUESTION**—the most mysterious answer decides the winner (of a \$5 C&D gift certificate) in the event of a tie: "What lies beyond this world?"

Cheers,
unit

profQUOTES

"If we were dealing with small, simple statements like this, we would not have a course like MATH 135."

- Akash, MATH 135

Student: "Do we have any Maple TA quizzes this term?"

Prof: "No. Thank God!"

- Akash, MATH 135

"So who's excited?"

[no response]

"Is it the 8:30 or the Math 135? Cause it's not me, I'm exciting."

- Akash, MATH 135

"There's a serious problem with mathematicians. We think that we're funny, but we're not."

- Anton, MATH 237

"I think that I'm going to use a different colour marker. Why? Because I never left kindergarten psychologically."

- Anton, MATH 237

"The 3-sum is an open problem, that any CSer can try. If they're feeling adventurous, they can try the 4-sum."

- Tuskowski, CS 341

"I think this stuff [grocery store-bought pop] is caffeine-free, no wonder I haven't been as hyperactive as I usually am!"

- Katz, MATH 239

"Can we get some thinking music? ... No? Well, I just needed to give you time to write it down anyway."

- Katz, MATH 239

"So QED, we'll reward ourselves with a stegosaurus." *Draws stegosaurus* "Alright, I'm not very good at drawing stegosaurus."

- Katz, MATH 239

"Fear my powers. I'm in your head, sniping your thoughts."

-Tim Kenyon, PHIL 145

"I choose pi because I know from *The Simpsons* that $\pi = 3$."

- Emerson, AMATH 271

"If you watch *Grey's Anatomy* weekly, it's indistinguishable week to week and we call it periodic."

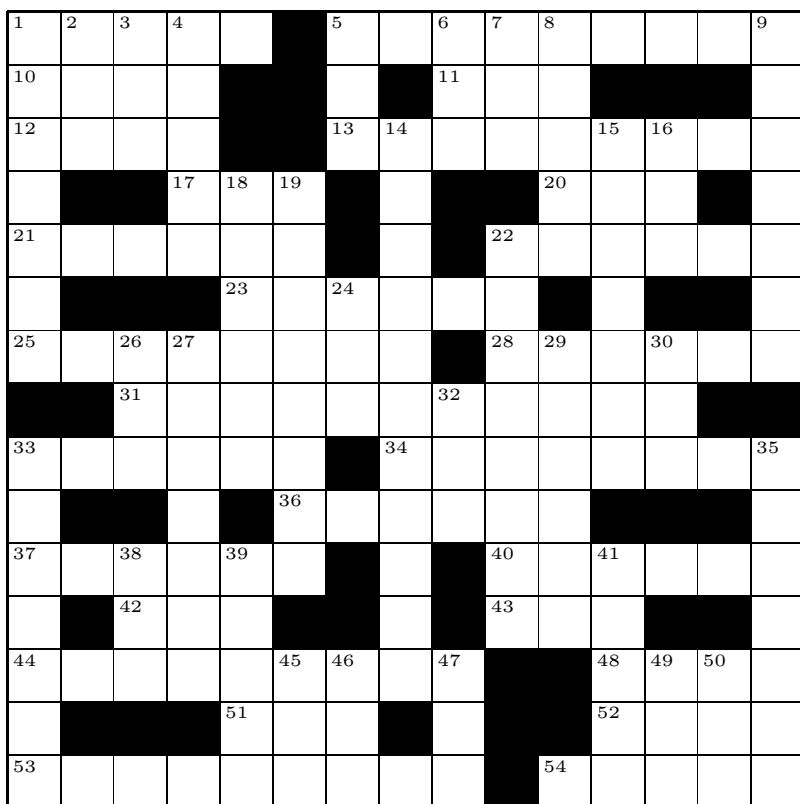
- Emerson, AMATH 271

"If you're going to come here and sleep, take a seat in the back and I won't disturb you."

- Ivan, AMATH 242

"We'll define stress in a minute, hopefully it doesn't reflect how feel about this course."

-Waile, AMATH 361



profQUOTES

"We are going to start off from last time which is having technical difficulties."

- Wolczuk, MATH 235

"Each even perfect number's married with Mersenne primes."

- Rubinstein, PMATH 340

[On Ikea instruction manuals] "Look, it seems that one happy person with an Allan key can change the world!"

- McKone, INTEG 121

"Don't say that or I'll kill you. This is so fatal, no matter how you do it."

- Ng, MATH 127

'Have you heard of a man that is a queen? Gauss was a queen.'

- Lena, ChE 121

"I've got to waste my brain cells on other things, like my Diet Coke addiction"

- Metzger, STAT 340

"The two minus signs kill each other off in an epic battle, like the kind you see in *A Game of Thrones*"

- Metzger, STAT 340

"I love the smell [of markers], if you breathe enough fumes, you'll become like me."

- Metzger, STAT 340

"I love my x's, but I shouldn't because my wife would get mad."

- Metzger, STAT 340

"I think Statistics was invented by an American, because we are always talking about independence and so are they."

- Metzger, STAT 340

"All the pictures in the slides are from the Internet. If you are uncomfortable with that, email me."

- Wang, ACTSC 446

"I heard that some of you can't read the board from the back. [Starts drawing an eye test] Can you see this?"

- Wang, ACTSC 446

"I want my data to be a bit wiggly-wiggly. You know what I mean."

- Razeman, STAT 443

"Hopefully you're willing to get on the plane if the risk of crashing is 10^{-50} , or you're not going to pass this course."

- Razeman, STAT 443

"I will kill any student who laughs at another student's question. Well, I guess I can't kill you, so I'll have to fail you instead. Oh, I can't do that either? I'll do something."

- Razeman, STAT 443

"Resonance...it's very good for breaking things."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"Don't you play with stuff? Don't you go around rubbing things and seeing what happens to them?"

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"We're all neutral. If we all had large charges on us, we'd be exploding apart."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"I'm mostly emptiness, except for electrons."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"How many of you had trouble with gravity in PHYS 111?"

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"Our bell broke right before this so we'll see what vacuum does to a battery. I'd be really cool if it explodes!"

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"What if we sucked all the air out of this room? Would you die? Not right away. Well the walls would probably implode, but the most important thing is that you wouldn't be learning about sound because you couldn't hear me."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"Here there's no obstacles. Its a nice, clean physics-y kind of thing."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"If you didn't like what I said, just erase the last few minutes."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"Now the textbook has a nice little formula for this that they don't derive anywhere..."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"Talking is not an effective way of losing weight."

- Idziak, PHYS 112

"Don't worry if you don't understand the physics, just daydream for the next few seconds."

- West, AMATH 250

"Did I do this already? I don't know. I'll leave it as an exercise then, meaning I don't want to do it, you do it."

- West, AMATH 250

"What's a good first step in any calculus course? Differentiate! After Calc 4, you take the integral."

- West, AMATH 250

"Never write that the statement is equal to an expression. That is absolute bollocks!"

- Akash, MATH 135