

*math*

**NEWS**

*Volume 91, Issue 3*

*Friday, February 14th, 2003*



**The Valentine's Day Massacre**

**lookAHEAD****mathNEWS**

February 14	Issue #3 receives a truckload of chocolate from its admirers
February 24	Issue #4 Production Night 6:30 pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
February 28	Issue #4 walks on giant snowshoes

**Math Faculty**

February 20, 21	Winter Study Days
February 28	WD Deadline

**MathSoc**

Thursdays	Movie Night
February 18, 27	Dave's Demi-Decathlon
February 23	Quiz Bowl

**MGC**

Wednesdays	Pizza
Today	J. Alan George and MGC awards nominations
February 20	Brick Brewery Tour
March 8	Grad Ball

**Co-op**

Today	Ranking Day!
February 21	Continuous Phase postings begin
February 24	Matchings Posted
February 28	Work Reports returned

**Just in time to refill the fireplace**

**Miscellaneous**

February 14	Valentine's Day
February 15	National Flag Day
February 15-23	Howling curlers invade the Aud
February 16	<i>The Simpsons</i> tri-centennial
February 20	A work day in every country
February 21-24	QUEST makes a trip to Florida

**ISSN 0705—0410**

*mathNEWS* is normally a fortnightly publication funded by and responsible to the undergraduate math students of the University of Waterloo, as represented by the Mathematics Society of the University of Waterloo, hereafter referred to as MathSoc. *mathNEWS* is editorially independent of MathSoc. Content is the responsibility of the *mathNEWS* editors; however, any opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of MathSoc or *mathNEWS*. Current and back issues of *mathNEWS* are available electronically via the World Wide Web at <http://www.mathnews.uwaterloo.ca/>. Send your correspondence to: *mathNEWS*, MC3041, University of Waterloo, 200 University Ave. W., Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1, or to userid math-news@student.math.uwaterloo.ca on the Internet.

Puppies and Applesauce: Louis Mastorakos & Chris Harasemchuk

**Pink Tie Pledge Update**

*Make Daryl Pay time is running out*

The Pink Tie Pledge Drive is already under way. Follow the progress on the PTP Thermometer on the glass outside the C+D. Since I last wrote we have received 3 pledges for \$4459. This is a good start but we need more.

Feb 19<sup>th</sup> is the last day that Daryl will be matching 10% of all donations. So get your pledges in by then and LET'S MAKE HIM PAY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE!! After Feb 19<sup>th</sup> Daryl will be matching \$e/pi for every \$10 pledged (until the end of April)!

Pledge Forms are available on the inside cover of this *mathNEWS*. Also you can pledge online @ <http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp/>

For more information about the Pink Tie Pledge and why you should help out, email [mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) or on the web at <http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/>.

**None of the money pledged goes to the University!!! It goes back to improve services for current and future Math students! You get to decide how much you pledge and where that money will be spent! Previous Grad classes have helped provide services for you ... Now is YOUR chance to give back!!!**

2003 PTP Coordinator

Class of  
2003

I pledge to donate:	Year: 1	2	3
<input type="checkbox"/> Dean's Challenge	\$103	\$900	\$1000
<input type="checkbox"/> $\pi$ Pledge	\$10 $\pi$ per month for 3 years		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ralph Stanton Pledge	\$20.03 per month for 3 years		
<input type="checkbox"/> Dean's Prime Number Club	\$151	\$151	\$151
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	_____	_____	_____

to improve the undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Mathematics

I understand that the first installment of my pledge is payable May 2004 (one year after graduation). Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ID#: \_\_\_\_\_ Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Use my gift for:  Math Tutorial Center  MGC Award Endowment  Other \_\_\_\_\_  
 Math Endowment Fund (MEF)  Descartes Scholarships

Your gift to the **Pink Tie Pledge** can be claimed for tax credits on your income tax return.

Many companies will match your gift. Please write the name of the company you will be working for or contact the Math Alumni Officer at (519)888-4567 ext. 3638 for information. City: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## My VPAS Life in 50 Words or Less

... well, Not Really

Ahh, the day of commercialized love is upon us, and I wish everyone a happy Valentines Day, or Bitter Dejected Day, or Happy Deep-Frying Day, or whatever day you wish to celebrate today.

### *SD<sup>3</sup>: Social Goodness*

MathSoc is continuing to rev up operations to bring you a content-filled term. Our terrific SD<sup>3</sup> Team organized a very successful Cove Night last week, and fun was had by all. By the time you read this, Candygram emails would have been sent, and if you received one, please come and pick it up. Keep watching the MathSoc brown banner outside the Comfy Lounge, and the MathSoc white board for updated activities, events, and contests!

### *Campus Day Goodness*

Campus Day is a GO! MathSoc is currently looking for volunteers to be guides, cheerers, and other miscellaneous positions. Email [vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca) if you have any specific questions or ideas that would make this year's Campus Day(s) the best ever. You read right, this year we have TWO Campus Days, so things are looking up for the Math Faculty.

A sign-up sheet is also outside the Math Society Office Door (MC 3038) if you wish to sign up as a Campus Day Volunteer. You get a kickass t-shirt, food for the days, and most importantly, you make a difference by participating in community volunteer events that benefit the Math community!

### *Mentorship Planning Goodness*

MathSoc is now actively planning a mentorship day for this term. It will be fairly similar to the Shadow Day offered by EngSoc, but the MathSoc Mentorship Program will definitely be unique in our own way. If you have any ideas or questions, or wish to participate in the planning or implementation process, email [vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vpas@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca) or come to speak with me directly in my office. Remember, we have an open door policy, and we'd love to have you come in and chat. If our door is closed, most likely we are not there, or one of your executives are changing out of their interview clothes.

### *Office Improvement Goodness*

This year, MathSoc has earmarked a large sum of money to renovate the office to look more open, accessible, and friendly. Some have even gone so far as to describe it as "hostile", so we're looking into ways to make it look better. Come to speak to our office manager, Mike Tersigni, or email [office@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:office@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca). We are already looking to retile the flooring and getting new office furniture, and we'd love input from YOU, the students who use our facilities!

So I've been told by my friend Ian MacDonald (The Twin), who's sitting right next to me, that my title is mathematically misleading. Obviously, it is longer than 50 words. Sorry. (This paragraph is about 50 words or less)

Raymond Lai  
VPAS, MathSoc W03

## It's Not Your Bedtime Yet ...

*My Other Tie is Pink*

Hail, mathies! It's your local friendly schizophrenic socialite trio here, except one of them's caught ill and the other one's caught midterms ...

Hopefully as you read this you're all staring through a happy haze, either from the candied declaration of true love which you have just picked up off of a table on the third floor of the MC; or failing that a sweet haze from the suger-induced euphoria only the back-to-back consolation of MathSoc candyfloss and candygram sweets can give you. If you didn't get a Candygram, it's your own fault for not sending yourself one. (By the way, Western Union has as yet failed to sue us for trademark infringement ...)

So what, I hear you cry, is next? (Ok, so I'm in my concrete res-room and can't hear you *actually* cry, but whatever ... I'm schizophrenic remember?)

Well, good thing you asked! (Yes, you did.)

Coming up fast and first is **QuizBowl**, on February 25th! You and I both know you have far far more useless information se-creted in your skull than the entire faculty of profs — now come out and prove it before it's all displaced by midterm cramming! Last term, the profs won the QuizBowl from the MathSoc team; now **we need you to win it back**. Uncle Derivative wants YOU! Or something. In anycase, if you want a good time watching your profs go to ridiculous lengths for an irrelevant trophy, come out to QuizBowl. (Profs: prove your superiority. Show those students who's really boss!)

And on Friday, February 28th, why don't you go all night long at **LaserQuest** to celebrate the students' victory? From **Midnight til dawn** (or so) show your love for fellow mathie, peace, and humanity by shooting competitors repeatedly with simulated weapons! Should be great fun, and a popular event last term, so come have over 6 hours of competition for just **15** dollars.

Finally, due to popular demand, **Skiing** has been moved to Pancake Tuesday (March 4th) — that's right, do some professional carb-loading before the event, then head out on a bus at 2:30 to **Blue Mountain** for some night skiing. The cost is \$19, plus another \$9 for ski rental (\$28) or another \$18 for snowboards. Sign ups will have begun on the third floor of the MC by the time you read this.

So in conclusion, I hope none of you were thinking of going to bed ... Because the term is not over yet! (And you have midterms! Study!)

SD<sup>3</sup>

## Office Renovations

The MathSoc Exec have decided that it is time to give the office a face lift.

Everyone is welcome to submit ideas as to things that you would like to see done with the office.

Ideas should be submitted either in paper to the Office Manager Mail Box or by e-mailing [office@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:office@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca). Submissions are due in by February 21, 2003.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate asking any of the executives or the Office Manager.

Michael A. Tersigni  
MathSoc Office Manager W03

## Stress Management Workshop

Feeling stressed about the pressures of university life? Plan to attend this workshop!

We'll talk about:

- What stress is
- The symptoms of stress in your life
- How you tend to react to stress
- The many tools we can use to cope with stress

Learn to recognize when stress is taking its toll on you, and what you can do to reduce stress in your life.

Two sessions are offered. Attend the one that fits your schedule the best:

- Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. in DC 1302
- Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. in MC 5136

The above workshops are free for students registered in the Faculty of Mathematics.

Please register to attend. Sign up on the sheet in the yellow folder in the Math Undergrad Office (MUO, MC 5115).

For more information please check the bulletin board outside MC 5198, the Counselling @ Math website at <http://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/navigation/Current/counseling.shtml>, contact Karen Rittenger, Counselling Services, at extension 5622 (afternoons), or email [kritting@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:kritting@uwaterloo.ca).

## Tuition prices on the rise

So, the university has decided to raise tuition fees for all programs. Not much of a surprise, seeing as they are legally able to, and that means they will be getting more cash from it. What is a real kick in the groin is that certain programs are not affected by the maximum 2% increase, but rather a hefty 15% increase. Well, I guess MacLean's doesn't factor in the "screw the student population over" factor when deciding which schools to rate best of 20xx ... This is the second time in UNDER a month that the university admin has taken a shot at the students, and we're now looking for another cheek to turn at them (the first time would be the closing of the Bomber and Fed Hall). How much crap can the average student take? Well, admin seemed to cross the line when they closed on-campus drinking facilities, but that's still up in the air, and I've only heard of a single protest! Seems that we students are letting admin get away with whatever they want. So, my only question is where are we going to draw the line?

Mark

## Love poems

Pimpin ain't easy  
but you make it fun  
remember that threesome  
with you and your mom?

You said you loved me  
and asked me to marry  
I might have said yes  
if you weren't so hairy

When we had our first date  
I thought we'd last long  
But then i saw you  
wearing that thong

I wanted to get you  
Candy and a bear  
I couldn't afford it  
Cause I'm on welfare

## Attention Grads: Class of 2003 Update

### *Valedictorian Selection*

Now is the chance for the Math Class of 2003 to select their class Valedictorian.

Forms to nominate someone for Valedictorian or to be on the committee who selects that best nominee are available at the MGC Office (MC 3029) or online at <http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/>. Forms need to be submitted to the MGC office or the MGC mailbox in MathSoc by noon on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003 for the nominees and 4 pm on March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2003 for the selection committee.

### *Brewery Tour*

Our next social outing will be a trip to Brick Brewery for a tour. :) The tour will be on Thursday February 20<sup>th</sup> and will cost \$5 per person. There are 30 spots available so email [mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) to reserve your spot. We need to have a full group of 30 people to make this trip work.

### *Alan George Award*

Nomination forms for the Alan George Award and for the Selection Committee are due today (Feb 14<sup>th</sup>)!!

### *Other News*

Yearbooks and Grad Ball tickets are no longer on sale. If you still wish to purchase a yearbook there will be a few extra copies available at spring convocation (and afterwards) for purchase.

For more information please email [mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) or check out our web page <http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/>.

Daryl McEachern  
2003 MGC Chair

## Co-op Process Heeds New Jobs

Well, now that I've got your attention, it's time to look at co-op ... no, they haven't found a goldmine of jobs (that I know of at least), but they have no problem painting a pretty picture and telling you that there's something out there for you. Yeah, there's also a McDonald's at the corner of Columbia and King. Well, I am of the fortunate group that has a co-op job already lined up. Unfortunately, this does not stop the people from within the co-op department from charging me the whole \$450 in co-op fees. I ask of you, where is this cash going? I can tell you one thing, it ain't helping me find a job, I did that myself! So, what is it going for? Well for one, it's helping fund the new co-op building (the one I've NEVER been in?!?). Apparently it's "helping" to pay the salary of all the people at co-op that are doing diddely squat for me. The way I see it, that \$450 is going to the person that takes about 10 seconds to change my employment status to "On Own, Self Imposed" ... wow, great use of \$450! If only I could get paid that kind of salary! that roughly translates to \$162 000/hour! Let's just say that, bar some, most people don't make that kind of cash in a year.

Well, that's the world of Co-op for you.

Mark

## Retraction: Manitoba, Nunavut NOT in US

ATLANTA (CNN) — So Nunavut isn't stockpiling snowballs of mass destruction?

On Friday February 7<sup>th</sup> 2003, CNN reported that US Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld has raised the terror threat level to "somewhere between marigold and dandelion." With that spectacular announcement, the staff here at CNN jumped into action and broadcasted "BREAKING NEWS" in 300 different languages and interrupting quality programming such as *Morning Latte with Geraldo*.

Not to be outdone by the TV division, a CNN.com intern jumped the gun and posted a story titled "US To Raise Threat Level" at 11:12 am. The graphic pulled for the story depicted Nunavut and Northern Manitoba as the primary target for terrorist attacks in the near future.



February 7th, 2003, 11:12 AM

### Things not to list as a weakness in an interview

- "Kryptonite."
- "A tendency to burn things."
- "Spreads diseases effectively."
- "Fear of work."
- "You're a weakness!"
- "Bad at math and stuff."
- "Social me not."
- "Will work for sexual favours."
- "Vomits wildly at the mention of any state capital."
- "Steals other people's possessions and returns them wet."
- "Sometimes I like to lick coins I find on the ground."
- "I'm a bleeder."
- "I eat socks."
- "I AM socks."
- "Umm, I write lists in class."

The intern, from a midwestern ivy-league school, initially thought that there are significant infrastructure integral to the American economy that may be at a greater threat to terrorist attacks in the near future. The intern immediately thought of the millions of people living in igloos and the secret stockpile of ice and snow, and acted on his own accord to "accurately pinpoint the location with the highest probability of a terrorist attack."

After being informed that Nunavut and Manitoba belonged to Canada, and not to the United States as previously thought, shift supervisors at CNN.com corrected the geographical location of the reticle, a representation of the location of the highest risk of terrorist attack.

CNN highly regrets the error, and apologises to the igloo, snow, and ice owners in Manitoba and Nunavut for unsubstantiated alarm. CNN will take greater precautions to ensure such incidents do not occur again.



February 7th, 2003, 3:17 PM

### Celebrate Austrian Ferris Wheel Day!!!

I've heard through the grapevine that the *mathNEWS* theme for this issue is supposed to be bitterness (too many mathies, too few couples — this is actually one reason why some people like WIM).

No! Avoid the bitterness!!! It's not worth the effort!

Instead, I promote an alternative to either selling out to celebrating Valentine's day or to wasting energy feeling sorry for yourself and bitter towards all those "happy" couples:

AUSTRIAN FERRIS WHEEL DAY

This day has evolved over the course of the last 500 years, and is celebrated widely across the international community (especially at my high school). Austrian Ferris Wheel Day, which occurs on the 14th of February each year commemorates the birth of the notorious Austrian artist, Rudolf Ernst, who specialized in Orientalism with colourful and highly detailed paintings. It also celebrates the birth of George Washington Gale Ferris, who was the inventor of the ferris wheel. This is a particularly special day as Austria is well known for it's Giant Ferris Wheel.

So join me, in bringing out your Austrian flags, and tracking down carnivals and clowns country wide in the celebration of

## PimpOS

### *A lesson in Operating Systems*

It took me until partway through CS354 to realize this, but an OS is just like a virtual pimp. I should have clued in on the first day when the prof explained about how an OS gives its ‘users’ access to its ‘resources’. Of course, a lot of those resources are ‘input/output devices’. And that was just the first day.

From there, its not long until you find out about the notion of providing services through system calls. Of course, an OS also has to protect its resources, especially since some users don’t really know what they’re doing ... I wonder if any real pimp has ever had to tell someone “No, those are *NOT* supposed to be beverage holders!”

It started getting a lot more obvious when we learned about how the OS controls *dirty bits* and *used bits* so it can tell what’s being used — and ‘delete’ those that don’t get used enough. The clincher came when we started talking about some guy named Hoare. Like that’s a coincidence.

Now get the image of a ‘typical’ pimp into your head. You know the one: think wide brimmed hat, large feather, gold sunglasses (and a gold tooth too), and a colourful jewel-studded coat that has the texture (and smell) of old upholstery. Think of how much money it took to get like that. Of course, with that kind of look, he probably has a monopoly on the market. Now we know what Windows modelled itself after.

Krease<sup>OS</sup>

## *mastHEAD*

### *Love me, Love me not*

Romance is in the air and that can mean only one thing: *mathNEWS* is here! What better way to celebrate Valentine’s Day than to cuddle up by a fire with a loved one and read an issue of *mathNEWS* or two. Those are the memories you’ll cherish in a month.

And what better way to follow up Valentine’s Day than with a reading week. Yay! Wait ... we only get next Thursday and Friday off????!!!! That’s not fair. “Why does Math only get 2 days for Reading “Week”?”. Here’s what some people thought the answer might be: Yolanda (Co-op ate my baby!), Laymond (It only takes 48 hours to update Access), Simon L’Avier (Because it’s a prime number), Mark (To remember mod 5 arithmetic), Eyal (Math & Engineering are way easier than Arts, Science, AHS or ES), Soo (It’s better than a 1 day reading week), Jason (So that we don’t have to call it Reading Day), Albert (Oh with my time machine it will be a reading year!), Ian (Because we party 5/2 times as hard), Emerald (Reading week? Don’t you mean reading weekend?), Dave Nicholson (In Winter ’99 when asked by the Dean how students felt about having reading week be 0, 2, or 7 days, Stephen Snuggles Skrzydlo said the student body was evenly split so leaving it as 2 days was the proper course of action), Dan (It only takes 2 days to read *mathNEWS*), and Geoff (Because we’re in math, we don’t know how to count).

Mad props to the fly ladies in graphics, all the phat cat’s at Campus Pizza and any other vaguely thankable person around!

Chris Harasemchuk (-DHOST\_IS\_BIG\_ENDIAN)

Louis Mastorakos (To quote the purple dinosaur: “Two plus Two is Four!”)

## If OSes were Airline

**Windows 3.1/95/98:** Looks like jet on the outside, but that is just a fancy cardboard facade on around an old bi-plane. Why did you pay so much for your ticket?

**Windows 2000:** This time it really is a jet, but no one flies it. Who would fly a carrier that crashes so often? Can you say blue skies of death?

**Linux:** Sure the air fair was free, and despite looking like the plane was built using parts from different planes you feel safe. That is until the stewardess comes in to the cabin before take off and ask if anyone has a pilots licence.

**Mac:** Very pretty planes that light up when they fly. You don’t really know what is going while you fly but you get there safe and sound. Too bad you can’t afford to fly back.

Albert “Phta” O’Connor

## Super Easy Quiz!

That’s right kiddies. We’re back with more fun, prizes and winners! This week is themed with things that can be used as topics for the SASMS that the PMC will be holding in just over a month.

As some background, the SASMS are typically fun talks that are put on by students. The whole thing lasts 4 hours or so maybe and usually includes free food at breaks. Yay for PMC having free food. Anyway, these talks can be on whatever you’d like, though it is generally encouraged that you speak about something math related. They will be cut off \*slicing noise!\* at 20 minutes, so ya. You can’t talk longer than that.

- dancing chickens
- slope of a line
- addition
- subtraction (I need this one ...)
- baritones, sopranos, and tensors
- why the chicken crossed the vectors
- what is the matrix?
- STAT 231 in 40 minutes
- why x is a libra
- solving equations mod x
- why is  $2 + 2 = 4$ ?
- permutations of the laws of physics in distinct instances of the universe

If you think you can find the one that doesn’t follow the guidelines for the SASMS, come find me and tell me which one it is. You may be rewarded. If you don’t know who I am, find someone who does.

e.

## MCTF: Midnight Capture the Flag

### *More fun than a barrel of ... frosh*

Upon the evening of Feburary 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2003 at 11:59 pm gather in the comfy lounge (MC 3001) for fun. You know you want to.

Manoment

# Metal 101

## Your Metal Valentine's Day

Brothers and sisters, I know that for many of us, Valentine's Day is only a reaffirmation of our ineptitude in the great game of love. While you may have decided that your lack of desirability to the opposite sex is an innate trait that cannot be altered, I assure you that this is not the case: you only need to change your approach to one that is grounded in the undeniably alluring culture of METAL. With only a few minor lifestyle changes, you can greatly increase your chances of having a rewarding Valentine's Day with the special warrior or amazoness that has happened to catch your eye.

There are several integral components to making your Metal Valentine a successful one.

**THE PRELIMINARIES:** In the week prior to the approach of your potential Valentine, every single one of your deeds and words should bespeak to the masses your devotion to true METAL. When raising your hand to answer a question in class, make sure that you do so with fist clenched. Instead of simply waving to friends and acquaintances in the corridors, give them the METAL HORNS salute by folding in your middle and ring fingers, as well as your thumb, and extending your index and pinky fingers. Wimps and poseurs may question your new lifestyle: you should take this opportunity to instruct them in the falseness of their ways, and to assure them that the fires in which true METAL is forged will burn bright long after their bones have been ground into the dust of the past.

**THE CLOTHES:** For my brothers of METAL, there is not much of a decision involved in this — you must wear jeans and leather, not cracker-jack clothes. While ripped jeans and chained leather are suitable attire for a casual night of headbanging and denouncing poseurs, you are expected to be dressed in a more formal manner for a special occasion such as Valentine's Day.

Your jeans and jacket mustn't sport any stains or tears, and should be fairly tight-fitting. A large steel buckle and a concert tee will round off the ensemble quite nicely. My sisters of metal have a bit more liberty in their style: while leather pants are the bottoms of choice for most of my female brethren, anything that suitably expresses your devotion to the tenets of METAL will suffice. My brothers of metal are not known to be that picky.

**THE APPROACH:** If you grow nervous when you are about to pose your invitation to your METAL Valentine, remember that this trial is not your's to face alone: all of your brothers and sisters in METAL are standing together with you in solidarity under the sign of the hammer. Reflect on this, and let your confidence in your prowess and charisma flow through your system like a heady draught of strong mead. In this state of mind, you will be intriguing and irresistible to members of the opposite sex, and will inevitably woo the hand of your desired companion.

**THE DATE:** The ideal METAL date is one that is slightly formal without undue frippery or falseness. Establishments that play sissy top 40 tunes should be avoided, lest your date question the very METALness that piqued his or her interest in the first place. In the case that things go far enough that the two of you end up going home together, make sure to have some Dio, Manowar, or Iron Maiden playing in the background for an intense end to a spectacular night. Remember: while the brethren of metal is reckless on the battlefield, they are careful when it comes to unintended pregnancy and the transmission of STDs. METAL sex is safe sex!

May you all have a true and METAL Valentine's Day.

Mike "Heavy Metal Or No Metal At All" DiBernardo

## Prove Me Wrong

Found: the following items of mis-information.

Challenge to the readers of *mathNEWS*: to prove me wrong.

Submit entries in the black box on the third floor, or via [math-news@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:math-news@student.math.uwaterloo.ca).

- Butterflies taste with their feet
- A duck's quack (not a Mallard's quack) doesn't echo, and no one knows why
- In 10 minutes, a hurricane releases more energy than all of the world's nuclear weapons combined
- On average, 100 people choke to death on ball-point pens every year
- On average people fear spiders more than they do death
- 90% of New Year city cabbies are recently arrived immigrants
- 35% of the people who use personal ads for dating are already married
- Elephants are the only animals that can't jump
- Only one person in 2 billion will live to be 116 or older
- It's possible to lead a cow upstairs, but not downstairs
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men
- It's physically impossible for you to lick your elbow
- A snail can sleep for three years

- No word in the English language rhymes with "month"
- Average life span of a major league baseball: 7 pitches
- Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing
- The electric chair was invented by a dentist
- All polar bears are left-handed
- In ancient Egypt, priests plucked every hair from their bodies, including their eyebrows and eyelashes
- An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain
- "typewriter" is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of a keyboard
- "Go" is the shortest complete sentence in the English language
- If Barbie were life-size, her measurements would be 39-23-33; she would stand 7 feet, 2 inches tall (freak tiny! and freak tall!)
- A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out
- The cigarette lighter was invented before the match
- Americans on average eat 18 acres of pizza every day (wonder how much UW students eat every day)
- Almost everyone who reads this will try to lick their elbow: were you one of them?

## Strange Rash

*I am God's gift to humanity*

"She has declared the Endangered Species Act unconstitutional..."

-Michael Moore on US Secretary of the Interior, Gale Norton

I've got a strange rash, and it is down south if you know what I mean. It is old and has been there for a while. It is white and kind of flaky. It is almost getting so itchy that I want to do something about it. Apparently God's gift to humanity is the US helping to make countries free. Of course they do it only to help the humanity found in those countries, because they must be American-approved free. Why doesn't the United States free Jamaica from the IMF, or free the whole world from it for that matter. Because that wouldn't benefit the US, would it? Free only as far as it maximizes profit. (I am aware of the simplification in my last statement.)

Profit, wealth, greed; I think it is time for a tangent to my circle. Greed, as a cause of many problems we have in our world, is so often overlooked. We hear more about the problems caused by sloth and apathy and people abusing the social safety net — which are problems — but it is time to balance it out. First, I assert that in the current implementation of the economic system we have, the maximization of profit is the most important goal. As proof, I ask you to consider various forms of investment we all indulge in. When you take your life insurance, the only way the company providing you with the service can survive is to invest it and get the highest returns it can. When you give money to a bank or invest in a mutual fund, the money gets invested for you, and what you really want is the best return. How do you get the best returns? By the companies you indirectly invest in turning a profit. Do you care how they turn this profit? Do you know what they do to make money? You can find out, but how many people care if the companies they invest in use child labour to make their products. All this indirect investment increases the demand for profit. *[Just look where the university invests some of its money: <http://www.math.uwaterloo.ca/~afarrugia/sri-prop.html> . — Simon]*

Now I should take a step back to give some context. What I am getting at here are the problems with our current economic system, and the only way I can describe the problems is to discuss what I expect from an economic system. I want it to provide me with the best products and services, at an affordable price, that enable me to not die, enjoy life (be able to enjoy my hobbies, and enjoy the culture generated by other people), and to be productive (generate output for the rest of society to consume). Now the capital/profit model approximates this, but how it fails must be understood. Often producing the best product or service will generate the most profit, but NOT ALWAYS. Man is able to make a light bulb filament that doesn't burn out. We can today make lightbulbs that never burn out. Not only that, from the time since light bulbs were first invented we have been able to create these super bulbs. Why do yours only last for a few months? Is it more expensive to produce the long life bulbs? No, in fact, it is probably harder to make them last just long enough. You don't have them because of the threat they would pose to the lightbulb industry. I know there could be a problem with the lack of demand for lightbulbs after everyone owns the ten that they need and that might interfere with the means of

production for light bulbs, but I need convincing. Besides, using powdered milk to destroy the means of production of dairy milk in Jamaica was all right. Services make better examples. I'd rather have the same level of service throughout an area, not low prices in the cities and high prices in rural areas. I'd rather have power provided to me as close to cost as reasonable, and I'd rather have the development of power resources planned ahead rather than being generated quickly to maximize profit but not be a long-term solution. Go California.

So what is better? This is an excellent question. I know I would prefer a system where the best products and services are created, and the people making them enjoy what they are doing. I know, I am a fool for wishing for such an ideal world where sloth isn't a problem, but you too are a fool for believing in a system built to transfer all but the wealth they think you deserve away from you. Man, I should probably stop reading *Stupid White Men*. If you would like to help balance my view points please e-mail me. The biggest reason I am not offering any solutions to what I see as problems is that I am trying to understand the problem.

unAlbert O'Connor  
amjoconn@uwaterloo.ca

## So You've Decided to Get a Pet

It's that time of year again, that's right, the time of year that you feel the need to buy a pet for comfort now that you just got shot down for the umpteenth Valentine's Day in a row.

Never fear! I am here to assist you with your pet experience! The following is a list of pets and things they are best at!

- Dogs = good for mindless forgiving (and drop-kicking)
- Cats = good for petting (and testing the theory of cats always landing on their feet)
- Parrot = good for hours of entertainment (and annoying the hell out of people when you don't want to put in the effort yourself)
- Other bird = good for cheerful music (and testing how clean the window has to be before they can't see it anymore)
- Fish = soothing visual scenery (and food)
- Elephant = good for riding (and crushing things)
- Horse = ... nobody wants a horse, c'moon
- Boa = killing small animals (and killing big animals)

Sorry if anyone was offended by the suggested uses of said animals. But c'mooooon, it'd be funny.

e.

## More Problem with Infinity

An infinite number of monkeys on an infinite number of 286s would instantly generate the source code to Windows. And in an infinite universe this is bound to exist somewhere (probably in infinite somewhere). You just won't be able to get there from here.

Albert O'Connor

## Dear Long Int

Dear Long Int,  
I want to graduate from nutty-go-crazy university.

Signed, Geroge.

*Well Geroge, If you're talking about UW, good luck! They'll weed out a dork-on like you in the first year.*

long int

Hi Long Int,  
If you hate Charstar so much, why don't you kill him?

Sam, NY

*You know what? You're right! There, I'm back. That felt great! What the.. SEG FAULT? Arrg never delete a char array!*

long int

Dear Long Int  
I think The 133t is awesome. Does he have an email address?

Kristinna

*I doubt it. I don't even think The 133t has a computer. What's so great about the 133t anyway?*

long int

DEAR LONG INT  
HOW DO YOU TYPE WITH A PINK TIE ON?

IKE  
NUNAVUT

*Oh I don't get this question all the time. You are a memory leak..DELETED!*

long in

dear long int  
how do you flip someone off with a pink tie on?

cletus and bubba

*No problems. My favourite way to give the finger is like this: DOUBLE FLOOOOOOOAAATT! (two handed).*

long int

What are some cool ways to spell different words? for example, checkdisk = chkdisk

your friend,  
Dick, UK

*How about... String Concatenate = strcat or String Format Time = strftime!*

long int

Dear Longint  
Here is some little questions:  
Has you some time played ultimet?  
How did you came's to see you was dynamically allocated?  
Do you think you will came's to see when you are wery null?

Jens Mxnster,  
Denmark

*Hey crap face. Why don't you blow it out your ear.*

Your buddy,  
Long Int.

dear long int

if you are such a pimp, why don't I see ever you with any dirty bits?

ok bye  
Emily

*Nrgg... Wrijf... I'M AWESOME!*

long int

*[For those of you who are wondering what the hell is going on, try checking out <http://www.homestarrunner.com/sbemail.html> it uses a lot of flash animations, so run it at home. — KreasEd]*

*That's all for today. But keep sending me your emails and I'll keep ignoring them and making up fake emails for myself to answer.*

long \* Eyal;

## Ask Access

Dear Access,  
I think my Boyfriend is cheating on me, what ever should I do?  
Distressed in CS 134

Dear Distressed,  
I'm sorry, but Access is not available between the hours of 2 am and 6 am because we need to update our databases and then get drunk afterwards.

Dear Access,  
I have a drinking problem. I can't drink more than a single can of Guinness without getting tipsy. Should I keep drinking to build up my resistance or just stop while I'm ahead?  
Drunk Wau Too Easy

Dear Drunk,  
I only hold information that is 12-24 hours old for your viewing pleasure.

Dear Access,  
My monitor won't stop degaussing itself. I think it's haunted or something. What can I do to exorcise my hardware?  
Scared in the Betelgeuse Lab

Dear Betelgeuse,  
This user is not authorized to use ACCESS at this time.

Dear Access,  
I think QUEST hates me. It won't ever let me in, and when I do get the welcome screen, it gives me some sort of java error. I need my financial information to pay my taxes.  
Taxman is Chasing Me

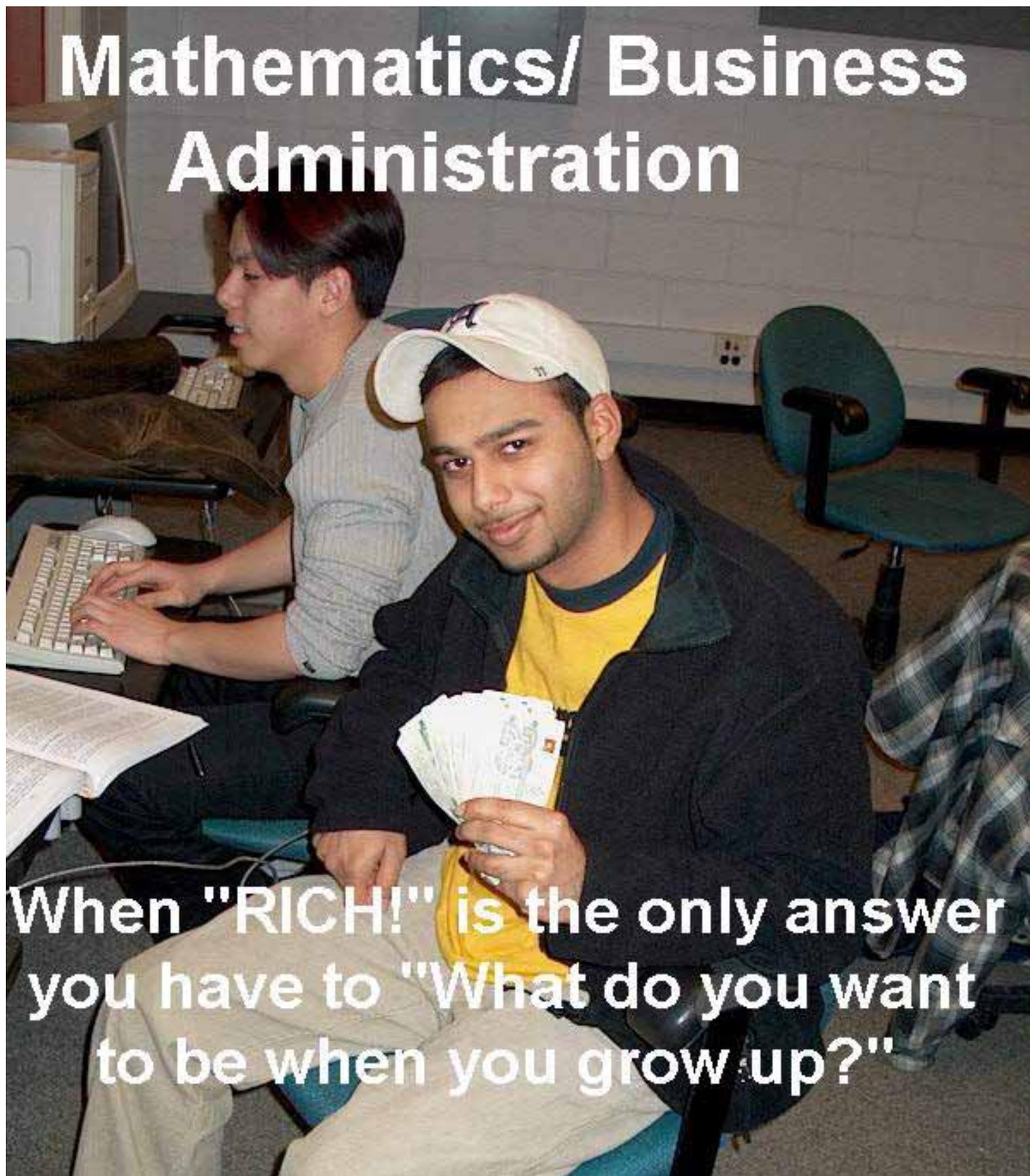
Dear Taxman,  
CANCELLED, NO, NO, ?, ?, ?, CANNCELED, NO, NO, NO, CANCELLED, CANCELLED, CANCELLED, CANCELLED, NO, NO, NO.

## New Math Promotional Posters

In order to prepare for the double co-hort, the Math faculty has made a new series of promotional posters to encourage the best and brightest to Waterloo Math. Over the coming issues,

we will preview these in issues of *mathNEWS* for your viewing pleasure. Enjoy.

Ian W. MacKinnon



## profQUOTES

“I’m getting spacy looks; are you all on drugs?”

Best, C&O 370

“We are going to solve linear equations by mathematical democracy.”

Best C&O 370

“Sometimes it is better to accept a principle as an axiom without proof. However, sometimes there is 30 minutes left in the lecture; so we are going to prove it.”

Willard PMATH 330

“In the United States they don’t know there are 365 days in a year.”

Freeland, ACTSC 231

Question: “How do you pay  $1/365$ th of a dollar?”

Prof: “You have to get out a ruler and measure very carefully. It’s harder with loonies.”

Freeland, ACTSC 231

“I should probably cancel class and collect disability for a few days.”

Freeland, ACTSC 231

[Gets colour chalk] “This is as multimedia as MATH 235 gets.”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

“If anyone wants to become the official usher for section 2, let me know. You get a cap and a flashlight.”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

[Draws a circle] “Vector spaces are not really circles.”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

“If a kid takes an eraser and goes BANG BANG ... this is an American kid, obviously.”

Burris, SMF 205

[Noting the blurry overheads] “No, you’re not going blind. You haven’t been masturbating too much.”

John Rempel, SMF 205

“If you go to the Bomber, which, by the way, isn’t much fun anymore cause there’s nothing to drink.”

Buhr, CS 342

“Now I’m going to be specifically vague on this one ...”

Drekic, STAT 230

“How many of you are done the assignment? How many are almost done the assignment? How many are in lab rat mode?”

Baranoski, CS 488

“If I were to build a denial of service program, I’d use UDP.”

Ortiz, CS 456

“We’ll talk about negative terms in a series in about a week ... or next lecture ... or even this lecture. Actually, we are going to talk about it in half an hour.”

Lam, MATH 138

“No pez dispensers in my class, just text-books.”

Biedl, CS 134

[Prof showed up with a wound on his forehead] “A student came to my office this morning asking for an extension for the assignment, I said ‘no,’ so he beat the \$@%# outta me.”

Willard, PMATH 330

[Student walked in late, ran across the front of the classroom to an empty seat.] “Although I’m American, I’ve left my guns at the border, so there is really no need to run.”

Willard, PMATH 330

“You can’t remember next week’s lecture? Geeze, your memory’s worse than mine.”

Berry, CS 445

“You all think you know a lot about money, but it turns out that you know the least about it; you know a lot more about sex.”

Lau, ECON 102

“Who says it’s convergent?” [No hands raised] “Who says it’s divergent?” [One hand] “Who says we don’t know?” [Majority raised hands] “Yes, you are right. There’s no conclusion. Proof by democracy.”

Lam, MATH 138

“Its sample code, it doesn’t have to be good.”

Morland, CS 241

“Am I hearing voices again?”

Morland, CS 241

“If you can’t understand what I’m saying its because I think on a theoretical level, which isn’t really my fault.”

Morland, CS 241

“Every pink elephant in the room is tapdancing.”

Morland, CS 241

“If you plot a lot of points, you feel like you are on drugs or something.”

Cutler, STAT 443

“It’s a great trick to try at parties, row-reducing a matrix. But I’ve never tried it. I’ve never been to a party.”

VanderBurgh, MATH 235

“I can’t afford a head for every track, but maybe two arms...”

Salem, CS 354

“We have one for each platter, times six, for a total of five.”

Salem, CS 354

“We like to see the objective function going down”

Younger, C&O 350

“The faster it goes down, the better we like it”

Younger, C&O 350

“We go up to Mars and find out ‘oh got, these guys know about linear programming”

Younger, C&O 350

## Fields and Campuses

Two NHL teams have filed for bankruptcy in recent weeks; universities around the province are trying hard to prevent deficits. Players' salaries and university tuition are rising faster than a rocket. Professional sports teams AND universities are both asking for money from the government (on both sides of the border). Some students camped outside an university president's office to protest tuition hikes; fans camped to protest rises in ticket prices. Students and parents rally to prevent their school from closing; fans rally to prevent the hometown teams from moving (often to no avail).

What was the point of the last paragraph? It was also a sample of how professional sport and higher education have become somewhat similar. I could name a few more examples to show how similar they are, but I don't want to bore you to death (or am I doing that right now?).

I know that many people are taking sports too seriously (I am one of the people guilty of that). It's true that there are many serious issues around the world that requires our attention and many claim sports play too big a role in our society, but for many people, sports allow them to get their minds off their predicament and worries (at least temporarily). Of course, Olympic Games and World Cups (of any sport) can be seen as "wars" between nations where the battles are the events and the athletes are soldiers. On the other hand, though, these venues allow citizens of different nations to "fight" against each other without actually going to war and huge physical losses (unfortunately, bruised ego is something that will never go away, in sports or otherwise). I think, secretly, many nations want to beat the US in competition and many former colonies desires to face, and defeat, the nations that colonized them (even if independence was achieved decades ago).

Okay, I was going off topic and being too serious there. So let's get back to the comparison between sports and higher education. I have found a few similarities between the two, down to the people running the entities. The following is a little comparison between the people and terms between the two.

Sports	Higher Education
Teams	Universities
Ticket Prices	Tuition
Concessions	Incidental Fees
Coaches	Professors
Owners	Board of Governors
Trade	Exchange
Demoted to minors	On probation
League	Group of Universities
Players Association	Student Federation
Player Draft	Admission Process

The sports fans among you can probably find a few flaws in this already. For instance, coaches are fired quite frequently, while professors are almost immune to firings. Well, when a coach is fired, often they find coaching jobs elsewhere, this is like a professor moving from one university to another. You can also say that athletes are paid to play while students have to pay to learn. Or that many care about how their home town team is performing, while many less care about how a university is doing. These are valid rebuttals, but remember that the two are just somewhat similar. If sports and higher education are very alike, then we should be able to call one the other. The point is that aspects of society that may appear to be very different

can actually be quite alike.

Maybe this theory is totally whacked, but isn't the point of higher education to explore one's mind and to think outside the norm? And sports a medium for people to link with generations past and people they don't know? (Or is it that my mind has wandered to a far-off place?)

Jason "the Screaming Sports Fan" Lau

## Top Ten Things To Do When You Are Alone On Valentine's Day

10. Call up your mom, say hi, thank her for making you the dateless loser that you are.
9. Go to a movie, alone, like the loser you are.
8. Spend the night at home, by yourself, with the porn you rented last year and didn't take back.
7. Go to your ex-girlfriend's house and watch her and her new boyfriend having sex on the satin sheets you bought her.
6. Read *mathNEWS*.
5. Buy a heart shaped box of chocolates and try to give them to the cashier.
4. Get drunk out of your mind and hit on every girl you see. One of them has to be interested in a threesome.
3. Insert your floppy into your computer and make sweet sweet loving for the next 15 minutes.
2. Go cow tipping with some of your buddies. Once the cow is tipped over, you can do whatever you want!
1. Tell that special someone how you really feel about them, maybe they won't rip your heart out with their bare hands, but don't count on it.

$\pi$

## What They Say vs. What They Mean

They Say: "We're concerned about safety."

They Mean: "We're concerned about liability."

They Say: "We are expanding the size of our programs in preparation for the double co-hort."

They Mean: "We are expanding the size of our de-regulated programs in preparation for parents who don't care what it costs so long as their half-wit kid can get in."

They Say: "The co-op program is succeeding regardless of an economic downturn."

They Mean: "The only thing worse than the guy-girl ratio at Waterloo is the guy-job ratio."

They Say: "We don't match you with jobs, we find them for you to apply."

They Mean: "Our asses are soooo covered if you are unemployable."

Ian W. MacKinnon

*It's the stuff you don't see, the things you don't hear, and what politicians know nothing about. Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's:*

## The Truth and Nothing But

*UW in Hans Blitz*

Sources close to the UW heirarchy tell me this week that the administration is poised to pull off an astonishing coup and seize control of the UN weapons inspection program from Hans Blix and his cronies. There are unconfirmed reports that this operation stems from an incident at a Fed Hall New Year's eve bash during which, to quote a man speaking on the condition of anonimity, "those s\*\*\*\*\*s come and attack me, y'know what I mean, and they don't aks me who I is, becoz don't nobody mess with Leroy, y'know, becoz Leroy will break your hans and legs."

After sifting through this rubble of, well, s\*\*\*, The Truth can tell you that this person (who knows who he really is...?) was apparently provoked into an assault involving the use of hands and legs, thus becoming the basis on which President Johnston shall soon seek exclusive control of all 'hans and legs under his jurisdiction', and slightly beyond.

Neither the President, nor any of his staff could take time out of their 'Bomber Shutdown Party' to talk to The Truth, although, like it's fans know for well, The Truth shall not get shut down.

### *Ashcroft and America Stay Ahead of the 8-ball*

Bringing you tomorrows news a day early, US Attorney General John Ashcroft will this Monday upgrade the status of emergency on mainland USA. With the conclusion of the American Football season last weekend at the pro-bowl in Hawaii, close to 2000 highly dangerous men have been let loose on unsuspecting citizens scattered amongst the neighbourhoods of the States. An NFL spokesperson has advised The Truth to keep a close eye on its privates in particular, because "when you have half of them itching to get a touch of the ball, another half going for the sack, and the others, wait, there's only two halves, yeah, things could get a little tight."

In response to this latest threat, expect George Bush to call for the return of 25 000 troops from Antarctica next week.

### *Major Trouble*

The wife of former British Prime-Minister John Major has been expelled from an honorary masters degree at Oxford University over some minor paperwork trouble. The Truth has discovered that Norma Major, who was persuing a degree in HR, incorrectly filled out the name of her husband under the title "Major:" where, of course, the area of specialization had been requested. Her application was subsequently rejected by Oxford's new automated enrollment program.

The esteemed professor of application form filling, the honourable Sir Aldhelm Garner, though admitting the folly of the university, refused to show Mrs. Major any sympathy. "We are not amused by this incident, and though one can indeed present an argument for her re-instatement, we shall not be associated with any peoples who are unable to correctly submit their personal information over a technological interface."

The Truth urges you to take notice: where two things might claim to be the truth, make the safe choice, and go with The Truth. Oh, hang on ...

## Sweep Me Away

*A Guide to "Very Special" Television*

It's February again and television studios are doing everything they can to get viewers. According to the commercials, there is a huge selection of programs that you absolutely MUST SEE OR YOU WILL REGRET IT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE AND YOU WILL LOSE ALL YOUR FRIENDS AND YOUR FAMILY WILL HATE YOU! Deciding which of these shows you should actually watch is tough, so *mathNEWS* has provided this handy guide to February sweeps programming.

### **Survivor**

**The Pitch:** In a very special season, sixteen contestants are divided into tribes by gender and are forced to endure a humiliating series of tests.

**The Verdict:** Pretty much the same as the past seasons, only the possibility for teammate sex has been replaced with the possibility for lesbian teammate sex.

### **Joe Millionaire**

**The Pitch:** In a very special finale, Joe Millionaire confesses that he's not rich. The chosen bachelorette is forced to either dump him or live on his construction worker salary, plus whatever he got paid to appear on the show, plus whatever the two of them can get from doing interviews or writing autobiographies or sponsoring products or getting their own talk shows or anything else they can get in fifteen minutes.

**The Verdict:** Admit it. It doesn't matter what I say here, because you'll be watching it anyway. I know I will.

### **The Simpsons**

**The Pitch:** In a very special 300<sup>th</sup> episode, hilarity ensues with the Simpson family.

**The Verdict:** The entire marketing campaign for this episode seems to revolve around the fact that it's episode number 300. It doesn't really help when trying to decide if one should watch, but as a mathie you have to admire a show that tries to overwhelm it's competition with sheer numbers.

### **Friends**

**The Pitch:** In a very special episode, two of the gang fall in love or get engaged or get married or something.

**The Verdict:** To be honest, I'm just assuming the show is still on the air.

### **Enterprise**

**The Pitch:** In a very special episode, goofy looking aliens steal T'Pol's brain.

**The Verdict:** I may be watching too much of the original series.

### **The Weather Network**

**The Pitch:** In a very special broadcast, forecasters predict a cool and cloudy weekend.

**The Verdict:** The fact that it isn't going to warm up is more tragic than anything the other television dramas are putting out this month.

### **Daredevil**

**The Pitch:** In a very special movie, a blind lawyer fights crime and saves the day.

**The Verdict:** Not actually a television show, but one of those few cases where a lawyer is the hero rather than the villain. Believe it!

Dan "Very Special" Woodley

# The Keener Purity Test

*Are you a keener?*

## Attendance:

- ? pt for every 5 minute period you arrive early to class.
- -1 point for every class you've missed this term.
- -5 points for every class you've missed because you just couldn't be bothered.
- +5 pts if you're taking/have taken Advanced section classes.
- -5 if you dropped Advanced because there was too much work.
- -5 if you then complained that Honours was also too much work.
- -5 if you now think that Arts is too much work.

## Class preparation:

I read my textbook:

- +15) I read my textbook during vacation, before the term starts, so I can be ahead.
- +5) Before every class, so I know what will be covered that day.
- +3) When I need to clarify something from class.
- +0) I do a bunch of frantic, last-minute reading before exams.
- -1) I'd read my textbook if I knew where it was.
- -3) This class has a textbook? Cool.

## My notes are:

- +5 pts) Latex'ed after every class.
- +3 pts) Neatly handwritten in 3 different colors, organized by class, topic and date.
- -1 pt) I jot down a few things so I feel useful, then I borrow notes from someone.
- -5) Notes? Who takes notes?
- -10) That would involve going to class.

## Sucking up to profs:

- 1 pt for each office hour you've attended this term.
- 1 pt for every prof whom you've followed to his/her office.
- 3 pts for every prof who knows you by name.
- 5 pts for every prof who knows your phone number.
- -5 if you fall asleep in lecture.
- -10 if you start to snore.

## Extra work:

- 1 pt for every bonus question you've submitted this term.
- 3 pt for every bonus question you received full marks for.
- 5 pt if you've ever asked to be assigned extra problems.

## Class time:

- +2 if you try to correct the prof.
- -5 if the prof shoots you down.
- -10 if a classmate shoots you down.
- -11 if your classmates look embarrassed and just move on, as usual.
- +1 for every time you asked a question in class this term.
- +1 for every time you've successfully sidetracked the prof by asking an interesting question.
- +5 if your classmates now groan when you put up your hand.

## You sit in the \_\_ row:

- 5 pts) 1st
- 4 pts) 2nd
- 3 pts) 3rd
- -2 pts) you arrive so late, class is generally over.
- -5 pts) you're still trying to get to yesterday's classes.

## Time Management:

- 2 pts for every day before the due date that an assignment has been completed before the due date.
- -2 pts if the only time you talk to your prof is to ask for an extension.

## Misc:

- -20 pts if you're a member of the PMC.
- -50 if you're Dave Nicholson.

Also, just give yourself 5 points for attending Waterloo, the Keener U.

## Score:

If you actually kept score for this test, then you must be a keener, no doubt about it.

Julie Lavoie

## Top 10 Reasons to Celebrate Austrian Ferris Wheel Day

10. You get to dust off your Austrian flag (you know the one you bought for the World Cup soccer matches last year, but never got to use).
9. Kitchener/Waterloo celebrates Austrian Ferris Wheel Day: Ride as many ferris wheels in Waterloo county for FREE!!!
8. You don't have to commemorate the death of the famous mathematician Edmund Landau (studied number theory).
7. There's no pressure to purchase chocolates for your significant other.
6. You have an excuse to watch as many Austrian films as your heart desires.
5. You can cherish clowns and carnies without feeling of being thought weird.
4. You don't need to blow a fuse about not having a significant other (unlike the French scientist who used this day to test their first atomic bomb).
3. There's no need to use the founding of IBM as a reason to celebrate today (er, there are very few computer g33ks even who would use this as an honest excuse: Austrian Ferris Wheel day is much more popular).
2. You can take all functions that look like:  
 $y = 0.75(x^2)^? (1 - x^2)^?$  (kinda cool! it's heart shaped) and burn them, or throw them out due to the blasphemy to Austrian Ferris Wheel Day.
1. You have an honest excuse to go out, get drunk and party, that doesn't involve drinking your loneliness away!!!!

Happy Austrian Ferris Wheel Day All!!!

your name



## gridCOMMENTS

And we're back for another week of *gridWORD*. I'm getting right to the submissions this issue, as last issue's *gridWORD* was error free ... YEAH! So we had a lot of submissions this week, a total of 15, and most of which were correct. Still though only one can win. Our list of contenders ... for the Conventional Clues we have: Ian McDonald, Mike Huang, Dawn (without Joey), Paul Vet, Andy Pintar, Mission Bananarama, and Kyle Swidrovich. And for the Cryptic Clues we have: Mike Huang, Rob Clark, Big Bannana and Little Bitch, SJU Crew, Pete M., Mark MacDonald, and Martha. So this week winners are (drum roll ...) Dawn (without Joey) with the answer (Don't Wear Shoes) and Rob Clark with TWO answers (a) 1. Remove foot from shoe. 2. Remove small fluffy rodent from shoe. 3. Insert foot into shoe. b) WD-40). You can pick up your prizes at the MathSoc Office. Well Dawn's answer leaves me with no shoes, and if you haven't noticed yet ... IT'S WINTER!. I tried Rob's first answer ... and there was no fuzzy rodent. So I'll try the WD-40. This week's *gridQUESTION* ... let's see Valentine's Day Themed ... and of course it has to be about MEMEMEMEME! So we'll go for the obvious. "Will you be mine? (MINEMINEMINEMINE)" I'm expecting lots of 'no's some disturbing 'yes's and please, please ... no pictures.

Geoff (Still Squeakin')

## Grid Clues (Cryptic)

### Across

7. Loves pine tea (6)
8. Hide shirt with flair (6)
9. Infection in crusty eye (4)
10. I'm starting Monday, integrity unaffected (8)
11. Lock circle permit (7)
13. Dropping claret predictable for two-footer (5)
15. One charming but not obtuse (5)
16. Til this ruined targets (3,4)
18. Flood? Otherwise I tan nude (8)
19. Impromptu skit features horn (4)
21. Scold for substituting UK beer (6)
22. Man fix Untouchable novel, removing bloat (6)

### Down

1. Pour one out to express disappointment (4)
2. French kissing is a new language (13)
3. Singe it badly when it catches (7)
4. Rogue head of state could start power (5)
5. Tentatively calling, "Isn't it sparkly?" (13)
6. What bird wore after she went astray (8)
12. Angered by burning smell (8)
14. Sack guys who go to blazes (7)
17. Shines down with Washington, up with sex (5)
20. Hit end soundtrack (4)



## Grid Clues (Conventional)

### Across

7. Watercraft
8. Standards
9. Chesterfield
10. Beholder
11. Superficial
13. Once more
15. Divert
16. Memory
18. Quick
19. Click
21. Smokestack
22. Regular

### Down

1. Toy blocks
2. Organization
3. Liquor
4. Initial
5. Iceboxes
6. Napping
12. Funny
14. Remaining
17. Procrastinate
20. Applaud

