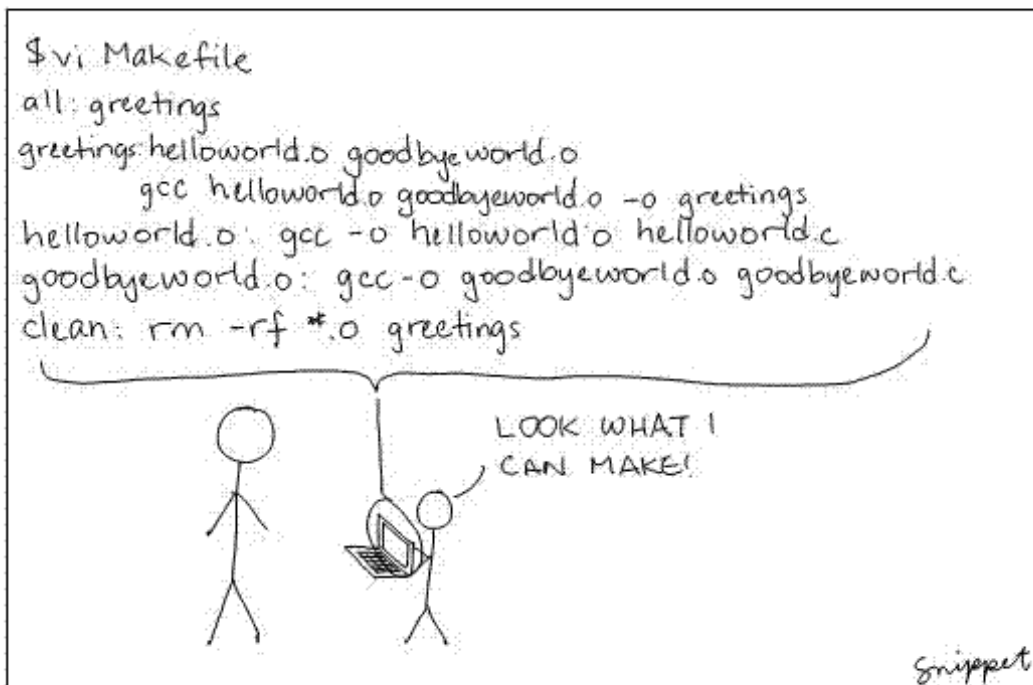
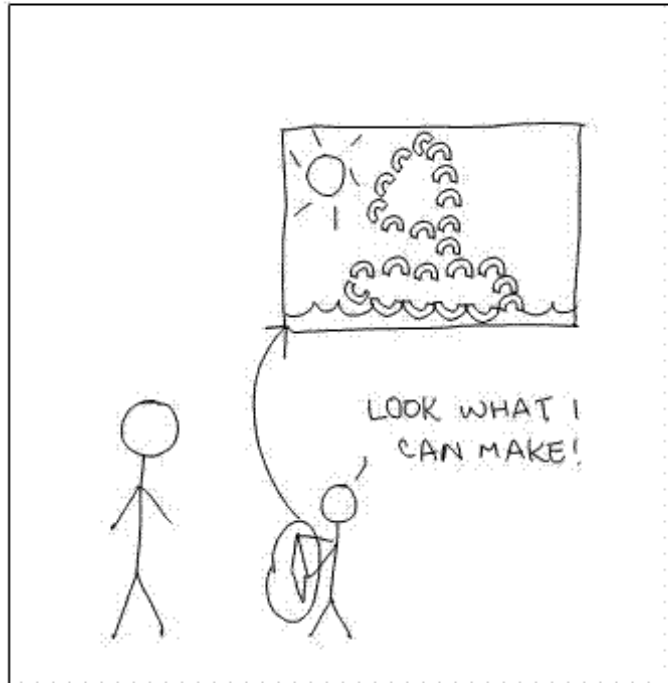


math NEWS

HOW TO TELL YOUR KID IS A NERD



Volume 111, Issue 1
Friday, September 25th, 2009



lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

September 25	Issue 1 comes with a bang
October 5	Production Night #2
	Meet at MathSoc at 6:30
October 9	Issue 2 does it with your mother

MathSoc

Wednesdays	Movie Night @ Comfy
Thursdays	Games Night @ Comfy
October 6-7	Resume/Cover Letter Critique

FedS

September 25	Clubs Day in SLC
September 25	Hey Ocean @ Bomber

Math Faculty

Questions about these? Ask an academic advisor!	
September 30	Last day to pay your bills
October 2	Last day to drop a course for free

CECS

September 26-29	Co-op applications open
October 2-5	Co-op applications open again
October 7	Interviews begin

Miscellaneous

September 26-27	Rugby/AFL Grand Finals (Australia)
October 2	International Day of Non-Violence
October 12	Thanksgiving (Canada)

mathNEWS in the Morning!

mathNEWS video thing will be coming back!

Do you dream of internet fame? Then, PRINNY DOOD, we can totally help you out ^{kinda!} *mathNEWS* in the Morning is our own original on web news report and we love having fresh volunteers to keep me off of the screen! Just e-mail mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca and let us know that you're interested and we'll keep you posted on when our next shoot is and what you need to bring with you! Looking forward to hear from ya! Also, since I get the question a lot: if you have an accent, it's nothing to fear, we will still include you :D

The Vid-Hee-Ho Editor

The Math C&D!

The bill you don't know that you're paying...

So I've been around for a while. Long enough that the C&D has accrued more than \$80,000 of debt which has been absorbed by Math Soc. The most recent was more than \$51,000 last term, which is more than they receive from students in some terms. The C&D has been losing money for years at the cost of the student body. If you don't want to pay for it or if you don't want students following you to pay for it, then you should e-mail your MathSoc exec, go talk to them, and let them know that this is one bill that you do not want to have to pay. Let them know that there are better things on which to spend your money.

Angelo

mastHEAD

Yo ImpulsED. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but StaticED was one of the best editors of all time...

Damnit Kanye! Get the hell away from my *mastHEAD*!!

What do you get when you leave all three of the editors in the same room for too long? That's right. We discussed relationships. Specifically, the unfortunate inability of one of our editors to handle anything animate. (Same editor also lacks enough pelvic strength for a watermelon, and I'll give you a hint: It's not me.) We are still looking for suitable non-moving things to satisfy his fortunately limited appetite. If anyone has any ideas, remember to put them in the **BLACK BOX** along with the crossword!

Back on task, though. Another fall term, another year I'm glad I'm not in Arts. After taking my first couple of arts courses last term, I have truly come to realize that most of the variation in one's marks are due to the marker and not the ability/understanding/bribery/intelligence/gender/effort/socioeconomic caste of the student. At least here we have consistency!

I lied. That last paragraph was the off-topic one. Now to return to InsidED's tragic sexual disability. (Oh damn, I ruined the surprise by telling our entire reading populace exactly which editor had problems picking up things with cognitive abilities. Damn.)

mastHEAD Question: What inanimate object should InsidED hook up with?

The Hee Ho (Hail to... the... King... oh god, no...), Shdwfeather (My pet rock. He has so much personality. (I meant the rock)), Tbor (The Imprint's idea bin. It's always empty), Thor (InsidED!), Angelo (My Mother), Not The Management (Code: chocolate-milk-is-good <<access granted>>), Cherry π (C&D - someone needs to be in it), Skoog (Vista), Tarek (Inflatable Doll), CorruptED (The issue of *mathNEWS* with Angelo on the toilet), import this (Larry King), perki (A freight train), The *mathNEWS* Renegade (His own dead corpse), Lich (A hook), P_P (OLT), Kilometer (PDEng), Tuna (Recycling), InsidED (I dare you to find one that I haven't hooked up with yet).

ImpulsED

A cinderblock. Or maybe two... Twins!!

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The Three Stooges Softies: CorruptED, ImplusED, InsidED

Prez Sez

Hey!

Welcome back from summer! Or to those just joining us now, welcome to the University of Waterloo!! We are looking forward to a fun and enjoyable term, but we need people like you to help out! Come to the MathSoc office to sign up for office hours, or become a rep and be on council! I'm sure we can find something for you to do around MathSoc! ;) Also remember that we have lots of clubs which offer great resources, so be sure to check those out!

Last thing: If anyone has any ideas for MathSoc, or any comments, please send them in to prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

William Sellier
MathSoc President F09
prez@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

VPAS Sez

Welcome to Fall 2009 everyone!

I hope you have enjoyed your Spring term and are excited to be back on campus!

I'd like to welcome the first years to UW and would like to extend an invite to them to come by MathSoc any time they'd like. The exec are always willing to say hello! :)

Some fun news... We just wrapped up MathSoc week and will be rolling out new events shortly! You can now "fan/follow" us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/mathsoc) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/mathsoc)!

If you have any questions about MathSoc, please feel free to send me an email or visit me during my office hours.

Maria Christina Greco
VP, Activities and Services
vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

VPF Sez

My name is Sarah Pidcock, and I am your MathSoc VP, Finances for this term. Happy Fall 2009 to all of my fellow math students.

The budget meeting for this term is going to be on **Wednesday, September 30th**, time TBA. For all clubs and directors, the budget submission deadline is **Monday, September 28th**.

If you are forming a Campus Rec Intramural team and you have some math students on your team, why not apply for Athletics funding? The application forms are outside the MathSoc office.

If you have any questions or comments for me, come visit me during my office hours (10:00-11:20am on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:30-11:20am on Wednesdays) or send me an email at: vpf@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

Sarah Pidcock
Vice President, Finances F09

Editor Sez

This is certainly not a terrible attempt at filler. Please move along. Other than an epic thank you to Graphics, there is nothing to see here.

The Editors

Regarding H1N1 Influenza Related Absences

You should probably read this.

In late August, there was communication from Barbara Schumacher, director of Health Services, to members of the UW community providing information about staying healthy and steps to take should you develop symptoms of H1N1 influenza. *[To summarize: stay home for 7 days from the onset of symptoms or 24 hours after your fever goes away, whichever is longer. — InsidED]*

Questions have now arisen about the need for students to provide verification of illness if they cannot attend class, complete assignments or attend examinations. Effective immediately, and until further notice, verification of illness is not needed for absences resulting from the flu. This decision is based on advice received from health officials, and is consistent with practices at other institutions in Canada.

Absences resulting from other conditions still must be verified in the usual manner.

While students will not be required to submit verification of illness forms for absences due to suspected H1N1, the University is considering a protocol whereby students self declare their absence if they are seeking accommodation from an instructor for missed assignments, tests and the like. The method for doing so will be announced soon.

As is the current practice with verified illnesses, instructors are asked to make appropriate accommodation to deal with student absenteeism due to H1N1. Alternative arrangements for fulfilling course requirements are to be determined by each instructor, in consultation with the associate dean or chair as appropriate.

Further, and consistent with current practice, students remain responsible for meeting course requirements.

There will be communication regarding a reporting mechanism for faculty and staff absences when information is available.

Feridun Hamdullahpur
Vice-President, Academic & Provost

VPA Sez

Welcome to all new and returning students. Mazeltov! I'm your MathSoc VP Academic, here to represent you, the student body, on many academic councils. If you have any comments/concerns please feel free to voice them...unless you're from the CSC. Discrimination ftw.

Aaron Ingersoll
VP Academic
vpa@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

Matrix Movie Marathon!

This Saturday, September 26 at 4:30 p.m., the Waterloo Science Fiction Club (WatSFic) is hosting a Matrix movie marathon consisting of the trilogy and the Animatrix in the MC Comfy Lounge. We will be selling pop and snacks, so come on out to watch around one and a half good movies and two bad ones.

WatSFic

The Chronicles of Linux4SE

A tale of longing and determination

Once upon a time, Scotiabank donated a lump of money to the Software Engineering program, leading to the creation of two labs and a lounge for the use of its students. Our sad tale begins in one of the labs, colloquially called The Big Lab by its inhabitants.

In the beginning, The Big Lab was endowed with many Windows Nexus machines, and there was great rejoicing. However, slowly, one by one, these machines became recalcitrant, belligerent, and generally nonfunctional. The software students cried out to the CSCF, yet their pleas went unheard. In time, one software student, armed with the power of Ubuntu install CDs, rose up against the tide of broken Windows machines, sweeping them clean and bestowing them with the holy operating system of Linux. And there was a great celebration in The Big Lab by its inhabitants for return of the prodigal machines.

However, when the administrators of CSCF heard of this, it incurred their wrath. "This is not allowed," they declared, and took away the Linux machines. The software students once again cried out for mercy, this time to the mighty Director Charles Clarke. The Director heeded their desperate cries, and spoke onto CSCF. Bowing to the wise words of Director Charles Clarke, CSCF agreed to supply the The Big Lab with Linux machines. When the Director delivered this news to the inhabitants of the lab, there was, once again, great rejoicing.

However...

This was more than a year ago.

Despite the countless emails, requests and pleadings, The Big Lab yet remains devoid of Linux terminals. But now, a new chapter of this sad tale is about to be written. I, appointed as Facilities Representative by the grace of Director Charles Clarke and my fellow classmates, have begun a crusade to bring Linux back to The Big Lab. As my first task, I have electronically mailed the sacred Point of Contact, and will wait upon a response for 3 business days.

TLDR; It's been a year and then some, and SoftEng wants our Linux machines. :(Use #linux4se to support us and spread the word!

Shdwfeather

Microsoft College Puzzle Challenge

Now with prizes!

Calling all mathies: do you have three friends? Failing that, can you bribe three people to join a team to compete for glory, prizes, and a free meal or two? The annual Microsoft College Puzzle Challenge will be making its first appearance on Waterloo's campus this year on November 14th.

Form a group of four and enjoy a break from exams and homework. The challenge is open to all years and all faculties, but space is limited — find out more and register at <http://www.collegepuzzlechallenge.com>

Dirty Softie

**Sellier, stop trying to sell me
Imprint-style filler.**

ElseWhen

25 Years Ago in mathNEWS

So if you're a fellow human being with a passion of helping the needy in a sense where you would dedicate your weekends to shredding Cabbage Patch Kids in coleslaw to send to the starving kids in Ethiopia, you really should have been here in 1985, the glory days for you people. If you do happen to stop by January 18, 1985, drop a line to Franklin. He's been waiting.

And to those who want to read about how Stephen Clark Aird was scared off ever coming out of his room from a snow removal device, don't bother reading his cutesy article with a title that has nothing to do with Mr. Aird's obvious paranoia. It's a wonder he made it to *mathNEWS*. The only thing that stuck out to me was there once was Village 2 in those days, which we now know as REV. SURPRRRRISE.

tuna

Food for Thought...

As far as I know, there are no roadside bombs between MC and DC.

Walking down one of the halls on the first floor of the MC, I saw a newspaper clipping posted on an otherwise empty bulletin board. It was about a 21-year-old girl from a small town in Quebec who was killed while on duty in Afghanistan. This article got me thinking about my life in Waterloo. Perhaps the prof who posted the article knew the girl personally. Maybe they grew up in the same small town. Or maybe it was posted as a reminder of what is going on in the world. There are people our age who are living in completely different circumstances.

I complain a lot about school. It sucks. It's hard, stressful, depressing, tiring and scary. Believe me, I do like to learn, though maybe just at a slower rate. I haven't failed a course (yet) but I've been close.

The girl who was killed in Afghanistan dreamed about joining the army, riding a tank... she was fulfilling her dream. Did you dream about going to Waterloo and being a math student? I didn't. But I'm also alive.

I'm alive and I go to an incredible school. I could go on to say that there are people in this world who are unable to get an education, or even have enough to eat, but that might be overkill. You know that, but it's still true.

I'll remember them the next time I start complaining about school.

Anonymous

Math Myth Breakers

Debunking All Your Lies Since About 5 Minutes Ago

There is a very popular myth out there that says Midnight Capture the Flag will occur at 23:59 on Sunday October 4. This myth is right now being totally broken! You should definitely not meet outside the MC third floor Comfy Lounge at the above mentioned time. So, for all you fun-lovers out there who were hoping it was true, "it turns out wanting something doesn't make it real."

Not Adam, Jamie, Randall, nor The Management

Thor's CS Problem of the Fortnight

Pro CS Job Interview Prep

Last Fortnight's Question: The Math Society wants to start a Clubs Council. They want to get representatives of each of the Math Clubs to show up at the council. However, MathSoc president Will doesn't want to have too many people on the council. Given a list of Math students and the clubs they belong to, how can you figure out which people he should invite to minimize attendance and still have every club represented? Remember, students can be in more than one club.

Its Answer: This is an example of the hitting set problem, which is closely related to the better known set cover problem. In this problem, we seek a set of set elements that are representative of the subsets in a given population. It can be trivially transformed to set cover by replacing each element of the set (person in this case) with a set of the subsets that that person is in. Set cover is an NP-complete problem.

There is hope in terms of a greedy algorithm, though. Simply select the student who is in the most clubs, and delete those clubs from the list. Then select the student who is in the largest number of the remaining clubs and repeat. This algorithm approximates the optimal solution with an approximation ratio of $H(n)$, where n is the size of the largest set and $H(n)$ is the n th harmonic number.

This Fortnight's Question: Suppose a town employs you as their snowplow driver. One day, a huge blizzard strikes the town, and all of the streets need to be plowed posthaste. You are faced with a map of the town, and tasked with planning your route. You need to plow every street, and you want to get it done quickly, so you look for a route through the town that will minimize the number of streets you need to drive down. How do you find this route? It is acceptable to drive down streets more than once.

Parent has student removed from high school^{Thor}

For many years Joe Luciani has been a part of the education system. However, a parent heard him speaking to one of his fellow students and reported concerns for the vulgar nature of his language.

Luciani, currently enrolled at a Brampton high school, is being removed after a parent complained about the language he used. Up until recently, Luciani has been an integral part of the educational process for over ten years and is currently fulfilling his role as part of the grade 12 quo.

Contentions for this decision have raised debate about censorship as every person who feels their freedom of expression could potentially be violated is beginning to complain. However, those in favour of removing the student have presented their concern about how students may take offense to the material Luciani brings to the classroom.

Although we cannot protect our children from the material that they are exposed to, we most certainly cannot take away all material which may be offensive, especially when removing it from an educational facility where the students can learn about why it's offensive and how they should react to it when they see it in the real world.

Angelo

The Unlucky 7

Tips to Survive University

Listen up, noobs! I am the provider of all things that are good advice. You will heed these words or find yourselves on the receiving end of pure hatred by all who surround you.

1. **Move to the back of the bus.** Unless you are on one of those ancient busses which only run in Cambridge, the back of the bus does not mean the back door. It means the *back* of the bus. You will notice a wall at the back: stop just in front of that.
2. **Single file line at the DC Timmies.** The hallway is very narrow as it is. There is room for exactly three people: people heading to DC, people heading to MC, and the Timmies line. If you stand beside your buddy in said line, I will purposely bump into you because I can't get by you.
3. **Use your student societies.** I couldn't help but laugh at the noobs who were queued up at Graphics to get work reports bound, yet I was the only one doing it at MathSoc for a hell of a lot cheaper. We are here for a reason that doesn't simply involve taking your money. Come visit us; we don't bite.
4. **Don't block the top of the ramp outside MC 2065/66.** I still don't appreciate the genius' work who arranged the exits as they did, but your standing there does nothing other than annoy your fellow students. Either go outside or upstairs but stop standing there.
5. **Don't smoke by the doors.** It's illegal in Ontario to smoke less than 10 m away from any entrance. If you want to smoke, that is your unfortunate decision, but I don't want to be affected by it. Nothing is worse than a stinky killer exit.
6. **Don't play games in the front row of lecture.** Some of us are actually here to learn. If you are simply going to play WoW instead of paying attention to the prof, then why do you bother going? They're not going to call your parents when you skip class. You can game more efficiently from home anyway, so get out!
7. **Make sure you read what you sign.** You have no idea how amusing it is when someone signs a form and then can't tell me what they agreed to. However, you have no right to yell at me when I enforce your end of the agreement that contains your signature. If you're going to sign away something, at least have the decency to live up to it.

InsidED

Everything You Need To Know

(cite frosh issue of Imprint)

Orgasms - LSD - Ditching Class - Assholes - Bigger Assholes - Hellhole - Steroids - Pans - Sleep - Money Sink - Ugly Blocks - Cults - Roofies - Keggers - Anal Sex - Gruel - Coffee - More Coffee - Not Giving A Shit

Horrorscopes

ALL: You will realize that your lives suck and will take the initiative to turn them around. You then cry when you realize that the powers that be will not allow it. Tune in next week to find out how you handle it.

Your lucky number has been redirected to /dev/null.

Top 10 Things you REALLY should know about Chris Neal

10. Chris Neal once insulted the Imprint. Probably by arm wrestling the entire Imprint production staff at once.
9. Chris Neal's kindness doubles the combined kindness of the SLC.
8. Chris Neal shot the sheriff *and* the deputy.
7. Chris Neal expected the Spanish inquisition, only because he slept with the Spanish inquisitioners' wives.
6. Chris Neal once dyed his hair pink... with the blood of Imprint editors.
5. Chuck Norris once came to Waterloo. His 40 children from the visit combined powers to become Chris Neal.
4. Chris Neal shoots zombies in his sleep. It's a good thing he sleeps on campus.
3. Chris Neal was going to be elected as Canadian Finance Minister, but the economic problems of the Bomber was a lot deeper than the recession of the Canadian economy.
2. Chris Neal didn't have opposition to him, because he stared them down in the middle of the SLC. That's what those bodies in the SLC are from.
1. Chris Neal invented free pizza, and that's why *mathNEWS* loves him.

Your first dose of *prof*QUOTES

Tbor

Who is taking this course to learn about rats running around in mazes?

[No hands go up]
We'll all get along.

Greenaway, PSYCH 101

[About falling in love] We'll learn about what happens in your brain, not just other areas.

Greenaway, PSYCH 101

If you don't laugh in this class, there's something wrong with you.

Greenaway, PSYCH 101

How do we get rid of that f? You tell it to f off.

Struthers, STAT 230

We will do things to this problem you haven't even dreamed of!

Chan, CS 466

Here's the notation. Don't worry, it's a little ugly, but I still love it.

Unknown, MATH 115

Unnatural History

Brubaker's

The Brubaker's of today is certainly not
The Brubaker's of yesteryear.
The key, you see, is in it's name
As it coyly references Beer.

For you see
The name that we
Read upon visitation.
Was actually changed
To be less free-ranged
By a previous administration!

The "Bru" of now,
was spelt "Brew" I vow!
And it's name was indeed simple!
They had beer and bread,
All sorts it's said!
Right from the SLC's dimple!

This truth, of course,
Gives them much remorse,
And now there's a new Subway
But as a bar,
Brubaker's is now sub par.
And that's all I've got for today.

The Unnatural Historian

Where Kanye should strike next

- "Yo, Jong Il. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but Iran has one of the best hidden nuclear arsenals of all time!"
- "Yo, Jesus. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but Adam was the best child of God of all time!"
- "Yo, Steve. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but Windows Vista is one of the best operating systems of all time!"
- "Yo, Travelling Salesman. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but the knapsack problem is one of the best NP complete problems of all time!"
- "Yo, Gram. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but Schmidt was one of the best orthogonalizers of all time!"
- "Yo, Imprint. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but the turd I found in the fourth floor washroom was the best piece of crap on campus of all time!"
- "Yo, Kanye. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but... Yo, Kanye. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but... Yo, Kanye. I'm really happy for you. I'm gonna let you finish, but... doucheStack Overflow!"

Tbor

profQUOTES

As soon as someone says “Think outside the box,” they’re probably outside the box.

Zorzitto, AMATH 331

...and if you’re wondering why there is a subscript 2 there, it’s because my hand doesn’t know what my brain is thinking.

Poulin, AMATH 351

Whether you love this depends on if you like evil things...

Chan, CS 466

What do you say to an engineer in a suit? Will the defendant please rise?

Ward, SE 390

For those who don’t know me, I’m Paul Ward, but I also respond to “Hey you!”

Ward, SE 390

This course is about project management, which, in theory, is taught in PDEng.

Ward, SE 390

A computer scientist can write whatever damn code they like. Software engineers can’t do that or they will probably get kicked out of the profession. At which time they will probably call themselves computer scientists.

Ward, SE 390

When you’re ready to kill your teammate, be proactive.

Ward, SE 390

If you don’t hand these in exactly on time, I have Italian TAs with connections to the Mafia.

Ward, SE 390

We do a damn good job of teaching you technical skills. Well, the other profs do. I don’t know about me.

Ward, SE 390

That’s what you’re doing in a microwave. You’re exciting water the molecules. Well, in the scientific sense, we’re not going to have any water molecules strip dancing.

Ward, SE 390

If you have a good idea, never write it down.

Ilyas, CS 348

[Student] Do we have to memorize all this history stuff?
[Prof] I expect you to listen and pretend to be interested.

Ilyas, CS 348

Some people like pornography; I like process models.

Godfrey, CS 343

Have your profs said anything quotable? Submit them to *mathNEWS*! Drop them in the **BLACK BOX** outside of Comfy, or email them to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca.

The Five Best Timepieces on Campus

For the frosh who has no Turing machine masquerading as a phone.

You wander about campus, after a long night of equations which have faded into the back of your mind. The sun rises and time seems to have no meaning. How can you right your understanding? There are a multitude of clocks on campus you may wish to use, and here are the best.

5. **The mechanical clock in the DC.** Many days you will run past and not notice it, but it is there, ever watching. Back and forth the pendulum swings. Many turn their back on it to go into a “library” to socialize. If it could spite them, it would with its ever grinding gears. Accurate and unforgiving, it goes on.
4. **The clock in the CSC.** Wandering around the third floor you look for MathSoc and ignore the sign on the door. You enter the cramped room and notice a distinct lack of pants. You see a clock and time flips. You stumble, and it has you. Mirroring it, you gain an understanding, and then realize your accomplishment is pointless, just like most of your first year. You despair, and the people around you collect your tears to repair their LISP machine.
3. **The clock in POETS.** They’re all around you, everywhere, members of the insidious cult known as Engineering. They have even infiltrated our faculty and even our fair paper through Software Engineering. This clock ticks down in red, unrelenting until it signals the release of the fresh batch of devotees turned sleeper actives spread into society. They drink in the same room as it, play games, in excitement, but for us the fear is ever growing until this clock signals a special time and they will attempt a violent takeover of the world.
2. **The comfy lounge clock.** Sleep, shout, code, game. The comfy lounge is many things to many people. And so is its clock. Many times to many people, never knowing if it is right or wrong until they check and know it’s wrong. The lounge is timeless and this reminds you of it. Some believe it is a random number generator and only a few know the truth: it is directly connected to a Windows estimated time remaining counter.
1. **The construction across campus.** Nothing is a better timepiece than this. It moves slowly, ever creeping onward toward its destination. A building finally finishes, and it tell you how long you’ve spent at this school, toiling away for a piece of paper, some symbol of recognition so you may toil further. It shows the finality and unchanging aspect of life, and yet also represents time’s relentless march onwards towards oblivion. The workers change, the plans change, the buildings change, but the noise stays the same.

monkeyspoon5
Learn to read lies

One-line filler is hard to write.

Computer Troubles Strike Again!

or “Why mathNEWS production night was even worse than usual”

In our quest to bring you *mathNEWS*, we face many trials and tribulations. Hungry writers. Rioting hungry writers. Feral engineers. More hungry writers. But this week, we were faced with one of the most insidious threats of all... computer failure!

Yep, no matter what we did, we couldn't find a lab that wasn't too busy running Skynet to let us type up a few *mathNEWS* articles. Whilst we could blame the fact that computers aren't perfect, that would be far too rational a thought for a *mathNEWS* editor, so here's our compiled list of “Why we believe the computers wouldn't work. Now with more characters than an empty string!”

- Gremlins slowly gnawing on the wires. It's a well known fact that the only thing gremlins like more than juggling disemboweled heads is Om Nom Nom-ing electrons. Unless I made that up.
- Wizards. Those gosh darn wizards are always doing things to us. I think it's because more people read *mathNEWS* than *wizardNEWS*.
- It's pretty dark in those labs. The computers were likely to have been eaten by Grues.
- **Voodoo?** Is it Voodoo?!
- It's well known that the school's computers are powered by an army of gerbils. Perhaps they were feeling tired?
- Software Engineers. You can't trust 'em. I bet they're scheming away in their dark corners without light with their smeagol voices and inability to do real math.

CorruptED

The Hee Ho's Half-Assed Music Review

Marié Digby's album Breathing Underwater

Welcome back to another short review that you'll likely at most glaze over and give much regard (sad face). If you're a fan of bright-sounding and catchy pop music then do I have the artist for you! Ms. Digby has quickly gained fame from a YouTube video of an acoustic cover of Rihanna's hit song *Umbrella*, which is unbelievably beautiful so I strongly suggest that you look it up!

The album itself is her second (the first is still in the mail so I can't really review it yet). The album is just awesome. Plain and simple. A particular favourite of mine is the song “Avalanche”, but really they all are pretty much the same level of groovy. The only real downside that I found to the album (and it's not a downside at all, really) is that it's hard to pick a song that stands out. They all are good enough to be noteworthy, but that makes all of them seem less groovy to mention due to a lack of relative awesome. Anyway, these albums are available online at Amazon.ca, so again if the happy pop music is the style that you groove, then you should definitely think about picking her albums up! They are at least fourteen kinds of groovy, and for an album with thirteen tracks, it's irrational groovy! Prinnny, doods!

The Hee Ho

mathNEWS Takeover: The Aftermath

The beginning of the rule of CorruptED.

A summer has passed since Sector Corrupt's takeover plan was leaked through *mathNEWS*. Despite what he would like you to believe, it was all a clever ploy to lure the softies into a false sense of security. Despite this, his plan still managed to go through. Despite my efforts, he ended up executing his steps out of order, and InsidED managed to install him as his puppet. Here is my report on how his plan worked out ... **The Report of the *mathNEWS* Software Takeover:**

Preliminary Phase (See the Failure)

Step 1: I managed his underpants theft plan but accidentally dropped it in MathSoc. Confusing it for an idea created by the CSC, they implemented No Pants Day during the MathSoc orientation week. It happened much later than possible, and yet it didn't set him back. This was a disappointment on my part.

Step 10: I don't even know what happened here.

Step 11: He did not, in fact PROFIT!!!!1111; to the contrary, he managed to somehow have the debt assigned to him from the C&D.

I would continue on, but clearly you can see that CorruptED is inept and failed at even taking out Thor. But the fact that he even tried means that we shall rise up in a bloody pink revolution and take back the paper for the people! The SoftEDs shall be overthrown, and math will take its rightful place at the head of *mathNEWS*.

The *mathNEWS* Renegade
We shall prevail

A Discovery

You picked up this paper expecting to read the opinions of fellow math students such as yourselves. And yet secretly, behind the curtain, I have made a terrible discovery: We are being taken over by engineers.

Now don't panic, and don't let them know you know. I managed to sneak this article into *mathNEWS* without the approval of the editors. If there is an editor's note above, they have found me out and the information within this article may have been compromised. But I digress.

At the heart of *mathNEWS* are the editors, beings of great power, people who took up the mantle at great sacrifice to their own sanity. Through research I have found out that 75% of our current editor staff are engineers, the software menace that besieges us. *[It's actually 80%, but don't tell anyone I told you. — InsidED]* And besides that, many of the writers are also these people. I am a true math student, and I know they must be stopped before they take over and use the paper for their own devices. My fellow math students, I need your help. If you come and write for *mathNEWS*, we may yet be able to turn the tide, and be rid of the scum once and for all. Send me your tales of triumph over the softies, and I will attempt to get your stories out.

This is only the beginning.

The *mathNEWS* Renegade
mathNEWSrenegade@gmail.com

A Co-op Interview Is

- A co-ordination department that believes it is best to have all general interviews at the same time.
- Having 2 individual interviews conflict; managing to switch with another student only to have the company cancel out.
- Asking for a card after the interview and having the interviewer say “Card? I don’t have any cards.”
- Having your best interview with a company you don’t like.
- Shaking your interviewer’s hand very firmly only to find out later that he had injured it in a skiing accident.
- Arriving early for an interview only to have the interviewer come back from lunch one half hour late.
- Finding out that the wage rate is a company secret.
- Going to the wrong interview and neither the company or you realize it.
- TROUBLE!

Reprinted from Volume 1, Issue 6
Published 2 March 1973

Procrastination in Desperate Need of Disney Movies (For Tomorrow)

Watching Hercules (the Disney Movie) at three in the morning is not a good sign of good (healthy? stable? normal?) mental health for several reasons: One, it *is* three in the morning; Two, the Chemistry homework that’s staring at you in the form of General Chemistry (9th edition?) on that messy (but clean by a Softie’s perspective) desk. Three, because you’re one of the shy, midget frosh (or one of the humongous ones).

So what the hell are you doing, sitting on your pudgy *arse* on that not-exactly-comfy-but-you-can’t-exactly-say-not-comfy chair?

As a frosh who has arrived at UW two weeks ago (just had my first run-in with the signing-into-a-mac-in-the-lab-and-having-a-sheet-time-doing-so-because-not-only-the-system-sucks-(comma)-it-is-slow process) I know I should actually be much more determined to do some work, but being a professional procrastinator does not help oneself at all whatsoever other than rediscovering her skill of finding decades-ago Disney movies on YouTube.

So if any one of you frosh are reading this, go comfort that poor Chemistry textbook that you’ve been neglecting for the long, cruel days (of two weeks). **And hello to my fellow frosh, newcomers, caffeine-zombie-mates-to-be etc. etc.**

Professional_Procrastinator
also (will be) known as P_P

Follow *mathNEWS* on Twitter!
@uwmathnews

All we need is love

If there is one thing that I have learned from Orientation Week, it is this: we software engineers get no love. Despite being part of the elite of both faculties, the Engineers hate us for being mathies (they are jealous of the awesome pink ties), while the mathies hate us for actually being practical. Combine all of this jeering and heckling with the pressures of adjusting to University, and it’s enough to make any frosh want to throw down their backpack in a fit of panic, foam at the mouth, and hide in a corner in the fetal position.

As hilarious as this might seem to everyone else, eventually we are going to run out of corners for students to hide in. Plus, the maintenance staff might get pissed from cleaning up all of that foam. In order to avert this looming crisis, a solution must be brought forth. It may be radical. It may be far-fetched. It may be so ahead of its time that it should be in a silver aerospace suit. It is this: be nice to the software students.

Now, don’t discard this article just yet. Hear this idea out.

Software students are fragile creatures. Showing them kindness can do you some good. They might be willing to help you out for the next CS assignment, or the next Physics assignment (remember, softies are versatile). If you are unsure on how to be nice to softies, just remember: they are carbon-based life forms, just like you. They drink coffee. They react well to compliments. They laugh at jokes. They cry when cut with a chainsaw.

If you are still unsure about what to do, here are some ideas:

1. Don’t cut them with a chainsaw.
2. Don’t call them wannabe mathies/engineers.
3. Don’t spill their coffee when they are drinking it.
4. Give them a hug.

On that note, let’s institute a campus wide Hug a Software Engineer Day. And being completely arbitrary, let’s have it on October 7th.

Remember: Save a tree, hug a Softie.

The editors said “LET THERE BE *profQUOTES!*”

These functions sometimes get used... I’ve seen them 4 times in the past 8 years, so they do get used.

Dupont, MATH 117

If you find my handwriting is too messy or cramped, let me know. After all, we are all one big happy family. I have no idea who the mother is.

Dupont, MATH 117

I like Wikipedia. If I see something I don’t like, I change it.

Clarke, CS 137

It’s an axiom because we are not going to take it to be true.

Forrest, MATH 147

[prof] A really good search engine should tell you who your next girlfriend will be. An exceptionally good search engine should give you her phone number.

[student] Would that be a 900 number?

Unknown

The Truth About the Logo that UW Doesn't Want You to Know About

Many of you have seen the new UW logo and been impressed by its many lines. Despite its awesomeness, I am here to tell you that there is a far more sinister side to the logo that can be summarized in two words: Mind control.

The purpose behind having so many colored lines crammed into one place is not for graphic appeal, but rather to evoke a complex autonomic reaction. This is achieved through the formation of very specific wave packets of light, using the colored lines, that disrupt normal brain function. This is similar to what is experienced by those with photo-epilepsy, however in the case of the UW logo the subject experiences a mild focal seizure localized to the substantia niagra region and does not lose consciousness. Also the intense combination of coloured lines in the UW logo affects around 73% percent of the population, much higher than any normal type of epilepsy.

Included is a sample of the mind control wave packet created by the colored lines in the UW logo.



In the diagram we can see an FMRI scan of a subject having recently looked at then new UW logo. Notice the white areas of activity in the substantia niagra region.

The reason for activating only the substantia niagra region relates to the the function of the region: The substantia niagra is known to play a role in pleasure responses. This means that after repeated exposure to the logo, an individual will experience a sensation of euphoria, not only to the new logo but old ones as well. This can only mean that the purpose of the logo is to form a learned association of pleasure with all things representing UW.

From the facts presented here it is obvious that the sole intention behind the UW logo is to brainwash people into buying UW merchandise, such as shirts and mugs. The money gained from this operation will undoubtedly be used to fund the design of even more powerful logos with hundreds, possibly thousands of lines that will be able to control our minds in ways we have yet to imagine.

TELL EVERYONE YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS SO WE CAN STOP THEM BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

We want articles!

You want pizza!

It is therefore win-win!

Our next production night is on Monday, October 5th. If you prove to be even remotely useful, you will get free pizza. If you can't come, email your articles to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca!

Your Math and You

Hello Mathies,

And all those who picked up *mathNEWS* instead of their respective papers. I wish I was in another faculty so I could pick up *mathNEWS* instead. I did the next best thing... I'm writing for them now!

As I was pondering on what I should do for my first article, I also wandered into my first tutorial in the year and a bit I've been here, expecting something along the lines of how the profs teach the methods. Instead, he went straight into methods and shortcuts with no justification whatsoever and I thought, "He's an engineer." (among other things). It occurred to me that most people find engineering/sciences/math to all be the same, as much I protest.

So I've created a guide between degrees math habits, from least mathematically correct to most.

ARTS: You never go past parabolas. In fact, you cringe at the thought of parabolas and would rather not think about anything past adding. You only pick up *mathNEWS* for the *profQUOTES*... half of which you don't understand.

ACCOUNTING: You hardly get past parabolas. You may be required to know trigonometry, but it's mostly for show. You don't understand *mathNEWS* but you like to feel included.

SCIENCES: You just need it to pass, really. The equations are magical grade boosters. You don't understand the rest of this article.

ENGINEERING: You just want something that works. It doesn't matter how, why or what, it is right until it is wrong, where the typical situation is there has been a freak accident. You cringe at the word proof.

PHYSICS: You actually care if the math explains the physics involved, it makes your life easier if your concepts are backed up in some obscure way.

APPLIED MATH: You work with the math, you know what it means, and you know why it's there. The proofs are there for you to show it's not all crap, but they are secondary.

PURE MATH: Proofs are your life. Your notes are symbols and variables. It's rare to find a full word, even rarer to find numbers not used as labels.

Cherry π

How do you do it?

- Statisticians do it 19 times out of 20
- Business students do it for money
- Animators do it at least 24 times a second
- Actuaries do it on graves
- Arts students do it without provocation
- Environment students do it in nature... sometimes with nature...
- OR students do it efficiently
- Engineering students do it three times and then are done with it
- Socialists do it with class

The Hee Ho

No, I am not going to dance the Thriller for you.

\$25 HMV Gift Certificate

Just to write for mathNEWS

Every issue this term, I am going to give away a \$25 gift card for HMV to the best article of the issue. And you know what? It's easy for you to get in on the action! Come to production night every second Monday, email your articles to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca, or submit them to the **BLACK BOX** outside of Comfy. Ah, **BLACK BOX**. We have become good friends over the years...

Anywho, I'm getting distracted. That is bad. Back to the prize at hand.

In the Frosh Issue of Imprint, Chris Neal (former MathSoc President and current FedS VPAF) was attacked relentlessly by something that is definitely not journalistic integrity. (And this is coming from the people who don't even aim for that!) Therefore, we decided to reward Tbor for his endeavour to restore Chris Neal's ego to where it belongs.

Tbor, you can get your prize in the *mathNEWS* mailbox in the MathSoc Office, or by finding me directly. Chris, you can come to MC to see my smiling face. Everyone else, start submitting articles! That is, of course, unless you don't want to win anything.

InsidED

mathNEWS

Going Pew Pew since '72

Drywaller

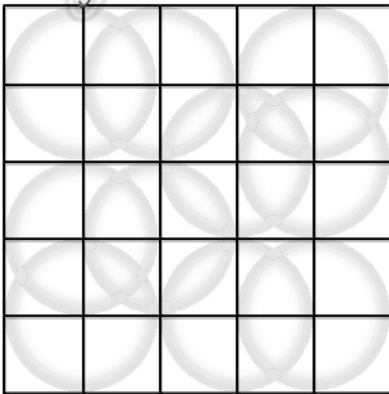
"Listen up. Our client isn't picky, as long as each square has the right number of walls surrounding it. Sounds a little tricky, but we didn't get to be the #3 drywall outfit in town by being lazy."

Also:

- There's a wall around the outside
- They want exactly 13 rooms

2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	2	
2	2	1	2	3	2	3	2	1	2
2	2	1	2	3	2	3	2	2	4
2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	3
2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	2
2	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	3
3	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	3
2	1	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	2
1	0	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	3
2	1	2	3	2	3	3	1	2	4

umbrellas



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

9	2	8	9	7	9	0	3
7	3	3	1	9	7	0	7
5	7	6	5	8	0	2	6
2	8	8	2	6	9	9	0
7	0	9	0				
8	0	1	1				

**Puzzles courtesy
the nice people at
euri.ca!**

*Visit their website for
more fun and games!*

To solve a WordArc, place two words that overlap each other one above the other. For example, "one" and "nets" overlap each other (specifically the ne), so they would go one above the other. Don't forget to unscramble the words first!

WORDARC

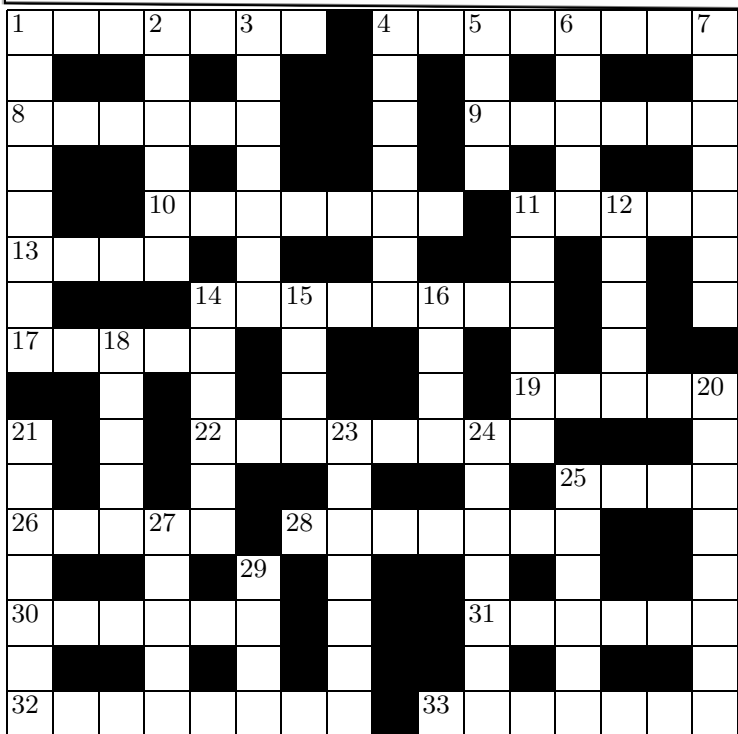
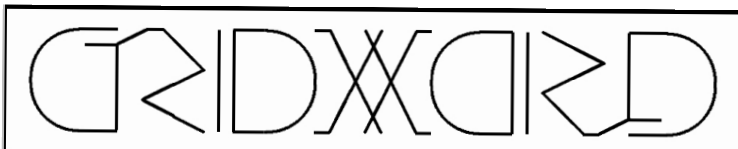
The scrambled words overlap by two letters

deo, deil, bilmo,

abbcot, aacehtt, dehimnos,

degimns, aeeggn, egnsu, ersu, aer,

<http://euri.ca/puzzles>



gridCOMMENTS

Welcome to a new term of *gridWORD*! Hopefully this first puzzle of the term will be challenging but doable. For this grid, there are only quick clues, but if there is anybody who is interested in producing a cryptic on the same grid, please let the editors know.

For those who are not aware, you can submit your answer to the *gridWORD* and often other puzzles that may appear in *mathNEWS* for a chance to win a FABULOUS PRIZE (\$5 C&D gift certificate). To submit, place your completed *gridWORD*, along with your name (so we know who to give a prize to) and an answer to the *gridQUESTION*, in the BLACK BOX which is located on the wall just outside the comfy lounge on the third floor of MC. If you cannot find it on your own, somebody in the Mathsoc office should be able to direct you to it. Please note that only submissions received before the next *mathNEWS* production night are eligible for a prize

“Why do I have to answer the *gridQUESTION*?”, you may ask. Well, the answer is simple. If we receive multiple correct entries, the tiebreaker to choose a victor will be the answer the the *gridQUESTION* which we like the best. This week’s *gridQUESTION* is: What is the best way to cook a smurf?

perki

ultraCLASSIFIEDS

I did not have any encounters with that fe..male?

ImpulsED

Wanted: One (1) good President.

The entirety of MathSoc

Down

1. Part of a noble title
2. Big or smoke
3. Conic section
4. NC inhabitant(2)
5. Ballet skirt
6. Giraffe relative
7. Eliminate
11. Command
12. Pap test word
14. Hereditary rulers
15. Change state to liquid
16. Mad scientist aide
18. Quebecois sociolect
20. Police station jurisdiction
21. Rider’s foot rest
23. Armless, backless sofa
24. Leave behind
25. Tenant
27. Wading bird
29. Bustard genus

Across

1. Green herb
4. Small bird
8. Wreath material
9. Drinking vessel
10. Uncovered
11. Wild bovine
13. Religious artwork
14. Tear down
17. Receive satisfaction
19. Razor sharpener
22. Ruler with infinite power
25. Important grain
26. Small key
28. Repeat a process
30. Rue
31. Hold in custody
32. Party supporter
33. Beseech

Pickup Lines for CS kids

Because if anyone needs help... It's them

One day, as I was sitting around being awesome as I am, I saw within my sights a fellow mathie. And lo, he was saddened, for he had not the bravery and fortitude to talk to the fairest of maidens/...knights? (Lo, being gender neutral doth be a difficult task in ye olde timey talk). I, in my infinite wisdom, aka a dull caffeine haze and whatever rambling the gnomes leave me, passed unto them the holiest of holy documents.... The CS Pickup lines. Without further Ado:

1. I’d like to inner join *your* tables
2. You’d be at the front of my Priority Queue
3. My favourite part about the Qwerty keyboard is U and I together
4. I’d like to MapReduce the distance between us
5. My love for you is so strong, even Wikipedia finds it notable
6. Are you recursive, because I think you’re going to make my stack overflow
7. I’d like to Server Side Include you in my life
8. I’d like to know you on multiple levels of Abstraction
9. Can I be your friend function, so I can access your private members?
10. I could iterate over you *all* night long
11. Want to go do some pair programming in my bedroom?

Corrupted
Import This

Listen Up, Frosh!

We need first-year reps!

If you are in first-year and want to represent your fellow students on MathSoc Council, nomination forms are now available in the MathSoc Office (MC 3038). They are due on Wednesday, October 7th.

MathSoc Chief Returning Officer