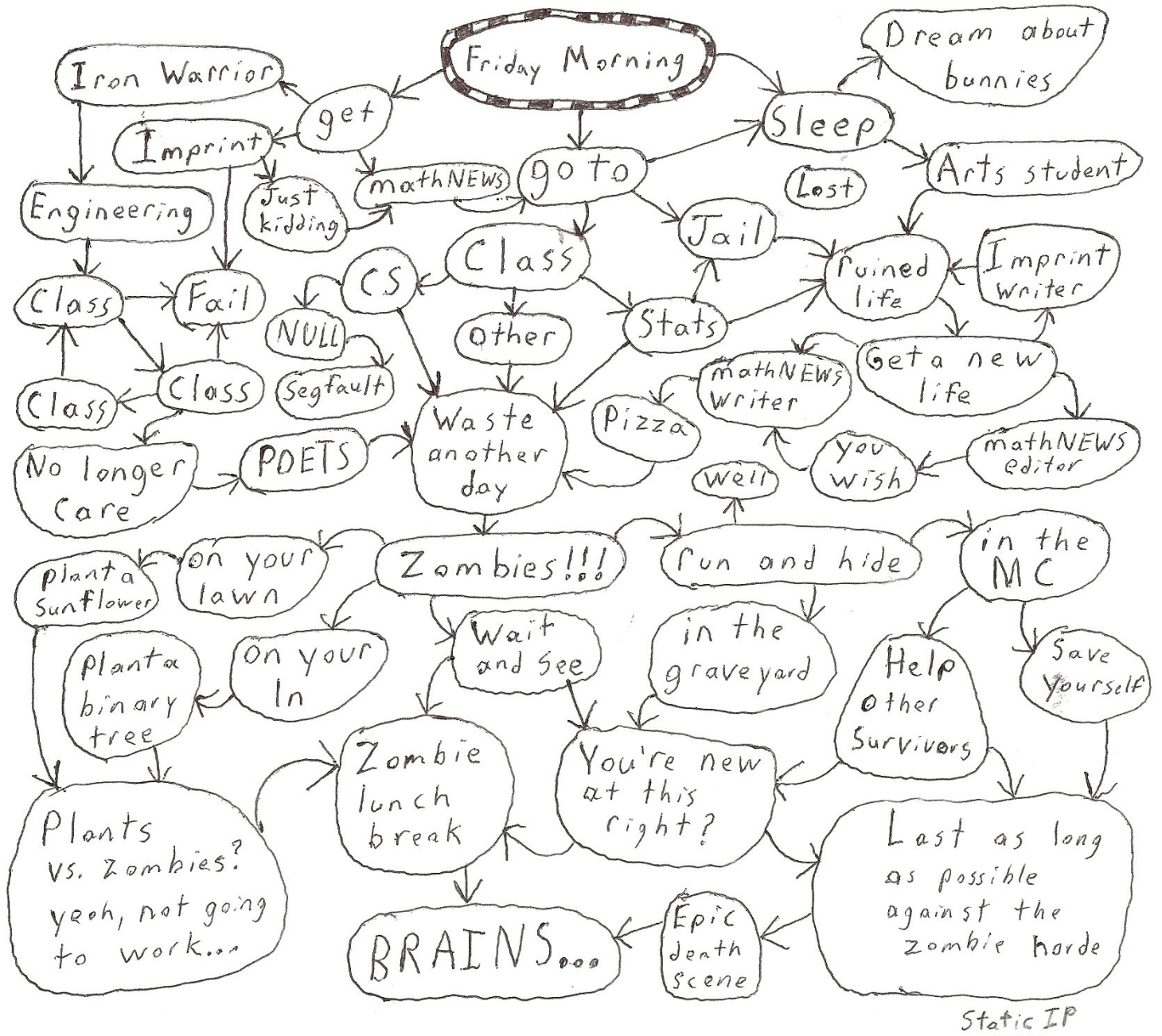


math NEWS



Volume 110, Issue 5
Friday, July 10th, 2009



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lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

July 10	It becomes apparent that issue 5 was thrown together at the last second.
July 20	The editors are forced to not study and prepare for Production Night 6.

MathSoc

Tuesdays	Movie Nights 7:00 in comfy
Thursdays	Games Nights 7:00 in comfy

Math Faculty

Questions about these?	See an Academic Advisor
Ongoing	The Math Faculty still has nothing to say to mathNEWS , we feel left out.

CECS

Ongoing	Continous round of Interviews
Ongoing	Many many workshops, see them all at http://www.cecs.uwaterloo.ca/students/

Miscellaneous

Ongoing	mathNEWS launches Operation Pink "Tie"
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Prez Sez

Hello, hello yet again. Hopefully, midterms went well for all of you, or at least well enough that you are still with us and still reading *mathNEWS*. And, lucky you, MathSoc has lots of things planned for the final stretch - because we all need a nice break before exams! There'll be the REAL (but irrational) Pi Approximation Day on July 22nd, and a few more events before the term is over, and as always, Movie Nights are Tuesdays and Games Nights are Thursdays, both in the Comfy, and both full of free food and great company.

In other MathSoc-related business, our lovely office director just held a storage room cleaning party, and we found something we've never seen in the storage room before: shelves! And floor! Can you believe it, there was floor in that room! And now that it's visible again, I doubt it will be visible for much longer, as I suspect we will soon find many other things that will need to be "stored" up there.

Well, that's all for now. Enjoy your few weeks of freedom, and hopefully I'll see you around at some of our upcoming events!

Nadia Novikova

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The editor(s): Larry, Walt, and Ignor: John Stevenson, John Baxter, Rami Finkelshtein

mastHEAD

Dear valued *mathNEWS* reader,

I had a dream a few nights ago that I was sitting in one of my CS classes. I know, it appears that I have profoundly boring dreams, but bear with me. In this dream, we were studying, once again, a collection of concepts that made absolutely zero sense to everyone in the room, including all the fictitious animals occupying the front row. The class definitely did not improve when the professor decided to take a ten-minute break to play a particularly flawed game of Solitaire, involving multiple extra suits in colours such as green and purple. I was actually quite relieved when the professor exploded and the blackboard set itself on fire, because I knew it signalled an end to the odd classroom experience.

This brings me to my ultimate point. Are our CS classes too surreal? Should we not be concerned about the poor student sitting in the crowded back of the classroom wishing that his or her (Well, theoretically we have at least one girl in the class) professor would come to a dreamlike end, such as being eaten by the projector, or carried off by a passing mantis? What support is in place for the student who is legitimately afraid that the blackboard could spontaneously combust, or worse, start teaching the class?

The answer simply, is no. There is no support. There is no relief. And yet, more and more computer science material appears to be leaking into our dreams, spawning nightmares of academia, or even mixing material we learned in class with the perverse ramblings of our subconscious prof.

In short, a plan must be put in place to reduce the amount of surreal material in the classroom. My first suggestion is to limit languages used in classes and assignments to languages that actually make sense. You know which languages I am referring to...

Secondly, material should be limited to material that one might experience in the physical realm. This would, in essence, eliminate every CS course with the possible exception of CS100 and CS200.

Once these two policies are put in place, you can be assured of the increased happiness among all but the keenest, most annoying of students.

And so, the *mastHEAD* question is: **How would you make CS less surreal?**

"Stop wearing my kilt to class."(42), "The same way I make everything else less surreal, Pinky. TRY TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD! MWAHAHAHAHA!"(Insider), "Serve the King!"(The Hee Ho), "glitches, glitches, glitches, like $1+1=$:)"(CODE), "Don't let *mathNEWS* writers enroll in CS courses."(MJB), "Only Cantor's sets can hold Doubled Stuffed Oreos."(TCC), "Take real-time."(inXSE), "But then I'd be out of work!"(the Unnatural Historian), "Go in to engineering."(monkeyspoon5), "More rock bands"(_), "Take the limit of the course as I approach infinity!"(cache-22), "Require that trees actually have real tree colours like brown and green."(Tbor), "Tilt the Unix labs 90 degrees to the side."(Snippet)

ImpulsED

Reduce my pre-class drug intake.

Sarah Palin Resigns

New governor to take office in two weeks

Alaska Governor Sarah Palin surprised everyone and your mother last week when she announced that she plans to resign from her post.

Palin, who made the announcement in her backyard in Wasilla, only said publicly that she wants to do the right thing for Alaska. We at *mathNEWS* were not satisfied with this response, so we went on a quest for more info.

mathNEWS has learned that Palin wants to spend the next two years preparing for her 2012 Presidential run. "As much as I love being able to see Russia from my home, that doesn't cut it," she said about her foreign policy experience. "There are so many other countries I want to see. I heard Canada's cold, but I like a challenge."

Palin rose to worldwide fame last year when she ran for Vice President under John McCain. Her frequent bloopers and blunders led Americans to question her ability to lead a flock of sheep, much less one of the world's most powerful nations.

A senior official in the Obama administration said that the President is excited about Palin's potential 2012 bid. "It would make his job a lot easier when re-election time rolls around," he said on condition of anonymity.

Lieutenant Governor Sean Parnell will be sworn in as Palin's replacement on July 27th.

InsideR

Don't you talk about that MCTF thang! *trisnaps*

The next-non event will certainly not be taking place at 11:59PM on the 19th of this month in front of the Comfy Lounge (MC 3001). For those of you not attempting to show up to an event on nights that are not that, you will be sorely disappointed.

Not In Any Way The Management

UW Gamers is Rocking Out and Fighting On!

Come on out and show your stuff

UW Gamers has **two** events coming up to celebrate the coming end of term!

- Wed July 22nd - **Fight On** - Multiple fighting game tournaments in one night! Show off your skills in Street Fighter 3S, Street Fighter IV, Arcana Heart, Guilty Gear, and the new hotness, *BlazBlue*. Additional tournaments will be run based on participant demand.
- Thurs July 30th - **Rock Band Battle of the Bands** - Find your 3 best friends, dress up in the most outlandish costume you can think of, and prove to the panel of judges that you are the best Rock Band on the face of the Earth! Or at least in Waterloo.

For more information about these events, check out the UW Gamers website at: www.uwgamers.org

UW Gamers Dude

Letter to the editor

I'd like to make several remarks regarding the article "Sexual discrimination across Canada in education" published in the latest issue (Volume 110 Issue 4) of *mathNEWS*.

With respect to the high school education, all I want to ask is this: why must "making [high school] more accessible" (or less "oppressive") for one gender come at a cost to the other gender?

It is true that women are achieving parity with men in education at the undergraduate level, if by parity we mean the relative number of people enrolled in universities, or graduating from universities. However:

- 80% of students enrolled in architecture or engineering are male.
- 74% of students enrolled in math or computer science are male.

(The data is from StatCan in 2006, for university enrolments of full time students at the undergraduate level.)

So women are overrepresented these areas as well? Or are men somehow being discriminated specifically in the humanities?

The writer blames "affirmative action" for the lack of males in universities. Apparently, "affirmative action" (known as "employment equity", in Canada, by the way) involves fixing the gender and racial profile of an entering class then fulfilling the profile even if it means passing over an academically qualified ("naturally", male) student in favour of a less qualified student of a different race or gender. (At least one school does not take this approach; see <http://tech.mit.edu/V117/N40/hove.40c.html>) Apparently, the thought that the women might actually be qualified to begin with never crossed his mind.

The writer also points out that we here at Waterloo have a "Women's Centre" but no "Men's Centre". I am curious - if there existed a "Men's Centre", how many guys would actually go there for help on things of a personal (i.e. not strictly schoolwork) nature? Furthermore, Counselling Services are perfectly happy to help people of either gender. Actually, academic advisors help students regardless of gender. In fact, even the Women's Centre - and I quote - "provide resources to **all** students who seek out assistance, regardless of age, gender, sex, ethnicity, religion, or even UW affiliation" (emphasis theirs).

One more thing - the act of claiming that one is in favour in equality does not necessarily make the person actually in favour of equality.

Sincerely,
Emily Chan

Math Grad Committee needs your help!

Make sure you get the Grad Ball and Year Book you deserve!

Do you want to graduate in style? Do you want to have a great party at the end of your university career? How about a year book? Then you should volunteer for the Math Grad Committee! We have plenty of room for volunteers, so just let us know by e-mailing us at mathgrad.2010@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you!

Michaelangelo Finistauri
Math Grad Chair, 2010

Your editor is sick

In the head

Hey kiddos, I'm writing this from home, because as the title implies, I am feeling like crap. [*What a strange craving that is, RamED! — ImpulsED*]

So while everyone is getting up to write *mathNEWS*, I am getting down with the sickness. With all of that, it is time for a delusional rant.

So today I realized how stupid the university's dependence on Health Services is. Normally, I like to believe in the competitive market approach to just about everything. If you don't like the service you are getting from one provider (or in this case doctor) then go to another provider. However, this little gem of economic choice isn't even possible with the university as many profs require the specific university form (that cannot be signed by any doctor that isn't part of Health Services) to excuse you from a test. So naturally being sick for the last four days and having a test tomorrow (that last part makes more sense when you take into account that *mathNEWS* is written on Mondays) I decided to trek out to Health Services and go through the proper channels to get a note for my prof today because who knows what will happen tomorrow. And this is where the great trouble began.

First of all, during the spring term, a walk-in doctor isn't even available. All you have is a nurse. Which is not to say that the nurses are bad, they are just always reluctant to actually give you a diagnosis or sign your verification of illness form (the one needed to get out of tests and exams). Well then the easiest way to get past this seems to make an appointment with one of the doctors. But oh wait, you should make that appointment 4 days before you get sick because that's the usual waiting time to get an appointment at any reasonable hour (at least 2 days for unreasonable hour). Honestly, in 4 days I might not even be sick anymore and then you will think I am just lying to get out of failing a test I missed. Which brings me to my next point.

Health Services has this crazy idea that EVERY student is lying to them just to get out of a test. Honestly, I would rather write the test, but you know what, I already missed the last four days

worth of studying because of this sickness. The test is tomorrow and because I will probably not be feeling well by then and I come into your office with a fever, sore throat and muscle weakness the last thing I need is for you to assume I am faking everything to get out of writing a test. It's crappy enough being sick, having someone accuse you of lying about being sick is pretty damn bad. As a random note in here: have you ever tried studying for an ActSci exam? It is difficult to pass those things even when you are feeling perfectly fine, let alone when you are feeling like crap.

The other thing that doesn't make sense is Health Services rating of illness system. First you have negligible, which essentially says you are full of crap and not sick. Why anyone would pay \$10 to get this embossed to make it official makes no sense to me. Second option is slight. This essentially means that the sickness is so slight that it should not impact your ability to take tests. This yet again seems like a semi-useless rating since it doesn't tell the prof anything significant. The third rating is known as moderate and describes itself as has "significant impact on the student's performance." Now last time I checked significant impact is like the difference between a pass and a fail. And this is considered moderate. So what could be worse? Severe!!! Which says you should not be going to class at all. Now I have this simple question. If you should not be going to classes you probably shouldn't be leaving the house. Which probably means you are bad enough to be in the emergency room, in which case why the hell are you at Health Services anyway?

Needless to say, most of the time it seems like going to Health Services is a waste of your time, but for some reason something that is required. I had some anecdotal evidence, but at this point my head is starting to hurt, which probably means this is enough random thought ranting.

Probably too sick to write
RamED

The Rage

Michael Jackson is dead. We get it.

If you weren't already aware, you have been clearly hiding under some rock in another galaxy for the last two weeks, coming only for a copy of *mathNEWS*.

As tragic as Jackson's death is, I fail to understand how it is more tragic than the hundreds of deaths that took place as you read that last sentence. Yes, he was a brilliant musician, though his talent has grossly faded over the past ten years. In my view, the talent by which he was known has been gone for a very long time, even before his death.

Mainstream media have been covering this story like flies cover feces, and it's come to the point where it is annoying. Some of the "Top Headlines" I've seen over the past couple of weeks include:

- Listen to the 911 call
- Autopsy results expected in 4-6 weeks

- Jackson's body returned to family
- Family does not yet have Jackson's will
- Mother gets custody of Jackson's kids
- Millions apply to attend funeral
- Executor of Jackson's will not yet named
- ...

Sheesh! Just Beat It already! Yes, his music was awesome (I admit to having rediscovered it in the last week), but his death is not enough of a Thriller to merit all of the coverage it's getting!

For the love of Billie Jean, let him rest in peace!

The Rage

Horrorscopes

It's Pantsless Friday! Get nekkid at once!!

ACCOUNTING: You pay a friend of yours in CS to make an accountancy-based video game, World of Borecraft. You can either be a “good” accountant or a “bad” accountant. As the latter, you get to steal from companies and sometimes go to jail! Soon 90% of all accountants have quit their jobs to eat Cheetos and defraud virtual shareholders all day.

Your lucky number: +2 Abacus-Wielding.

ACTSCI: You had created an experience table for the mortality rates of male celebrities, and had taken bets on when Michael Jackson would die. Turns out you were off by a day, and you lose your entire student loan. To pay for school, you get a job as a zombie in a Thriller-based musical. Your parents tell everyone that you moved to the U.S.

Your lucky number: 40.

AHS: You apply your health science to a new area of medical research, kinesthesiology: the art of making people's muscles numb and unusable by poking them in just the right spot. All of your clients sue you and you go to jail for malpractice or something. Or maybe you just get fined a lot. Whatever.

Your lucky number: 1-800-649-2568.

AMATH: Your grades suck, so you apply your maths to the problem in order to determine how to raise them. Unfortunately, your grades suck because you suck at applying maths. Seriously, Fermat's Little Theorem has nothing to do with vector spaces. Anyways, you end up accidentally destroying the world in a nuclear holocaust, but not before failing out of university.

Your lucky number: a^p .

ARTS: You get drunk and write a short story for your English class. Your professor loves it and convinces you to get it published. Soon you are a world-famous author with 10 best-sellers and millions of dollars. You blow it all on heroin and become poor and live in a box.

Your lucky number: #1.

C&O: You attempt to optimize your relationships with other people and discover that the world would be better off without you. Instead of killing yourself, you work hard to try to become a better person. You fail, and *then* you kill yourself.

Your lucky number: 0.

CS: You take Graphics and spend 6 hours of every night of the term working on it. You finally get hierarchical transformations working, but fail all of your other courses. You switch into Fine Arts so you can continue making pretty pictures, trading one windowless cage (the MC) for another (East Campus Hall).

Your lucky number: ϵ .

ENG: This week you are in electrical & computer engineering, and you discover that the only 3rd-year course on the pre-enrollment list is OS. Rather than fill out a thousand override forms and hope the department gets its act together, you switch into Arts. This begins your slow decline into being poor and living in a box.

Your lucky number: 354.

ES: In order to make you more sensitive to environmental issues, your professor hypnotizes you and convinces you that you're a peregrin falcon. You hallucinate about ingesting DDT and failing to reproduce. You begin crying and the professor tries to bring you out of the trance, but you go insane and peck her eyes out.

Your lucky number: 3 years in an asylum.

MATHBUS: You fail your ethics course because it is blatantly obvious that you went into business to scam people. You pay a CS student to hack into the Registrar's database and change your mark to an 80. You go on to become a millionaire and jump ship into politics before your racket is discovered.

Your lucky number: 32.

MATHSCI: You wake up one day and realize that you are neither a serious mathematician nor a real scientist. It occurs to you that exploiting this fact means you actually have a chance of getting laid. You start spending all your time hanging out in bars and avoiding anything math- or science-related. One morning you wake up poor in a box with a terrible headache, and realize that you have accidentally become an Arts student.

Your lucky number: 89.

PMATH: Your girlfriend (Yes, in this story you actually have a girlfriend. Play along.) asks you to explain what you're studying to her. She becomes convinced that projective geometry is “blackest magick” and sells you into slavery. The only thing more painful than the whip on your back is your broken heart.

Your lucky number: $1/2$.

SCI: Inspired by *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, you start creating bizarre chimeras. These include Aardvark Scissorhands (half aardvark, half scissors), Davy Jones (half human, half octopus), and Rosie O'Donnell (mostly whale). You are arrested after creating Pedobear (half human, half bear, all inappropriate).

Your lucky number: 16+

SOFTENG: You decide to take an ATE in your 3A term, but realize too late that both OS and UI are now together in that term. You are found dead in your room 1 month into it. The coroner determines that you died from lack of sleep and immense amounts of caffeine. Your process priority queue doesn't even work.

Your lucky number: 300 mg/day.

STAT: You estimate that anyone you ask out will probably say no, and thus never bother to ask. This is because you are like the ShamWow guy, except more annoying and not in jail. You run away to a secluded mountain cabin and live off squirrels and wild raspberries.

Your lucky number: 8 for only \$19.95.

UNDECLARED: You can't decide on what to pre-enroll in and the deadline passes. You figure it doesn't matter since the Registrar just screws it all up anyways. However, once actual enrollments happen almost nothing fits your schedule, and you end up taking Spanish, French, and Russian. Who can live at that speed? You become so confused that your head explodes.

Your lucky numbers: uno, deux, tri.

inXSE

Need somma that sassisfactions?

Unnatural History

AI

There was a computer named A.
It didn't have too much to say.
A programmer bored.
Intelligence stored.
And then AI was here to stay.

profQUOTES

...That was not meant to be understandable to most of you.

New, PMATH 467

Do you want an honest answer? The honest answer is that I don't remember what the definition of this is.

New, PMATH 467

So, you might think that [cohomology groups] are useless to study, and you could certainly be forgiven for that.

New, PMATH 467

(About a 6-dimensional space) I think that it's not so easy to visualize this space.

New, PMATH 467

A lot of the work in making a commercial product is making it robust against stupid users.

McCool, CS 488

And by "evil", I mean "thorough".

McCool, CS 488

Russian Roulette. You all know this game. Don't play it at home, though.

McCool, CS 488

(About grad school) You get a reasonably nice salary for just talking to me now and then.

Ben-David, CS 489

I can still four-letter-word you on the exam.

Ben-David, CS 489

But before we start talking about that, I promised you stories.

Ben-David, CS 489

From experience, you should know that anything I promise to do today, I will do a week from now.

Ben-David, CS 489

I forgot to bring in a hard disk to show you today, so everyone go home tonight, rip off your PC casings, and open your hard disks. [pause] Don't!!!

Ben-David, CS 251

"Virtual" is a fancy word for "fake", but it wouldn't be very good for marketing to say, "New and improved computers: now with fake memory!"

Ben-David, CS 251

If the answer's wrong, change the question. It always works!

Sakhr, AMath 261

This distribution is SO good that it was the theme of my wedding.

Sakhr, AMath 261

Do we need an example? [Class: "No."] Okay, we'll do an example.

Kennings, ME 123

So at any point, it is spreading out with a sort of... "spreading-outiness" of 3.

West, AMath 231

...Ignore my sandal farts.

West, AMath 231

That was a CS joke! You were not listening, and it was the best one I made all term!

Kierstead, CS 246

Fuschia, magenta, pink for those of you who like simple words, not ten letter Scrabble words.

Kierstead, CS 246

Student questions are kind of like penguins having lunch.

McKinnon, PMath 334

Bar or star? Bar sounds good. It sounds like Friday.

Michailovich, Math 213

The formal definition sucks.

McKinnon, PMath 334

When you get tenure, you can teach the class.

McKinnon, PMath 334

This is my class. I get to decide what "we" believe.

McKinnon, PMath 334

That's weird, i doesn't equal 3. Well it does today!

McKinnon, PMath 334

y couldn't have killed X. X was already dead.

McKinnon, PMath 334

$1 + 1 = 2$. Any questions?

McKinnon, PMath 334

how StaticED Fucked Up This Issue Of Issue Of *mathNEWS*

I swear this isn't filler. Honest like.

So I'm sitting in the lab writing this with four other writers. StaticED isn't here. He's upstairs locked in his office playing with a stuffed beaver. Apparrenntly he isn't editing tonight either. He also didn't know that the none of the other editors guys were going to show up. Everything this week is his fault !!! I swear. [Hey! I worked hard on this issue of issue of *mathNEWS* — StaticED]

If he wasn't upstairs doing weird things to that beaver I would be yelling at him? It's his fault that the lab is closed and we're with a bunch of random CS students. Also it's his fault that the cursed daystar shows up everyday. I mean like whats the deal with that? Free energy flowing to us? What the hell was he somking?

Now I know what You're thinking, "This isn't fair, StaticED can't be to blame for some of those things." Well, you'r wrong. StaticED is resssponsible for everything. Angelo is missing, an asteroid is heading towards the earth and bRUCE WILLIS just fell off a cliff. StaticED, you owe me a drink in nine days. I will collect. Interest is a drink per week after those 9 days. [Excuse me, but I too participated in the fucking up of this issue. — ImpulsED]

IdiotED

Temporary Editor of the Universe

Ask the Panda

Life Advice for the Orientated

Is Orientated even a word? I had to look it up and it turns out it was the British version of the word Oriented. Who knew? Regardless, ignore my self-indulgence with Orientation Week, which has its Leader Retreat this weekend. I'm excited to meet all my team members, actually, and I heard the Head Leader of my team is a big go-getter and she was going to do all the work too. What a great person, eh? Anyway, I had the good fortune to get hold of a copy of this fine publication last week, only to find to my great dismay that one Orange Crush is retiring from the writing of further articles. No offense intended for any other author, but he was hands down my favourite *mathNEWS* writer. However, I understand his desire to place academics and personal life ahead of his responsibility to *mathNEWS*. Man, I miss the guy already, and I have no idea who he is. Anyway, on to this week's real topic: Friendship. You'll see what I mean after these kinds of questions:

I've got a friend who's got a thing for this boy. A mutual acquaintance of the two knew that the boy didn't like her back, so she made up this story of how the boy liked some other girl to throw my friend off. I'm really mad at her now because this was none of her business to begin with. What do you think?

~ Really not my business

Well now, your moniker seems to solve the problem quite nicely. I'd agree your mutual acquaintance stepped out of bounds with his creation of a wild fantasy, though he was clearly doing it with the best of intentions. To be honest, I don't know how much of a consolation that would have been, since in either case, the boy would have rejected your friend here. The bottom line is this: it's done and over with, and it's not something you would have condoned. That's fine. If it's not an issue anymore, don't push it any further because you never know where that may lead you in argument. Sometimes when it comes to squabbles as such,

it's best to just leave it be and find other sources of drama. (Unless of course you think it'd happen again, in which case you may want to talk to your intervening acquaintance about staying out of your business).

I've got a buddy of mine who's in a slump. After his dog died a term ago, he's changed into a completely different person, and his new behaviour is bugging everyone else. What can we do?

~ Annoyed

Whenever something traumatic happens to someone and changes them, the change is usually profoundly difficult to tolerate at first. Then again, this new behaviour is now part of their personality, so whatever it is, you can call it a personality flaw. There are a few avenues that you can take when your friend's behaviour is severely starting to bug you. First off, do you think you've done your best to tolerate it? If you have and it's not helping, it's time to speak up. Yes, I know confrontations suck.. I've been there. I'm a firm believer in that if you have a problem with a friend, and especially a friend whom you care about, then you'd confront them about things they are doing wrong. Not a view shared by many of my friends, but hey, to each their own. Be direct when you talk to this buddy. Don't skirt around the issues. Point out what it is that bothers you and use concrete examples if you can. People with flaws often don't see them, so sometimes all they need is a wakeup call. If that doesn't work, (i.e. they can't help it), suggest counseling or something. It's free at UW. Finally, if they won't fix it or acknowledge that it's a problem, consider finding another group you can better tolerate.

The bottom line this week, I guess, is that friends are there for each other. Even to the point of being overly there for each other. Know the boundary, and don't cross it too often!

Dr. Panda

Games to Play When You're Tired of Left 4 Dead

Valve's hit game **Left 4 Dead** has been around for months now, and the announcement of the sequel, **Left 2 Dead 2**, has been a tacit acknowledgement that no one wants to play the original title anymore. In response to this, many game developers have chosen to fill the void with new games based on the same premise.

1. **Left 4 Bread** - A rag tag group featuring an army vet, a biker, a black guy, and a woman find themselves with an empty breadbox, and have to team up to get to the local supermarket to restock their cupboard. Watch out for those old ladies slowing the checkout line, counting out exactly 186 pennies!
2. **Left 4 Ned** - A rag tag group featuring an army vet, a biker, a black guy, and a woman head out to the bar, only realize that they left their friend Ned back at home! Brave public transit and random drunks on a Friday night! Don't step in that puddle! It's not water!
3. **Lent 4 Dead** - A rag tag group featuring an army vet, a biker, a black guy, and a woman have chosen to give up shooting zombies for Lent. The only problem is the Zombie Apocalypse they find themselves in! Will they survive the 40 days and 6 Sundays, or will they suffer a much worse fate at the hands of Satan himself?

4. **Sent 4 Mead** - A rag tag group featuring an army vet, a biker, a black guy, and a woman are in Medieval England working at a local pub, when their manager tells them that the kegs have run dry, and sends them out for replacement stock! Make your way to the brewery while avoiding beggars, shifty salesmen, and The Plague!
5. **Spent 4 Lead** - A rag tag group featuring an army vet, a biker, a black guy, and a woman settle down on the island of Catan, and soon discover that they have a critical shortage of sheep! Take up your shipment of lead and make your way to a neighbouring settlement to make the vital trade! Watch out for knights and robbers along the longest road!

MJB

**mathNEWS, now on
Twitter as
UWmathNEWS**

Random Blab

So I'm currently sitting in the library, tired after attempting the second number of my assignment. I've already had an idea of what to write for this week since 2 weeks ago. Okay so here it goes! I'm going to introduce different characters and make some lame-o story.

"The guy", he is the eager one who will never stop chasing "the girl". "The girl", she is the one who is confused all the time. "The best friend", she is the one who just listens to the random crap "the girl" says, although she kinda annoys "the girl" and uses "the girl" to get what she wants. "The crush", he is now "the girl"'s best friend or good listener, although "the girl" denies that she still has a little crush on him. "The blabber", he is the guy who exaggerates everything and from his name, the blabber mouth. "The listener", he just listens to random people's problems. "The indecisive", she really doesn't know what she wants. She wants this but then she wants that. "The kid", she acts just like a kid. Sometimes it just gets annoying. (These characters are in no way affiliated to anyone.)

So one day, "the girl" was in some random corner in MC with "the best friend". They were just hanging out, sharing stories to each other. Then "the best friend" was picking up a phone call and "the girl" decided to talk to "the crush", trying not to make it awkward. After some time, "the blabber" and "the guy" came over and "the guy" was trying to get "the girl"'s attention. "The best friend" was done with her phone call but then she had to leave. Apparently, it's because "the kid" demanded "the best friend" to come over. So "the girl" wasn't too happy about it and decided to talk to "the listener" and he told "the girl" not to think too much about it. Then "the indecisive" came and, being herself, she started asking "the girl" for her opinion on what to do about someone who has been checking her out. If she should go for him but then she's too scared. Then "the guy" pulled "the girl" away from the crowd. He told her that he likes her. And it's to be continued ...

Here we have the math equation :

- "the girl" + "the best friend" = gossip
- "the kid" + "the best friend" = jealous of "the girl"
- "the guy" + "the girl" = still unknown
- "the crush" + "the girl" = "the blabber" + "the guy"
- "the girl" + "the indecisive" = annoyance
- "the blabber" => gossip => "the listener"
- "the crush" + "the girl" => never going to happen
- "the best friend" = jealous of "the girl" - "the kid"
- "the girl" + jealous of "the girl" - "the kid" = gossip
- "the girl" + jealous of "the girl" - "the kid" = "the listener"
- "the guy" + "the girl" + "the best friend" + "the crush" + "the blabber" + "the listener" + "the indecisive" + "the kid" = the (guy + girl + best friend + crush + blabber + listener + indecisive + kid)

Well okay, I think that's it for now but I should continue it with something again.

Peace out,
Queen B

My Immortal

The Worst Fanfiction So Far

When I began my dive into the Internet for terrible things, 4chan was one of the first things I found. This was bad, but I wanted something worse. I wanted to truly know insanity. Enter: My Immortal.

My Immortal is a fanfiction written for fanfiction.net which is notorious for being the worst piece of writing mankind has produced thus far. Written by Tara Gilesbie, it is set in the "Harry Potter" universe. Very loosely set in said universe. For example, Harry is now known as "Vampire Potter" and is in Slytherin. Oh, he's also bisexual and used to date Draco Malfoy. *This is only the beginning.*

The main character is a Mary Sue named Ebony Dark'ness Dementia Raven Way. Often referred to as Enoby, she is "goffic", likes My Chemical Romance and other "goff" bands such as Good Charlotte. She describes her clothes in great detail and often goes on shopping sprees. She is a vampire, a witch, and her main problem is that she is so beautiful and has such pale skin that everyone falls in love with her.

Whether it is the spelling errors or the author's notes about "flammin prepz", there will be something for you to "love" about

this fic. I swear. I haven't lost my mind by Voldemort being referred to as "Darth Valer" and Tom "Satan" Bombadil. Or Marty McFly showing up with a time machine. Or teachers being "goff" and referring to their students as "bitch" casually and people saying people getting killed is "kawaii". I want to throw up.

Now unfortunately this is not as bad as it could be. The numerous spelling errors aside, we *mathNEWS* writers have found a way to make it worse. If you were to insert furry porn into the "sex" scenes before everyone pulls their glocks out, we believe it might be the worst thing ever, and could not be topped. Thank you sanity loss!

monkeyspoon5
Rolling 1D6 Will Damage

**Two and a half editors died to
make this issue of *mathNEWS***

TRANSFORMERS

My first ever movie review.

[[Minor spoiler alert! While I will not go into much detail, you may want to not read this depending on the degree to which you want to be oblivious about Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen.]]

I went to see the new Transformers movie on Friday night. My excitement leading up to this event was extreme and my friends were starting to get a bit annoyed with me. I've spent a fairly large portion of the past two months watching G1 The Transformers episodes on YouTube, making it up to the 1986 movie on the eve of the release of this new one. I was particularly looking forward to this movie because my two favourites from the G1 cartoon were slated to make appearances: Soundwave and the Constructicons/Devastator.

I was very pleased with the large increase from the previous film in the number of Cybertronian characters. I also liked the added action which included a skirmish in the opening sequence, a super 1 on 3 battle part way through, and a very large scale battle at the end. I was impressed by the inclusion of several details and ideas taken from various Transformers TV series. There were a couple of concepts introduced regarding Cybertronian life which intrigued me a bit, so that is good too.

The biggest problem I had with this film was that Megatron was taking orders from someone else and he was a wimp. While I love a funny movie, and there was certainly humour in this one, there was a bit too much humour. This is meant to be an action film, not a comedy. It was lacking a lot of proper plot and character development. After some contemplation, I think that I did not pick up on these two details right away partially because I rarely pick up on these sorts of things in movies, but I think also because I already know the characters and other various details about the Transformers universe.

Overall I would say it was a good movie. It was not as amazing as the previous one, but was still pretty good. I would also comment that it is geared more toward Transformers fans and less toward generally everyone else. I certainly enjoyed myself while watching Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen.

Come back writers!

And artists! We miss you!

We currently have approximately six writers, two editors and one proofer. Math students across campus, we need your help! On July 20th at 6:30 come to the MathSoc office and write for us! There will be free pizza! And fun times! Please?

We tried to get hookers, but the Imprint had already booked the city's population of them. At one point we tried to get piles of booze, but for some reason, it never made it past the editors. Come to **mathNEWS** to learn the mysteries of the newspaper and more!

Alternatively you can email in articles to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca with the subject line "Article". Please send it in plain text if you can and if you want to be awesome type it in mNml. You can also submit articles to our **BLACK BOX** located outside of the Comfy Lounge. We writers are begging you here, please write for us. Once again, there is free food involved.

monkeyspoon5

Amusing Musings

Insignificant? Yes. But I know you've got time.

I've recently discovered some interesting developments that affect you in no way whatsoever. Check it out!

- Ever notice that McDonald's and Tim Hortons have been playing monkey-see-monkey-do for several years now? Think about it. Tim Hortons had deli sandwiches. McDonald's got deli sandwiches. McDonald's started making miniature chicken wraps. Tim Hortons got mini chicken wraps! (McDonald's also made the detrimental decision to convert Big Macs into wraps. Thankfully, Tim Hortons never followed suit.) Tim Hortons started icing their coffee. Who *else* started icing their coffee?! Most recently, which two companies have simultaneously decided that it's necessary to visually explain to their customers the benefits of pairing coffee with breakfast sandwiches in their commercials? Yeah. I thought so too.
- Double-Stuf Oreos. Although a brilliant concept in theory, did you notice that "Stuf" only has ONE F? If they're skimping on their F's *now*, how can we be sure that we're truly getting *double* the stuff? I think an aggressive letter-bomb to Mr. Christie is in order. He's had it coming.
- In the past, I always thought that Rogers and Bell handled their rivalry with a quiet dignity. Not so, I'm afraid. They've recently stooped to a Stephen Harper-like state of blatant name-calling. Ever see that commercial with the blue and red couch? We're on to you, Rogers. Same with Bell's inconspicuous new radio campaign: "More HD channels than Rogers, for *less* than Rogers!" Stealthy bastards.

Well, that's all for now. Rest assured, I'm keeping my eyes open for more junk you don't need to read about.

cache-22

Unnatural History

Algorithms

0. SET Universe to NULL
10. IF Universe != NULL GOTO 30
20. Universe := CreateAndStart Universe
30. IF Universe is Done THEN Destroy Universe
40. ELSE FORK Universe
50. IF Universe Destroyed THEN GOTO 0
60. IF Universe contains Stupid THEN Destroy Universe
70. IF Universe contains *mathNEWS* THEN FORK
80. IF Universe contains Algorithms THEN EXIT
90. GOTO 10

Thus Spake the Dude.

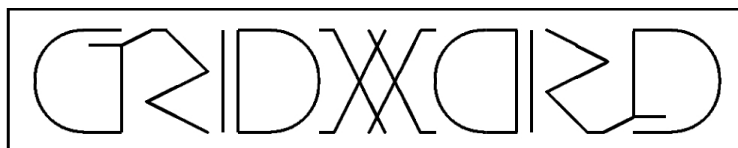
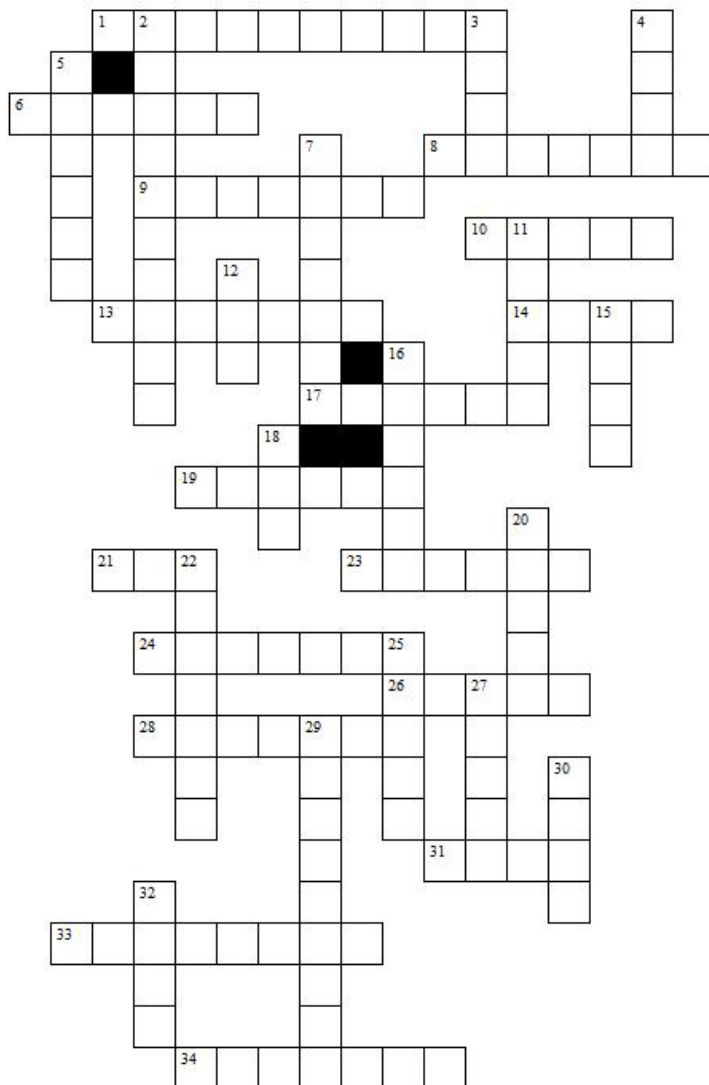
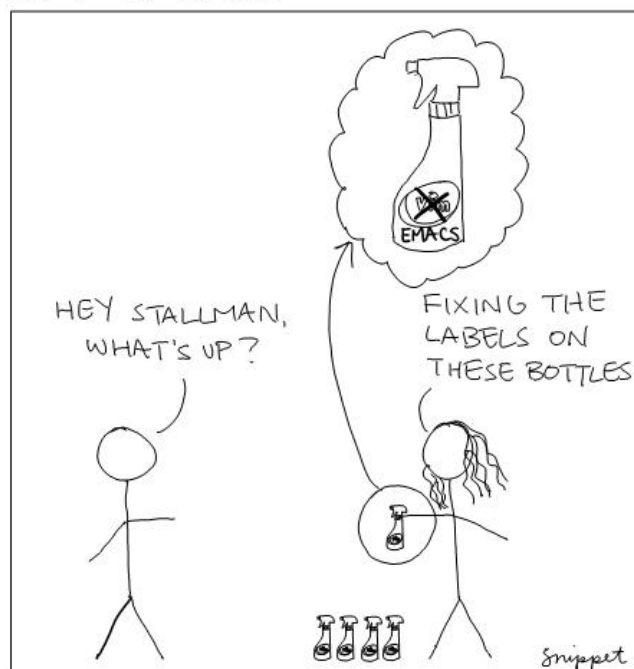
The Unnatural Historian

Across

1. Everybody's friend
6. Chocolate rainer
8. Leerooooooy!!
9. I can has internets
10. Forbes of internet
13. Leave him alone!
14. Whats pairs of girls need more of online
17. Wailord's girlfriend
19. Kingdoms, regions, and a massive online community
21. What to have before firing missiles
23. Ask him
24. Animal of a search engine
26. Second half of musical tribute to memes
28. Bomber of funerals
31. Ninja who doesn't answer questions
33. Epic rodent
34. Ancient p2p software

Down

2. Code used on facebook
3. Inventor of 29 down
4. 4 ____
5. Porn equivalent of google
7. Original gory flash
11. How google feels
12. European stalker MSN
15. First half of musical tribute to memes
16. Internet bay
18. Not found
20. Citrus party
22. Digital musical duo who travelled through time to write a song about a website
25. Classic internet thief
27. Most referenced person on youtube
29. Proper spelling of WWW
30. We ____
32. First and second half of sticky martial art

EDITOR WARS

Tbor's Gridword of Fluffy Bunnies and Rainbows

Because the last one clogged arteries

Well, so much for my first attempt at writing a gridword. There was all of one submission. Nicholas Vanderzwet has won a brand new gift certificate to HMV! I've always wanted to say "Come on down!", but I have no clue where you pick it up. You'll have to find the *mathNEWS* editors. Or better yet, let them find you. Your answer to the gridword question sucked, but because you were the only submission, I don't even have to post it.

On a lighter note, I decided to make this week's gridword open to more of a public atmosphere. That's right, I wrote it on something that all of us do: waste time surfing the internet. I once asked the ninja: How do ninjas make grilled cheese sandwiches? For this weeks gridword question: If you had the chance, what would you ask the ninja?

Tbor