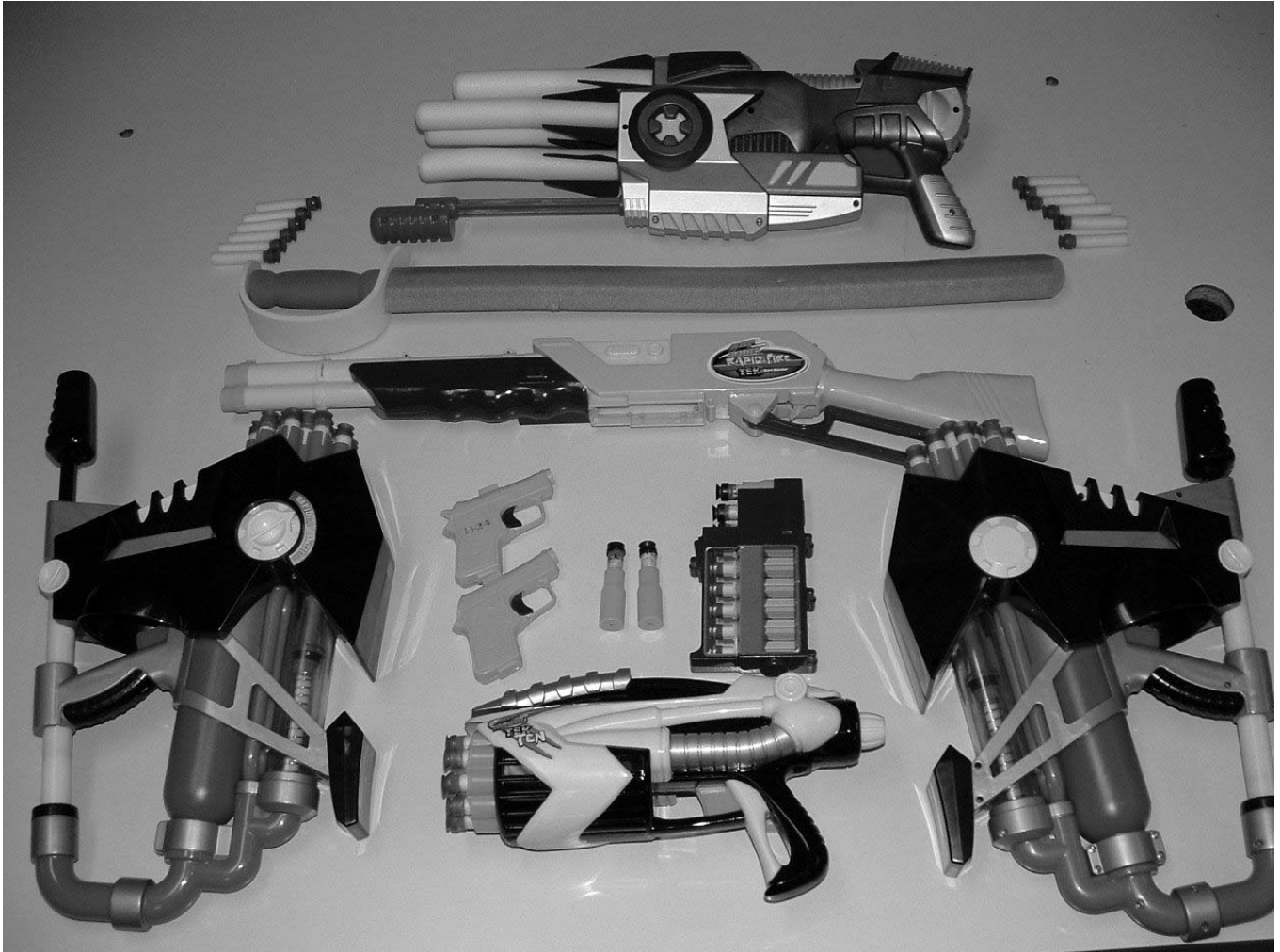


*math*

**NEWS**

*Volume 101, Issue 1*

*Friday, May 19th, 2006*



**Police raid confiscates cache of terrorist weaponry**



**lookAHEAD****mathNEWS**

May 19	Issue #1 escorted out
May 29	Production Night #1 6:30PM, MathSoc (MC3038) All welcome!
June 2	Issue #2 pleads innocence

**Math Faculty**

May 19	Drop, no penalty period ends
May 22	University holiday
June 12	Fall enrollment appointments begin
June 16	Last day for 50% tuition refund
June 23	Drop, penalty 1 (WD) period ends
July 3	University holiday
July 25	Lectures end

**MathSoc**

May 23	C&D BBQs begin T/Th
May 24	Cove Night, 7PM
Thursdays	Movie Nights

**CECS**

May 15	Interviews begin
June 9	First ranking cycle

**Student Awards & Financial Aid**

May 30	Spring only OSAP deadline
June 11	OSAP appeals deadline
June 15	Recommended submission date for Fall OSAP applications
June 15	Bursary application deadline
July 12	Confirmation of Enrollment deadline

**Misc**

May 22	Victoria Day
May 26	Scunt
July 1	Canada Day

Why don't we take the teeth out of evil - or the syphilis out of it?  
Burriss, PSYCH 232

[Talking about right-of-way at intersections] This shows us that politicians, you know, the ones who make up the rules, they don't know anything about concurrency.

Buhr, CS 343

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The editor(s): Emerald and Chris

**mastHEAD**

*Even better than Mana Drain!*

Ah, the new term. Full of sun, warm weather, and rippingly drunk barbecues. Campus is only half as crowded as usual, because all those arts kids went home or got jobs or whatever arts people do when they're not complaining about their workload. Just for reference, their workload is equivalent to *one* of my *first-year* classes. "OMG, I have to color in Pooh Bear *and* piglet, and it's due in a month!" These people wouldn't know work if I beat them with my 130 page software requirements specification document.

But enough ranting about the lesser peoples of UW, it's time for the only part of the mastHEAD that people actually read, the mastHEAD question!estion!estion!stion!ion!: what do you think we should rename Nintendo's new console?

Half-Pint (Nintendo PGUM - Please Give Us Money),  $\pi$  (Floyd), Math.random() (Uhh, I don't know, something colorful); Angelo (Reloaded, Revolution, or Anintendo); Beatlemaniac (Nintendo Gonad and Strife); Dans (wheeeeeeeee!!!1!eleventyone); Eric (The tiny box of awesome)

SheepNinEd (Just cut out the innuendo and call it the Nintendo Urine)

StatsEd (Mariomachine. After all, they use their flagship characters for everything else)

**Relic Removed**

Recently, the auxiliary tap to the sink in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor MC men's washroom at the South-East corner was removed. This tap was originally installed (on MathSoc's dime) in the mid 1970's to allow the fledgling Math Coffee and Donut stand a place to wash out their coffee pots, rather than having to do it under the pitiful shower spray otherwise used to wash hands.

With the loss of the tap, male Mathies no longer have an easy way to obtain water at a reasonable level of flow for various sorts of activities, like filling buckets.

At least the C&D has a real sink now.

A Mathie Historian

**Lost Something?**

Then gather a team and join in this term's Engineering Scavenger Hunt! This term it is being run by us mathies (since we won last fall). It's next Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, and the theme is those stories you loved as a kid - Fairy Tales! It is a 24 hour romp around campus full of puzzles, games, and sleep deprivation. Look for posters to find out how your team can sign up and join in the fun. Hope to see you there!

Math.random()

**Keep a Lab to Yourself**

*Tried, Tested, and True Method*

If you want to deter people from using a lab, when they walk in, call over to them, "Hey! Write for *mathNEWS* with us!" They'll probably turn and run.

It "worked" for us. :-(

Half-pint

## Prez Sez

Hello and welcome to another term at UW! I hope you all had a successful term this winter, be it in school or at a job. I would like to make a couple of announcements and introduce you to your executives for this term.

Kaitlyn Holman is your VP-Activities and Services. She'll be responsible for running events this term. She's got a lot of plans, so make sure you watch the stairwells and the third floor for posters. In particular, Cove Night is coming soon! If you want to help out, email her at [vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca). In fact, if you like making and hanging posters and playing with paint, MathSoc is still looking for a Publicity Director to help keep students informed about our events and services. Please email Kaitlyn with your contact information and a few words on why you'd enjoy advertising for us.

As VP-Finances, Michelle Kinsella will be taking care of money matters in the Society, making sure that your Mathematics Society fee is spent to your benefit. If you have any questions, email her at [vpf@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vpf@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca).

Karly Przybylski is the VP-Academic. She's going to be going to a lot of meetings on your behalf so that she can be your voice on matters of an academic nature, such as curriculum changes. If you ever have any questions on procedures, or are having difficulties of an academic nature, she can help if you email her at [vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca).

And, of course, myself, Leander. I'm the President, which is really a mixture of the three previous positions. If you have any questions or suggestions about anything at all, email me at [prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca). And, of course, we each have office hours posted on the Exec Office door (across the hall from MC3038, the Mathematics Society office).

Now, the announcements! If you've ever had an interest in student politics, now's definitely the time to explore it! Nominations are open for class representatives. It's a pretty straight-forward job: just hold a weekly office hour, represent the interests

of students in your program to the Mathematics Society during Society Meetings, and keep them up to date with what's happening in the Faculty. Make sure to pick up a form outside MC3038.

But what if you don't want the responsibility of an elected position? Never fear! Come volunteer for the Mathematics Society! We have a lot of volunteer opportunities, including showing movies, making posters, and generally doing fun things! Stop by MC 3038 for more information. And hey, if it's closed, volunteer to help keep it open! It's a great way to meet people, or to add to your resume.

Recently, the Math Faculty has changed its policy towards exam calculators (this is particularly relevant for first year students) to expand the number of calculators allowed for use during exams. For more information, you can read <http://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/navigation/Current/calculatorpolicy.shtml>. If you want to buy one of these calculators, or need a sticker for your current one (to show that your calculator meets the policy requirements), just stop by.

Are you tired of eating frozen food and pizza? Then, you'll be glad to know that the C&D is running a barbecue every Tuesday and Thursday, starting May 23rd, outside the MC.

Lastly, a note from our Orientation Committee: Frosh week is a great time for frosh - but it's even better for leaders! Sign up to take part in Frosh Week 2006! You can pick up application forms outside the MathSoc office (MC 3038) or go online at <http://www.orientation.math.uwaterloo.ca/2006/leaders/signup.php> to sign up. Thanks! The Math FOC 2006 Brad Matsugu Tim Loach Romesh Paul Janet Sung

That's about all folks, so remember to watch the stairwells for posters and mathNEWS for announcements.

Have a great term!

Leander Quiring

## VPAS says...

### *Summers Rock*

Welcome to another summer term at UW. If this is your first summer term on campus, you are in for a treat. I find this to be the best time of the year to enjoy the beauty of campus.

My name is Kaitlyn Holman. I find that more people know me than I know people. Still, since I was acclaimed and didn't have the opportunity to paste my name all over the building, it may still be unknown to some of you.

I can usually be found on the third floor somewhere between the MathSoc offices (MC 3038, 3039) with the giant backpack and pink hair.

The VPAS is responsible for managing most of the MathSoc directors, who in turn manage the MathSoc office, the novelties, postings, MathSoc's Canada Day contribution, the MathSoc servers, athletics, the website, movie nights, and all the social events hosted by MathSoc.

Our first social event is coming up on Wednesday, May 24 at 7pm when we open the Campus Cove for FREE UNLIMITED

PLAY for math students, and \$5 for non-math students. Pizza and pop will be provided, included in admission.

The MathSoc C&D, aka the Right-Angle Cafe, will be starting it's summer BBQs on Tuesday, May 23rd. These will run in the pit every Tuesday and Thursday, weather-permitting. Grab a fresh-off-the-grill meat or veggie patty of your choice for a quick and yummy (and affordable!) lunch.

Also, I'd like to keep the whiteboard outside the MathSoc office as up-to-date and interestingly informative this term. I need interesting information to do so! If you would like an event, meeting, or deadline posted on the board, please email me or drop off a note in MC 3039 indicated what, who, where, and when.

If you have any other enquiries of any kind, please do not hesitate to email me at [vpas@mathsoc](mailto:vpas@mathsoc) or visit me in the Exec Office, MC 3039.

Kaitlyn Holman  
VPAS, Spring 2006

## Orientation Leader Applications are Out!

Orientation week is a blast for first year students, but it's even more fun for leaders. If you had fun during orientation week last year, have ideas on how to improve math orientation, or want to help next year's frosh get to know the campus, then you should sign up to be a leader. There are many ways to get involved in Math Orientation 2006:

**Leader** - Frosh leaders spend the majority of frosh week interacting directly with the frosh. They get to participate in most of the events that the frosh do.

**IceBreaker** - Icebreakers run the events during frosh week, and spend more time working behind the scenes than leaders. They also get some perks that leaders don't, such as bribes during the Scavenger Hunt.

**Co-ordinators** - Co-ordinators are in charge of one specific aspect of Orientation week. If there's one thing you're really passionate about, whether it's planning events or smooth-talking sponsors, then consider co-ordinating it. When they aren't needed for their specific aspect of the week, co-ordinators spend most of their time as either a leader or icebreaker.

**Teamsters** - Like driving? A lot? Teamsters drive a van during the week, making deliveries and emergency runs for supplies. It's a lot of fun, but you have to be at least 22 years old and you require a valid G license.

Applications for all of these positions are now available outside the MathSoc office (MC 3038) and can be returned to the same location. Once you've submitted an application, be sure to sign up for an interview. The sign-up sheet is on the Orientation office door (MC 3048).

Tim Loach, Brad Matsugu, Romesh Paul, Janet Sung  
Math Orientation Directors 2006

## Want to Represent Math at UW?

### *Help Needed at Homecoming Celebrations*

Saturday, May 27th, Waterloo will be welcoming back the class of 1981.

Just like any other Mathies, we expect that they will like to take home novelties with them. We are therefore looking for volunteers to sell novelties to alumni at registration and during their lunch break (10:00-11:30, and 12:00-2:00). If you are interested in helping us out, please email [vpas@mathsoc](mailto:vpas@mathsoc) and indicate when you are available.

Also, it seems some alumni have gone on to be quite productive, and now there are a few mathies-in-training to keep entertained while their parents tour campus and reminisce. If you are interested in helping to run some activities for our younger visitors, please contact the alumni officer, Pat Cunningham, at [pcunning@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:pcunning@uwaterloo.ca). **You will be paid for your troubles!**

So come on out and represent the Modern Mathie! These alumni must be a pretty cool group of people, since my dad graduated with them and he seemed to enjoy his time here.

Thanks!

Kaitlyn  
teh VPAS

## Assassins

*Or, what the hell those SE kids are up to*

Have you seen some people in the math building wielding nerf weaponry? Were you at Mel's during the ill-fated shootout last week? In general, are you wondering what crazy hallucinogen we've been drinking and/or where you can get some of your own?

Unfortunately, we're not on some wonderful high. At least, most of us aren't. We're just playing a term-long round of Assassins. With gangs! There are three roaming packs of Software Engineers, heavily armed and looking to shoot members of the other teams on sight. There's rumblings of official gang shootouts in the works.

Concerned about being shot? Don't be! The darts aren't going to hurt you. \* For those of you that are nevertheless afraid, here are some tips to protect yourself.

- **Armor.** Nearly anything will protect you from darts. Like, cardboard boxes. And clothes.
- **Avoid.** The worst shootouts will be outside the classes software enginners are taking class. If you see someone camping a door with a nerf rifle, take a different route to class.
- **Wear a condom.** It will keep you protected. Maybe not against nerf rounds, but it's a good idea nevertheless.

SheepNine

\*if this is not true, chances are that pretty much everything is going to hurt you, and you live in a bubble, and you don't need to be worried about being shot anyway. The darts can't penetrate your bubble.

*[Due to an incident involving, among other things, six police cruisers and three vans full of SWAT members, this event is no longer going on this term. But, due to this being at the end of the article, you still read about it anyway. — SheepNinEd]*

## Bi-Weekly Column

As the time draws nigh for me to write my bi-weekly article, I spent a lot of time thinking. I've been thinking about how I could bitch about how difficult it is to come up with a topic for something so trite as an opinion column as opposed to writing the column itself. It's very difficult to find inspiration for half-baked ideas and then make radical claims based off of a minute amount of information. Information that I can contort to suit my opinions. *[It's actually quite simple. For example, we should feed the squirrels and geese to homeless people in Toronto! Discuss. — SheepNinEd]*

The next hurdles in my attempt to spread my mindless personal opinions to people with nothing better to do than read. One could say that I would be imprinting my opinions on lambs. Lambs that will continue to read the innane garbage that I call an opinion column and base their beliefs off of my half-assed articles.

Angelo

## Hot girls in the MC?!

Welcome to a new term everyone! With a new term comes new control of Math Soc. This term it includes the appointment of three mathie girls as the new Math Soc office managers. *[That's right, all three of them. — SheepNinEd]* We have some new items for sale this term in MC 3038.

- Sweatshirts with the U Waterloo logo
- Thermal Mugs
- Pens, pencils, and paper - for when you forget yours at home
- Those special calculators your profs say you need for your exams

As well as plenty of other great items for a summer term in Waterloo.

- Regulation Frisbees
- Math Nalgene
- Lots of great t-shirts sized for both men and women!

So come stop by and check out our merchandise. While you're there you can sign up for an office hour to help us keep the office open. For more information e-mail us at [office@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:office@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca) or stop by MC 3038. Hope to see you around.

Math.random() - one of the three managers

## Open Course Content to the Unenrolled

*Please!*

As I'm sure you've noticed, more and more of our courses are using the "UW Angel" course management system. In general, Angel knows which courses you're enrolled in via Quest's course registration database. This is fine, but many students have encountered a frustrating problem with the way Angel operates. By default, all course information is held private to the students enrolled in a course. I am convinced that this is simply an error of oversight and should be corrected.

When course content is public to all students, it means you can try out a few different classes at the beginning of the term before making an informed decision about which you'd like to study. You can peek at upper-year courses, or review material from previous classes, or learn about some completely new topic that's studied here at your university. Something to do while you're bored on work-terms, perhaps? Or if you're having problems with registration in Quest (heh), you can keep up with the class until it's sorted out — rather than being left behind.

Course material always used to be public; for example, you can still find useful course notes for Stat333 at: [http://www.student.math/~stat333/stat333\\_05\\_04/](http://www.student.math/~stat333/stat333_05_04/)

Professors should, of course, be allowed to selectively choose content that should be held private to students who are enrolled in a class. Assignment solutions are a good example of this. But course announcements and lecture slides are very useful for the general student population. I think this is as simple as flipping a bit in Angel's main configuration: content should be public by default, not private. Can someone please fix this?

Michael Biggs

## Console Pros and Cons

As many of you may be aware, last week was the Electronic Entertainment Expo. This year was special because this was the first real showing of two new consoles, and also the chance for another to show off what it's going to have beyond lackluster launch titles. Since *mathNEWS* is a newspaper (or at least it might slightly resemble something like that), I was able to get into the press and industry only show. This means that I have a better working knowledge of all these things than any of you out there and so I'm here to tell you what to buy and what not to buy from what was shown at this year's show.

### XBox360:

#### Pros:

- It currently has the largest selection of games
- Since Microsoft sells them at a loss, buying one is an effective way of sticking it to Microsoft and contributing to their demise
- There's next to no support for the thing over in Japan, which means the game library isn't polluted with tonnes of really bad and dumb Japanese RPGs, but has good ones like *Oblivion*

#### Cons:

- It's already been released so now it's much harder to rip off their competitor's ideas

### Playstation 3:

#### Pros:

- It has everything: they've ripped off Nintendo's motion stuff, it's as powerful or moreso than the XBox, and it's got a blue ray drive in it too

#### Cons:

- Every game on PS3 will also be on 360. Guess which is cheaper
- By the time it comes out, you could buy like 10 other consoles for the same price as one of these things
- It'll probably install a rootkit on all the computers on the same network you connect it to

### Wii:

#### Pros:

- When it's released, the Nintendo fanboys will leave the Internet alone and go play their games
- Duck Hunt 2 *[Hot damn! A chance to finally stick it to that mocking hunting dog! — SheepNinEd]*

#### Cons:

- If you liked the original XBox controller, this one won't fit in your hand
- Say the following out loud: "I'm gonna go play with my Wii"

DanS

## Do you like Cheese?

*Join the Campus Crusade for Cheese*

*e-mail [ccch.uw@gmail.com](mailto:ccch.uw@gmail.com)*

## Suikoden V

*Making up for number 3 and 4*

Recently, meaning about a month and a half ago, Konami released a new game from a familiar series: the Suikoden series. Developed in less than a year, yet surprisingly a better game in general, this game brings a lot of the old aspects from the previous games in the series as well as develops a plethora of one new thing.

The game takes place in the much speculated about Queendom of Falena, which is given prosperity and sun by the Sun Rune. Two years prior to the story the town of Lordlake did a bit of a revolt resulting in the Queen of Falena bearing the Sun Rune and scorching the life out of the village. In the process of the revolt a valuable family heirloom was stolen. You, the prince of Falena, who takes a passive approach to the politics of the country begin to notice that your mother, Queen Arshtat, has gone a little crazy over the past two years as she keeps rambling about destroying the country. Needless to say, Suikoden V is full of plot twists and betrayals making it a very interesting political story.

The character development is much better than the last two games in the series in that: there is development. The main character, being silent, has a very expressive face and you are given the choice to constantly be a bastard or be nice to people. [*That's not really a choice — SheepNinEd*] Other characters actually have backgrounds and will tell you about them or you can find out about them in very appropriate manners. Plus, there is the return of some of the series' necessities like: Jeane, the half naked sorceress that has lived for at least 400 years. In every installment of the game, Konami never ceases to amaze with how little clothing they can make Jeane wear.

The battle system allows you to have 6 characters fighting in battle at a time, with 4 people in support. It's a standard RPG battle system that looks very pretty. Unlike the 4th installment in the series, the characters don't all have the same battle stance.

The game itself is very fun, you can get 108 people on your party, and most of the characters that aren't story characters are pretty funny. There's one knight that constantly announces that he will "dispatch the foul villain and deposit their corpse into the nearest large body of water", and the character who randomly yells while screaming profanities about the antagonist.

Thus, the game is fun, serious, and amusing all at the same time. So long as you can survive mildly irritating voice actors, then it's all good.

Angelo

## Work for me!

Are you graduating sometime in the next twelve months? Do you have so much free time that you don't even know what to do with it? If your answers to both these questions are yes, drop by the MGC office and help out!

Meet people who will be graduating with you! Be the first to know what is going on in the committee! Most important of all, you'll have keys to your own office!

So come on down, and sign up for a position! It looks great on your resume. Employers care about volunteer work after all.

Ivan Chin

Math Grad Committee Chair 2007

## *mathNEWS* lite

Wonder why this issue of *mathNEWS* is so thin? You've picked up the new low fibre edition of *mathNEWS*. In an effort to save trees and your sanity, we've decided to make *mathNEWS* lighter, crispier, and more refreshing. So while we may have dropped off in quantity, fear not, we've made sure to include a corresponding drop in quality to balance things out. [*Because  $x/y = (x-c)/(y-c)$  — SheepNinEd*]

teh staff

## A Haiku for My Pants

There is a fire  
Fire is burning my pants  
Ow, pants on fire!

vb::sheep

## Sudoku problems

*Pure Math Sudoku Problem*

Prove or disprove the following is a sudoku

```
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
4 5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3
7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6
2 3 1 5 6 4 8 9 7
5 6 4 8 9 7 2 3 1
8 9 7 2 3 1 5 6 4
3 1 2 6 4 5 9 7 8
6 4 5 9 7 8 3 1 2
9 7 8 3 1 2 6 4 5
```

*Applied Math Sudoku Problem*

Find a practical use for a sudoku problem.

*C&O Sudoku Problem*

Count the number of possible sudokus.

*CS Sudoku Problem*

Write a program to solve any sudoku problem.

*Stats Sudoku Problem*

What is the probability that a 9x9 grid with 1s through 9s makes a Sudoku?

*Arts Sudoku Problem*

Fill in the following Sudoku:

## Sudoku

Matty, Jerry and Franklin sat around a rectangular table. Matty and Jerry shared the assignment problems and textbooks that were spread around on the table, while Franklin studied his partly-filled Imprint 25x25 Sudoku.

Jerry tried, and failed, for a while to concentrate on the assignment, until he noticed that Matty appeared distracted as well.

“So tell me, Ms. Mathews, what’s on your mind today?” asked Jerry.

“It’s nothing,” said Matty, her voiced cracked as she spoke and she forced a cough cover it up.

“Hey, are you okay, Matty? We’re here to listen,” said Jerry, gesturing to himself and Franklin, “whenever you need us.”

“Actually, I think I might drop out of CS,” said Matty.

Jerry looked up, “Are you serious?”

“Oh Christ!” Franklin exclaimed all of a sudden, “I broke the friggin Sudoku!”

“Well,” said Matty, “Microsoft finally got back to me on the co-op application. They rejected it.”

“So?” asked Jerry, “It’s such a stupid waste of time anyway, why aren’t you doing your assignments like the rest of us?”

“You don’t understand,” said Franklin, “I had more of it filled in than anyone else I know, I could have been the first to complete it.”

“That interviewer, we connected,” explained Matty, “we understood each other on a deeper level. I was certain I’d get the offer.”

“If you ask me,” said Jerry, “You’re better off leaving the job for somebody better. I don’t think you’re cut out for it.”

“You’re wrong, man,” said Franklin, “I think I can fix this thing.” He grabbed another Imprint and started copying over his Sudoku.

“It must have been a mistake,” said Matty, “I’m completely qualified for this job. It’s perfect for me. It was meant for me.”

“Just give up already, you’re better off without it anyway,” said Jerry.

“Look,” said Franklin, pointing at the paper, “I eliminated W from this cell, when I actually meant to eliminate it from this one over here — I just need to roll back these changes here ...”

“I’m going to go talk to CECS about this, I’m going to email the interviewer,” said Matty.

“I hope you fail miserably with that,” said Jerry, “I honestly do. You need to move on with your life.”

“It’s going to work, you’ll see,” said Franklin, “I’ll be the first one on campus to solve this puzzle.”

“I’ll call the recruiter, I’ll petition the CEO ...” Matty said.

“That’s crazy,” said Jerry, “You’re crazy, man, I- I don’t know why I even talk to you at all, Franklin.”

Matty looked back and forth between the two boys. “You’re not even listening to me,” Slightly cracking up now, “I’m facing the crisis of my life, I’ve lost faith in my worth and my abilities and I’m questioning every decision I’ve made in my life up to this very moment, and the two of you are arguing about a word puzzle.”

“It’s not a word puzzle ...” Franklin tried to explain, but Matty regained her composure and continued, “Hey, you know what you two remind me of?”

Matty picked up the *mathNEWS*, flipped to a page in the middle and started reading.

Peiran Guo

## Mathilda Mathews

While Jerry was still reading the *mathNEWS* A boy in a green and purple jacket walked up behind Matty. He stood and glanced around awkwardly for a moment, then said, “Hey, Molly, I hope you’re feeling better?”

Matty turned around, “Excuse me, are you talking to me?”

“I just want to say I heard about your father, and, and,” the boy stammered.

Matty looked at him quizzically and said, “Did you just call me Molly? You got the wrong girl, pal.”

The boy blinked. “Err, um, sorry, I thought you were someone from res.” He turned around, walked a few steps away, hesitated for a moment, and then headed off towards the computer labs.

“That’s the second time this week somebody’s mistaken me for a ‘Molly,’” said Matty.

“That’s an uncommon name, I can look it up on UWDir,” said Franklin. He did a UWDir query on his laptop.

“Well, there’s an English prof named Molly, and there’s a Molly in Stats,” said Franklin, “...Her user name is Mrs. Fields.”

“What is that, her nickname?” asked Jerry.

“No, it’s her username — M-R-S-Fields.”

“What’s her middle name then?”

“Rebecca Stephanie; it’s Molly Rebecca Stephanie Fields.”

Matty’s posture straightened up in a sudden fit of *deja vu*. “Rebecca Stephanie? I’ve heard that name recently,” she announced, “I just can’t remember where...”

The table fell silent with the sound of quiet contemplation. Jerry, straining to comprehend the situation, finally spoke up to offer Matty his explanation.

“Mrs. Fields is a brand of cookies,” he told her.

Peiran Guo

## MathSoc Seeking SysAdmin

### *Fabulous Resume-Enhancing Opportunity*

MathSoc is seeking a new Systems Administrator to replace the old fart doing the job now who is graduating next Winter. We have a Linux file and web server, as well as a Windows 2003 domain with about seven workstations. There’s also a networked printer and a 24-port Cisco 2590 switch, but you don’t really need to know much about either of those.

If you are interested in doing some volunteer Systems Administration and have a modicum of experience, please contact [computing@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:computing@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca) for more information.

Eric Logan

MathSoc Computing Director

## Looking for something to do on a Monday night? Come write for *mathNEWS*!

Next production night begins May 29th at 6:30PM, MC 3038. Come for the people, stay for the pizza.



**profQUOTES**

I find students answer questions I pose in lecture in a fashion similar to penguins feeding.

McKinnon, PMATH 345

In general,  $n$  is not prime. We know that, since, if it were, we'd call it  $p$ .

McKinnon, PMATH 345

You want to obtain an element of the ring. If you multiplied two elements and got, say, a panther, you'd probably be upset. Unless you were working in a ring of panthers, which you very well might be.

McKinnon, PMATH 345

People who think that 0 is a zero-divisor should be locked in a room with the people who think 1 is prime.

McKinnon, PMATH 345

The first time you encounter a quotient ring, they look annoying, stupid, and messy. Well, that's because they are.

McKinnon, PMATH 345

If we write out the digits from  $2-n\dots$  I'm assuming you all know how to do this...

New, PMATH 340

I tried to do this proof before class but I got stuck. However, I think it's within the scope of this course, so I'll leave it as an exercise.

[Writes on board] 'I don't know how to prove this but I don't think it's too hard.'

New, PMATH 340

[Eats some potato chips from a student's bag] This food is in the school, it belongs to me if I want it.

Smith, ECON 102

The only thing that can go wrong is that this is complete gibberish. Admittedly, that's a pretty strong thing to go wrong.

McKinnon, PMATH 345

$q$  kills the elements of  $I$ , and  $f\sim$  carries the corpses to their grave in  $T$ .

McKinnon, PMATH 345

I feel good when I'm fainting!

Wood, MUSIC 140

[Sketches a fairly accurate map of the USA on the board] I had a slow childhood.

Wood, MUSIC 140

Right here, this is where the city of New Orleans used to be.

Wood, MUSIC 140

This is your opportunity to see the difference between a guitar player and a guitar owner.

Wood, MUSIC 140

Why Roman numerals? Everything looks more important with Roman numerals.

Wood, MUSIC 140

I'm not being cruel to you yet... I'll wait till the drop date.

O'Donovan, PHYS 334

Prof: What's random here?

Student: Mu. No, let me guess again. Mu-hat.

Prof: That's close to all possible wrong answers.

Marriott, STAT 231

There's no chance that the size of a baby could be affecting the retail price index - unless, of course, it's a really enormous baby.

Marriott, STAT 231

I could randomly force some people to eat tofu and others to eat McDonald's and see who dies first. That's a perfectly respectable statistical study.

Marriott, STAT 231

[A crowd of people in black suits materializes in the hall.] We should invite them in to see if they want to do some linear algebra. They look like they do.

Vanderburgh, MATH 235

Prof: Does anybody have any questions?

Student: Where did you get that shirt?

Vanderburgh, MATH 235

For those of you preparing to fail, I'm teaching this course again in the summer.

Wolczuk, MATH 237

If the marker doesn't bring assignments back on Wednesday, I'll kick him with my Robocop foot.

Goulden, MATH 249

I dated someone from [a new-age Christian movement] once. She said "don't call it an alarm clock, call it an opportunity clock." Yeah, that lasted long.

Burris, PSYCH 232

If a Satanist falls in the forest and there's no-one to dismember him, is he really evil? [...] Look, I don't know, it's the last lecture and it's warm out.

Burris, PSYCH 232

We've given you a spoiled, maggot-infested fiesta of evil throughout the term.

Burris, PSYCH 232

I would rather take Obscure Plumbing Backorder Catalogues 101 than Psychology of Evil.

Burris, PSYCH 232

[After reciting "Little Miss Muffet"] People are saying "that's the first thing you've said all term that I understand." [...] You have to think of me as a transgendered, grey Miss Muffet.

Burris, PSYCH 232

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