



Mathy Charms

Goodness FROSTED LOG(CEREAL)

WITH FRACTAL MATHMALLOW BITS



lookAHEAD**mathNEWS**

March 14	Issue #5 gets a mouthful of π
March 24	Issue #6 Production Night 6:30 pm, MathSoc (MC 3038)
March 28	Issue #6 crawls out of hibernation

Math Faculty

Until March 29	Spring '03 Course Enrollment
April 1	Lectures End (for math classes)

MathSoc

Thursdays	Movie Night
Today	Hmm ... π
Tomorrow (March 15)	Settlers Tournament in the Comfy
March 19	Quiz Bowl
March 20	Cotton Candy Day
March 24–29	Office Marathon

MGC

Wednesdays	Pizza
March 19	Valedictorian Selection Committee forms due
March 21	Last Day to nominate for Valedictorian
Today	Support your local Pink Tie Pledge

Co-op

March 17	Continuous Phase postings end
March 20	Co-op Forum
	Come and compl-(iment/ain)

Miscellaneous

March 14	π Approximation Day
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 19	Cases of sore thumbs rise throughout the country (except in Lower Mainland)
March 21	Vernal Equinox
March 23	Movie folks congratulating themselves
March 25	Waffle Day (in Sweden only)

mastHEAD*Luck of the Irish*

π day has rolled around and we're steeped in breakfast cereal. Luckily St. Patty's day is next week so we'll be fine.

After gorging ourselves on cereal at production night we wondered what people's lucky charms were. Thankfully they told us or else this would be one short *mastHEAD*. In the order chosen by my lovely assistant they are: Simon (Yellow Sigmas, pink ties, and yellow integrals), Emerald (Rock. Nothing beats rock), Jason (Mr. Honeybunny's head), Lamo (π s, I mean Pies, I mean wtf?), Soo (My boyfriend... Oh wait...), Ian (qRpmn-53sz1E), Ian (Ian ambiguity), Diana (Freddie and Eddie...at the same time), Albert (My lucky cat's foot), Mark (e^{in}), Dan (My π -leafed clover0, Mike (My green coat ... whichever one I'm wearing.), Craig (the Hahn-Banach), Snuggles (My collection of strangers' pubic hair).

Thanks goes to Campus Pizza for their wonderful pizza and to everyone at Graphic Services.

Louis (The biggest tie I ever saw)
Krease (A mythrill luck + 30 "amulet of wonders")

Grad Ball: Fun, but ...

I must start by saying that I had fun at Grad Ball and I do appreciate the efforts put in by the organisers. However, when my friends and I arrived, we discovered a long line-up that wasn't going anywhere and no one in it seemed to have any idea why we were standing in it. Fortunately, someone near us discovered that we were waiting to pick up our table numbers. Now why these weren't organised beforehand and stamped on our tickets I have no idea. When we finally arrived at the top of the stairs, we discovered that we had to search for our names. No wonder the line-up was so long ... they were sorted by meal and not alphabetically. Both my date's and my name were misspelled. Oh well, you have to expect a bit of disorganisation.

So we went in and found our table and looked at the schedule. Looked like supper at 7:30. Great ... except it didn't arrive until 8:30 and the "raspberry filled" dessert hadn't come within a mile of a raspberry. Each table was provided with two bottles of wine, one white, one red. Both were terrible according to the one wine drinker at our table. The rest of us were busy trying to figure out how to get water. The bar didn't have any and the servers never brought any out until after dessert.

Since we'd sat for ages while waiting for food and between the mains and dessert, almost everyone was ready to mingle and chat with their friends at other tables. The speakers missed their big chance to talk while the rest of us were busy with our mouths full. Instead, about every fifteen minutes they'd tell everyone to shut-up and go sit back down to listen to someone for a few minutes. Wouldn't have been too annoying except that it happened about five times. Why not do all the sit-down-shut-up part at once, so we can get down to why we came? Socialising! During this time, several people got up to talk, including the Dean who sounded surprisingly unprepared although looked very spiffy with a pink tie and cummerbund.

After several speeches, an award (congrats Snuggles!), and embarrassment for the chicken dancing prize winners, it was time for dancing. Mathies clean up surprisingly well and just about all the girls were in long dresses. So you would think for a formal event like this, some suitable music would be played.

THINK AGAIN ...

Whoever came up with the equation Albert + Winamp = DJ should really flunk math. Initially, the base was so loud, some people were forced to leave due to upset stomachs. This was speedily remedied, but the musical selection left a lot to be desired. While some of it was suitable for dancing at a club (though our outfits were not), a lot was entirely un-danceable. Surely this must have been noticed since the dance floor was almost entirely cleaned out within an hour. A lot of people left early and I heard a lot of grumbling about the music. This was supposed to be a formal dinner and dance. One would have expected a good selection of slower music that fit the occasion. I only heard two slow songs, both of which were pop-rock.

They told us this year was the best turn-out ever ... well if they want a repeat, I recommend upping the ticket price just enough to afford a real DJ.

A Wannabe Alum

A Public Service Announcement

For MATH 235 Students

0 cannot be an eigenvector, but 0 can be an eigenvalue.

Pink Tie Pledge

<http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp>

For all pledges made until the end of term I (Daryl McEachern) am personally matching $\$e/\pi$ for every \$10 pledged. Plus all pledges made at the π Pledge or Dean's Challenge levels will be entered into a draw for a degree frame (sold for approx \$75 at convocation). The frame will be awarded at the reception on the 18th of March which is to thank all those who pledge at any level.

The Pink Tie Pledge is our opportunity to leave an indelible mark on Math! It represents our commitment as graduates to current and future Math students. The graduating class of 1990 initiated the Pink Tie Pledge to donate money to specific projects in the Faculty of Mathematics. These projects were to specifically benefit future students, such as ourselves. Now that we are graduating this is our chance to give back.

With each pledge you can direct your money to a project of your choice, for example:

- **The Math Tutorial Centre:** How many of us visited the Tutorial Centre back in first year and second year?
- **Scholarships or Awards** such as the Descartes Scholarship or the MGC Award Endowment, to help provide financial assistance to future students to combat the rising costs of tuition.
- **The Math Endowment Fund:** MEF helps to have course notes created for courses which have awful text books (like Math 235 did), it helps fund servers and lab terminals so that there can be more access to computing resources, as well as funding many other projects to help improve academics.

Your pledge is simply a promise, made in good faith, to give a specified amount, over a three-year period. Your first contribution will not be due until one year from now (May 2004). If you are planning on attending grad school you can defer your pledge to begin after you finish grad school.

The four main pledge levels are:

- The Dean's Prime Number Club (\$151 for 3 years)
- The Ralph Stanton Pledge (\$20.03 per month for 3 years)
- The π Pledge (\$10 π per month for 3 years)
- The Dean's Challenge (\$103 in year 1, \$900 in year 2, \$1000 in year 3)

With donations at each level you will be treated to a reception (March 18th) as well as a small thank you gift.

As well as being for a good cause these pledges are Tax Deductible.

Remember, no matter what size donation you make, you will have the satisfaction of knowing you have made a good investment in the Faculty.

Your pledge will help keep programs strong and uphold the reputation of our Faculty. We can help to guarantee the value of our own degrees by supporting Waterloo after we graduate. Lets do our part to secure the quality of education at Waterloo!

The pledge cards can be picked up at the MCG office (MC 3029) or visit the MGC website (<http://www.student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc/ptp>) to pledge.

Currently we have raised \$10 000 and we need your to help lift that number toward our goal of \$60 000.

Daryl McEachern
2003 PTP Co-ordinator

Another Friendly Social Update

NEWSFLASH: Former AWOL Mathie fills in

Hello all! It seems that $\frac{2}{3}$ rd of your social director is either ill or gravely ill at the current moment. (Hope you both have a speedy recovery!) Because I was the lucky bystander... Actually, I stayed up all night at tie guard (yay for guarding the tie in the middle of winter!) so I was too tired to go to Toronto today and actually saw a glimpse of $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of a social director on his way to the deep south of Kitchener for a health card. It seems that he has to prove he's a Canadian citizen to benefit from OHIP and get a health card. I was given a list of things to say. Hooray for Mathsoc and $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of the social director for entrusting me with infomation! Not just any infomation, but **Important Social Infomation!!!**

I guess I should begin with the bad news. Since your social director was running at $\frac{1}{3}$ rd the capacity, comsic bowling had to be cancelled. The ill side of the social director deeply apologies for this cancellation and hopes that not only will you forgive the ill side of the social director but you don't end up with the two very different types of illness the ill side of the social director has.

Now, the good news! So, it's near the end of term. Most of you should know your profs name by now. Why not prove it to them by attending Pints with Profs on March 26th? You can even buy your prof(s) or your friends or yourself or even a combination of all 3 a non-alcoholic drink or alcoholic drink (if you're over the age of majority). How else can you cozy up to your profs before finals without seeming like you're sucking up to them?

Or another event you can attend is Quiz Bowl which takes place on March 25th. If you want to outshine your profs, this is the place to do it. To sign up your group of 4 (or by yourself, we will find you a team) please e-mail your social director at social@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

Aside from that, if you have free time or you just want to hit on your social director, sign up as a volunteer by e-mailing your social director at (again) social@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca

I believe that is all. If you want to send flowers, candies and well wishes for your social director, drop it off at MathSoc. I'll personally make sure it'll be given to the right people. hehehe

ellie (sigh. still in waterloo.)

Bonus profQUOTES

"Taylor Series is the only useful thing math has given us."

Forrest, AM 261

[Referring to live-lock] "You never realized that your life is hanging by a thread."

Buhr, CS 342

"When we last left our hero or heroine, she/he was at the edge of the cliff clutching a semaphore."

Buhr, CS 342

"Do they not teach continuity in high school anymore? Next you're going to tell me they don't teach non-measurable sets either!"

Small, STAT 240

VPAS Nelieve It or Bot

Believe It!

Ah, I can just feel a lawsuit being mailed to me this very instant.

Kudos All Around!

Thanks to everyone who came out and had copious amounts of fun two weekends ago at Math LaserQuest Night. Thanks to our SD³ team, they pulled this event off without a hitch.

Further kudos to our publicity director, who hasn't quit yet, who spent countless hours cramped up in the MathSoc office producing one incredible poster after another. She's the one responsible for the larger-than-life depiction of a Mathie skiing down the slope that was hanging on the third floor weeks ago.

Final kudos to the entire Math Grad Committee team, who pulled off an incredible Math Grad Ball last weekend. The ambience was excellent, the food was edible, and the DJ was damn terrific. Special kudos to Daryl McEachern, MGC 2003 Chair.

Pies All Around!

TODAY IS π DAY! TODAY IS PIE DAY! In honor of the mathematical symbol known all over the world, a variety of pies and ice cream will be served on the third floor outside the MathSoc office starting at 1:59 pm. A triple serving of pie and ice cream will be awarded to anyone who can recite π to 100 digits (without the help of any visual, audio, or friends-reading-off-of-a-textbook aid).

Mentors All Around!

Thank you to everyone who responded to my call for mentors last week. Due to some red tape, we will be running mentor week in Fall 2003. However, you will be getting an e-mail asking you to come in for an interview and to receive further information.

That's it! The end of term draws near, but the MathSoc events don't end here. Check the MathSoc board across from the C&D for breaking news!

Raymond Lai
VPAS, MathSoc W03

Screamer's Nelieve It or Bot

Seeing Mix-Up

A Brazilian woman was driving in a suburb of Rio de Janeiro when she was caught by a traffic warden for not wearing a helmet. She did not accept the charges with good reason: she was driving a car! She made complaints to the traffic department and the authorities rescinded the charges. If eye exams were not part of the city's traffic cops physical exam before, maybe they should include it now.

Burning Love Lost

A Swedish man recently endured a divorce and as a result, had to give half of what he owned to his former spouse. He became distraught and found a way to avoid giving away what he owned: He sold all his belongings for cash, then piled the money up and burned it. No word on whether the man's ex-wife gets half of the ashes.

Jason "the Screamer" Lau
Has this column gone on for too long?

Secret ingredient to Lucky's "Magical" marshmallows found!

UW prof sits down for tell-all interview

We've all seen the ads as kids, and maybe some of us have seen them recently, where this little Leprechaun is trying to share his special, magical cereal with all the little girls and boys. Many of you may have wondered how this Lucky character can conjure up itsy, bitsy, teeny weenie marshmallows with just the wave of a hand. This secret has been discovered by none other than Professor Ima Mushmallow here at the University of Waterloo. *mathNEWS* had a chance to sit down with the professor to discuss his findings.

mN: So, Professor Mushmallow, what does this incredible breakthrough mean for the cereal production industry?

Professor Ima Mushmallow: Well, now this poor little guy, who's spending about 20 hours a day, waving a wand, will finally get a vacation after only God knows how many years of only having a 10 minute lunch, usually consisting of a bowl of his very own Lucky Charms.

mN: Somehow you make this sound like he's been some sort of abused worker.

PIM: Well, in a sense he has. This guy, although he's been incredibly well paid, has spent days on end simply churning out marshmallows to go with the cereal that most kids want, simply because this guy is inviting them to try it. It's an addictive brand ... there's something in the marshmallows, namely nicotine, that's making it really hard for kids to stop eating the cereal. My study also showed that kids that eat Lucky Charms are almost totally inclined to begin smoking, and often die of some sort of cancer, usually stomach or spleen.

mN: So what is this mystery ingredient/process that's got the potential of saving millions of dollars?

PIM: I really do want to divulge that here, but I am also negotiating the sale of this information to General Mills. They are anxious to cut loose that Lucky guy, who's been slacking off recently. As you know, he also stars in all his own commercials when it comes to this particular brand of cereal.

mN: Incredible! How long have you been working at this?

PIM: Actually, breakfast cereals have been my main area of research for the past 15 years, and I've uncovered the secret to why such cereals as "Team" and "Krustyos" have flopped and why such cereals as "Wheetabix" have stayed on the market. Trust me when I tell you that it's not just economics, as some would have us believe. Sometimes these companies pull cereals for no real reason.

mN: We'd love to continue this conversation, but I've heard that a bar fight just broke out at Molly Blooms ... Apparently there's a whiskey filled Leprechaun-like character that's creating a ruckus, stating that the loss of his pot-o-gold guarantees all his financial woes will resurface.

Leaving the interview, we noticed that Professor Mushmallow picked up his brand new satellite phone and overheard him talking, rather seriously, about his discovery. The next day's news announced the sale of this secret, and our story about the drunken Leprechaun was actually picked up by Rogers Cable 20! Hurray for *mathNEWS* our first televised interview!

Mark

mathNEWS mailBAG

I read your article entitled "Email Magic" and tried to change my e-mail address. But I couldn't find how to do it anywhere. Could you please tell me the steps needed to changed my e-mail address?

Thanks
Kevin

Well, it's not really changing it, but adding another one. I'll break it down into easy-to-follow steps:

1. **Find a unique name:** The easiest way to do this is to log onto a unix terminal and run 'uwdir [name]' where [name] is the unique name you want. If it comes up with no matches, you got yourself a unique name.
2. **Change your UWdir Data:** This can be done by visiting <http://ego.uwaterloo.ca/~uwdir> and clicking on 'Update your UWdir Data'. You'll want to enter the unique name from step 1 as your 'Nick Name'.
3. **That's it.** It's supposed to take 24 hours for the changes to process, so try emailing yourself at your new address, [name]@uwaterloo.ca tomorrow. That's it.

Krease

I have a question for you...

Have you beat Grand Theft Auto 3 for PS2?
My friend and I have done approx. 50 something missions out of the 70 some, but now nothing is lit up for us to go to?
Do you know what we're supposed to do??

Thanks!
Kim

Nope, I don't even have a PS2 '... although if you're willing to send us one (with the game of course), I'm sure we can figure out what to do! If you're not willing to do that, try checking out <http://www.gamefaqs.com>— it's where I go to figure games out.

Krease

Pot of Gold:

FedS wants a free one

In recent campus-wide news, the FedS have threatened to break open the bar debates with a bang. They are wanting to launch an \$11 million lawsuit against the administration. The general consensus from FedS people is that this is the only "real" way to get vindication for the "irreparable" damages caused to their little organization. Well, we at mathNEWS decided to get our own insight on student opinion. Here are the various responses from random faculties:

Math: Why do they want our tuition to go up even more now?

Arts: Yay! The bars will be opening and we get less FedS fees!

Engineering: \$11 million?!? We drink that on a weekly basis!

Psychology: I guess we'll be having a drop in alcohol studies.

Sciences: Time to resume the alcohol consumption studies!

Mark

I am so hoping that you can help me out. I am a sad math alumni that can not find what I am looking for on the math website. If you could please point me in the correct direction of someone that could answer my question that would be excellent.

I am trying to find out if MathSoc still has the math cheat shirts. I made the mistake of only buying one for my brother when I was there and would love to have one of my own, but I am never in Waterloo. If someone could point me to a website where I could order one, or to a phone number, or in the sad case that they are no longer available, an email letting me know.

Thanks!
Melanie Woodall

Don't be sad ... MathSoc still has a lot of Cheat Shirts! If you can't visit the MathSoc office (MC 3038) to get one, you can email novelties@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca and I'm sure you'll have no problems arranging ordering one by mail. (You can also find out about some of the other novelties we have, like Math Socks and 'Se^x = f(uⁿ)' t-shirts.

Krease

Have something you want to say? Let us know — send mathNEWS a letter! You can:

- Put it in the BLACK BOX between the C&D and the Comfy Lounge

- Email it to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca
- Snail-mail to mathNEWS, MC 3041, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, N2L 3G1

Electr0nica near the MC

On Friday March the 21st, the fourth installment in the electronic music series, Electr0nica near the MC, is bringing hardcore tunes to the SLC. What better way to celebrate the first day of spring than dancing your pants off to the best in house, trance, drum and bass, breaks, hardcore and techno?

::INFO::

Time: 4:00 pm - 3:00 am

Location: SLC::MPR (student life center, multipurpose room)

Cost: FREE

Djs: 15

Turntables: 4

Mixers: 2

Watts: 4000

Electr0nica is a unique campus event where DJs and live performers of electronic music from various University faculties show off their talent to fans of the genre. This term, 15 performers will be tearing it up on a selection from 4 turntables, 2 mixers and a variety of synth machines and keyboards. A 4000 watt sound system with dual 18" subs and powerful tops will be in effect alongside some very cool lighting. You can be sure the music will be sweet, the times will be good, and the decor will be funky so come and enjoy. As usual, it is free and all are welcome to attend the entire thing or just drop by to check it out.

Want more? Visit <http://www.electronicainthemc.org>.

Metal 101

The Indoctrination Begins

Brothers and sisters, I am disheartened. Wandering around campus, I cannot help but be amazed at the falseness and treachery of the popular culture that seems to dominate our population. I shudder whenever I see a swaggering stripling of lad sporting a tight toque indoors, perfectly resembling an oversized sperm. I watch in disbelief as the selfsame fool trips over pants that are several times too large for him, and cannot help but wonder if he is attempting to hide the inadequacy of his anatomy in the extra folds of overpriced denim. I am amazed that the painted and dyed lasses walking our halls tolerate, nay, even *encourage* such blatantly ridiculous behaviour. But then again, what can one properly expect in an era when Eminem wins a Juno for best international album of the year, and when a voodoo art such as Computer Science is given enough credence to merit its own undergraduate degree?

If there were ever time in our history where the unifying emblem of true metal was needed to steel our hearts against cultural oppression and guard our minds against the lies of our governments and our media, it is now. The leader of a nation of blood-crazed cowboys preaches the merit and justice of waging war against a country that is no more than a smouldering crater in the Middle-Eastern desert; the blaring trumpets of media conglomerates urge us to ameliorate our social problems by consuming far beyond our means; the siren song of popular culture entices our sisters and daughters to dress like harlots and act the part, and label this transformation as the “liberation of women”; and, at the forefront of it all, the tired and repetitious hum of the newest Top 40 rhythms lull us into unconcern and apathy. My brethren, this cannot be allowed to continue. We must plant our flag in the frozen turf of our beautiful homeland, gather beneath it, and, raising our fists in allegiance to the Sign of the Hammer, pledge that we will tolerate the transience and falseness that are driving our society to destruction no longer! Unity and honesty will be the strength that fortifies our arms; education and belief in the schools of **METAL** will be the unyielding ore with which we shall forge blades to wield against those that defy us.

Be assured, brothers and sisters, that I am aware that many of you lack any instruction or familiarity with the scripture of **METAL**. This column is intended primarily as a vehicle for your indoctrination, and your continued readership will ensure an overview of the religion of **METAL** that will be thorough enough to allow you to decide which school of **METAL** in which to focus your studies. We will begin with the more common and familiar genres of **METAL**, gradually moving on to the newer and more obscure.

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The Traditional School of Metal

If you were one of the fortunate few to have lived through the mid-eighties as a teenager or adult, then odds are good that you are already familiar with the esteemed school of Traditional **METAL**. Influenced by artists who were themselves inspired by the New Wave of British Heavy Metal (NWOBHM), the Big Four of Anthrax, Metallica, Megadeth, and Slayer began a movement that was focused on the destruction of the false school of Glam Metal, attracting the devotion of an entirely new generation of disciples. Appreciation was regained for veteran bands such as Iron Maiden, while at the same time legendary heroes of **METAL** such as Sepultura and Testament joined the fray. This was the era that spawned the majority of the schools of **METAL** that exist today. No matter what direction their music and their lives may have taken them afterwards, the names of the pioneers of this genre are eternally etched on the hearts of every true disciple of **METAL**.

Traditional Metal bands are usually four- or five-pieces, among which the duties of bassist, guitarist, drummer, and vocalist are distributed. Subject matter varies from politics to mythology, and awe-inspiring guitar solos are omnipresent. Very few successful bands today can be attributed as disciples of the school of Traditional **METAL**, preferring to adapt the teachings of newer and more popular disciplines.

While it is very difficult to pick a subset of tracks that properly represent the school, here are a few sample songs that will give you a reasonably good feeling for the genre.

- Anthrax - Room for One
- Metallica - Master of Puppets
- Metallica - Harvester of Sorrow
- Megadeth - Peace Sells, But Who's Buying
- Megadeth - Holy Wars
- Testament - First Strike is Deadly
- Slayer - Angel of Death
- Iron Maiden - Hallowed be thy Name
- Sepultura - Inner Self

That is all for this week, my brethren. Go in the light of true **METAL**.

Mike “The Fierce, the Black, and the Wicked” DiBernardo

Class of 2003 Valedictorian

Do you know someone who should be class Valedictorian, or do you want to sit on the selection committee?

Nomination Forms are due on Wednesday, March 19th at noon — that’s in five days — for those interested in helping select the Math Class of 2003 Valedictorian.

Nomination forms for Valedictorian Candidates are due March 21st at 4 pm.

Nomination forms can be picked up at the MGC Office (MC 3029), on the web at <http://student.math.uwaterloo.ca/~mgc>, or by emailing mgc@student.math.uwaterloo.ca.

Time is running out to recognize that special student.

Daryl McEachern
2003 MGC Chair

Deep in the Heart of the Waterloo Jungle

You Can Hear the Leprechaun Rumble

It's early morning in the forest, the dew is just settling and a thick morning mist encompasses the scene. Elegant tall maples reach into the sky and dominate the horizon. The woodland creatures are just emerging from their damp hearth, braving the bright sun as they begin to forage for their morning meal. There is a rustling in the brush and a small glint of green can be seen through the foliage. A faint sound can be heard, emanating from the vegetation, barely audible over the western wind, "air ter loo mmms." It begins to grow louder ... "are fter uck arms."

Then suddenly a rather portly gentleman wearing all green with a clover on his hat bursts forth from the bush. "They're after me lucky charms!"

Meanwhile, over in the Succulent Learning Conglomerate from the secret organization of Forceful Elimination of Defenestrated S.o.b's, a task force of lawyers gushes out, headed towards the Innovative Forest. "We're off to see the money, the wonderful money of Admin, because because because because because, because it all comes from the students anyway, budmbudmbudm, We're off to see the money, the wonderful money of legal fees."

Back to our quaint forest, where Leprechaun DJ, or Dave for short, can be seen dragging a giant iron pot filled with gold bullion towards his secret hiding place. "You're all after me pot o' gold, do you know how many programs I had to deregulate to fill this."

Will the task force of lawyers manage to obtain DJ's pot of gold? Will Innovative Forest be paved over by the evil cement clouds that were not mentioned at all before now? Will DJ once again dodge away by using his super-powered random anecdote? No really, I don't know the answers, I was asking, this wasn't a suspense build, I was just wondering ... Hello ... Hello?

The Not-So-Innocent Bystander
Survives Surpasses Scintillates

Lucky Co-op Charms

Lucky to become computer animated creation

General Mills has posted a co-op position, seeking a 4th year graphics student to re-create their famous mascot, Lucky the Leprechaun. GM's GM has been overheard saying "Hell, why can't our mascot have a plump belly that makes him giggle when poked there? Wait, do we even own the Staypuff Marshmallow Man? Or better yet, the Pillsbury Doughboy?"

Other recent co-op postings

- Charming person willing to develop ideas for marshmallow shaped breakfast cereal.
- Fruity person wanted to "follow his nose" to a new slogan, whilst revamping the current mascot.
- Seeking triplets willing to "Snappit, Crack, and Poppa" for a local charity. Call (519) 888-8888.

Mark

Sleepy Ramblings

moot weet goot sweet sweet sweet

"Arghh!! You'll never take me lucky charms!" cried the misfitinous leprechaun, as he shovelled up the rest of his crunchy coated treats and gobbled 'em down! The murderous troll rambled on about the speech he made about the Emmys. It was all coming too true. How could the fate of an entire universe lie in the stinking palm of a nude dwarf? I mean really, he's actually a leprechaun, but you'd swear he's a dwarf — and whats the deal with him not wearing any pants? Like really, he could at least tie some charms together to cover up, but no, he just lets it all hang out while he eats.

The clouds grew darker. The troll raked the leaves of insecurity. The symbolism was there in its deepest darkest sense, the kind of symbolism that only leaves and lucky charms can share. imagine the amount of leaves trolls rake, its phenomenal.

The leprechaun chanted, "moot weet goot sweet sweet sweet" over and over again. The troll grew angry. "How could I have won a Pulitzer prize for that?" he asked. The leprechaun began to dance around the troll; the troll jabbed the rake at where the leprechauns pants *should* be... the leprechaun fell to the ground crying about his lucky charms.

The leprechaun cast a mighty hex on the murderous troll. "Why have you befallen me of this pain?" he cried, "You will never see the light of charms again!" The troll replied that lucky charms don't generally contain light bulbs.

The leprechaun spit on the leaves and ran home. The murderous troll put on his finest tux and went to the Much Teen Video Awards — but he forgot his pants. The charms were there. Gooooooooo movies!!!

President of Shadow Corp.
CosmicShadow

Klingon Programmers

12. Specifications are for the weak and timid!
11. This machine is a piece of GAGH! I need dual Pentium processors if I am to do battle with this code!
10. You cannot really appreciate Dilbert unless you've read it in the original Klingon.
9. Indentation?! — I will show you how to indent when I indent your skull!
8. What is this talk of 'release'? Klingons do not make software 'releases.' Our software 'escapes' leaving a bloody trail of designers and quality assurance people in its wake.
7. Debugging? Klingons do not debug. Our software does not coddle the weak.
6. I have challenged the entire quality assurance team to a bat'leth contest. They will not concern us again.
5. A TRUE Klingon Warrior does not comment his code!
4. By filing this CFS you have challenged the honour of my family. Prepare to die!
3. You question the worthiness of my code? I should kill you where you stand!
2. Our users will know fear and cower before our software. Ship it! Ship it and let them flee like the dogs they are!

And the number one saying of a Klingon Programmer — My function calls do not have 'parameters' — they have 'arguments' — and they ALWAYS WIN THEM.

Tyler Slijboom

It's the year 2011. Times have changed, things have changed, politicians haven't. You look up at the sky and see something. Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's:

The Truth and Nothing But

Politics

Jean Chretien has stunned Canadian politics by announcing that he will step down from office at the end of his current term as Prime Minister. After winning mid-term elections for an unprecedented 7th time just last year, it had been widely expected that he would see out his mandate at least until the Liberal party could clone someone to assume the reins of power. With the opposition NDP (Now Defunct Party) retiring from politics after their landslide defeat last year, Chretien's statement has thrown Parliament Hill into chaos. Though at first there was much skepticism about the announcement, the Prime Minister's office has made it clear that this time will be unlike the 5 previous statements.

Senior cabinet members are touting the idea of commercializing the job, with negotiations for a 5 year prime-ministership set to cost corporations in the region of 75 gagillion pesos. Galaxy-wide multimedia powerhouse AOL-TimeWarner-IBM-FOX-Sony-Bell-FedEx Corp. is said to be the early front runner.

Business

Caught up in a decade long depression with a spiraling national debt, Canada has sold the province of Newfoundland to multinational restaurant giant Hard Rock Cafe at a cut-price deal of one squillion pesos. While economists have blamed the bargain basement sale on the weak North American markets (ever since Canada adopted the peso back in 2004, the Royal Canadian Mint hasn't even printed banknotes below 1 million squillion), the Government of Canada was quick to reassure Canadians that the cheap sell-off was merely the market value of Canada's Eastern-most province, and no reflection on the national economy. The president of Hard Rock Cafe, Mr. Bill Clinton, was not available for comment.

Sports

Jose Martinez has become the latest in a long line of baseball players to demand a trade from bottom-of-the-table Saturn Spocksters. The Spocksters and their fans are understandably angered by this request since it was only last week that they acquired the talented batter, who has only hit 3 inter-planetary runs this season. Rumour has it that Martinez felt short-changed by the Spocksters, since the 5 moons he received as a signing bonus was eclipsed by their cross-planet rivals Saturn Enterprise, who this week signed Pedro Gonzalez to a multi-lifetime deal that included one of the planet's famous rings.

Science

In a related story, astronomers and scientists alike are questioning the wisdom of selling moons and rings to uneducated baseball players. It is believed the main cause of concern surrounds the un-ringing of planets like Saturn, which may fall out of orbit without the rings to keep them in place. Senior NASA planetary analyst Jimmy Johnson adds, "since we have not yet mastered the technology of cloning planets, nor can we store planetary DNA, we must keep hold of all our planets at the very least until such a program is available. And should these planets become capable of moving freely, we would have a massive problem on our hands, as it is quite possible they will end up in another galaxy. We are as yet only in control of 50 planets, we cannot stand losing any of them for our closest rivals, the Jobagino, have about 670."

The Almighty Wingongko, Ruler of the Jobagino and founder of Intergalactic Nations, ruled out any attempt to lure planets into his/her galaxy. Appearing on Al-Jazeera TV through a live satellite hook-up, he/she said "I would like to categorically and unequivocally deny the reports that we may be interested in bringing some of your planets to Jobagino. We see ourselves as the most powerful force in the universe, and adding one of your cheap parts would only make us weaker and susceptible to defeat."

Entertainment

Aging pop icon Michael Jackson is in the news again, this time defending his decision to adopt blue skin for his sold-out show in Pluto. Jackson, who was originally black, has now gone through white, red, green, lime, silver and now blue in a relatively short period of time. The performer shocked his fans by performing the concert topless, his body and his new complexion unaffected by the sub-one-thousand-below-zero-temperatures. It was later revealed that though Jackson does not have Plutonian ancestry, over 90% of his body is Grade U plastic, allowing him to handle extreme temperatures.

At the movies meanwhile, the makers of the ancient blockbuster *Independence Day* are facing a multi-quantrilpulsion peso defamation lawsuit for their portrayal of certain aliens attacking planet Earth. The suit, which has been signed by all non-human species, argues that "[the aliens] were unfairly characterized as ugly, clumsy, and stupid, and to add insult to injury, [they] were made to spend 9 months in the company of Will Smith." The Aliens' lawyer, himself a human and a native of planet Earth says that though it is unlikely that the humans will be sued to bankruptcy, a plea bargain involving a human apology and the banishment/hanging of Will Smith would be appropriate.

Midnight Capture the Flag: FINAL

My hands are numb

The final of MCTF (Midnight Capture the Flag) will take place on March the 30th. You have been warned. Oh I know I will see you there.

Managed Extension of Writing

More Bonus profQUOTES

"That's what we do in science, we understand the principle so we don't have to remember all kinds of arcane examples, like engineers do.

LeRoy, CHEM 123

"I'm running out of life here, this is terrible."

LeRoy, CHEM 123

New Math Faculty Promotional Posters



COMPUTER SCIENCE

...Because Your
Parents Told You To.

The Leprechaun

A day ago, in the old forest near the stream that runs into the horizon, I went walking to relieve the stress that built up over the course of one rather long day at school. I followed the ever-so-clear path that seemed to lead into the deep of the forest; I did not know where or what this path was taking me to (but, I am sure I would not have gone if I knew what, in truth, it actually was leading me to). As I progressed into the forest it seemed to get ever so brighter, almost as if there were some radiance shining from deep within the forest, almost as if there was a pot of gold. I walked closer and closer towards the heart of the forest, intending to discover what was the cause of this increasingly brilliant light. As I drew nearer and nearer to the glow, which in fact turned out to be the heart of the forest, I started to hear soft chanting coming from a glade. I drew near the edge of the glade and hid silently behind a rock. As I slowly pulled my head above I was bedazzled, and amazed at what I saw.

There in the center of the glade, dancing around a leprechaun sitting on a pot of gold were ... GIANT MARSHMALLOWS!! But these were no ordinary giant marshmallows; no, these were in the shape of charms ... lucky charms. They were dancing around the leprechaun chanting:

“Hearts, stars, horseshoes, clovers and blue moons, pots of gold and rainbows, and the red balloons.”

I couldn't believe it. Each time the marshmallows made a complete circle around the leprechaun, the chant grew louder and louder, until it was a thunderous roar. I decided that I had seen enough of this ancient ritual so I turned to back away. I turned around and there was a giant blue moon standing right behind me.

“Dance!!” it screamed to me.

Deciding not to argue with a blue moon, I turned and headed towards the ring in the glade. As I neared the star and horseshoe, they broke apart and allowed me join in the circle. For nearly twenty minutes we danced and thundered out the strange chant. Just when I was beginning to think I could take no more, the leprechaun held up his hand, and the marshmallows immediately dropped to their knees reverently. Not knowing what to do, I did the same, bowing down to the leprechaun. After some time of bowing to the leprechaun, he looked at me and said:

“We have a guest.”

At that, every marshmallow in the glade cheered a grand cheer, welcoming my arrival. Well, I thought, this can't be so bad, maybe I get to be the guest of honour at a banquet or something. But oh was I wrong, so horrifically wrong as the leprechaun continued to speak.

“So long has it been since we have had a guest of honour; the last to join us was the red balloon, and what a guest he was.”

At this, there was another cheer.

“Now is the time to add to our great family, but what shall our friend be bestowed as? A rabbit's foot? A square? Or perhaps a dehydrated spleen?” At this I started to realize that something was horribly wrong. I looked around the group, and for the first time I noticed that every marshmallow had something in common ... they all had the faces of children! Oh the horror!! Something magical had lured me and all the other kids here into this forest with the intent of changing us into marshmallows to dance and chant for all ages. Lightning fast, I jumped up and ran back down the path to safety.

“Don't let him get away!” screamed the leprechaun.

I ran as fast as I had ever run in my life, never looking back, never stopping to rest until I was within sight of the forest opening. Panting hard, I rested my back up against a tree to catch my breath. Just then I saw the fleeting image of something moving under the trees, something shaped like a giant heart. I turned and ran towards the opening — I was almost there, just a few more steps and I was safe. But no!! Just as I was crossing the threshold of the forest a noose swung up from between two trees and ensnared me. I struggled, turned and thrashed, attempting to free myself, but giant marshmallows pinned down my arms and my legs, rendering them useless. To my horror, there was the leprechaun, bearing down on me screaming:

“You will join our eternal family!”

He touched me with his gold charm and I felt something horrible rending through the flesh of my body. It was over for me.

The little boy slowly peered over the rock at the into the the glade. There were many dancing marshmallows, all dancing around a leprechaun sitting on a pot of gold. They were all chanting the same thing, “Hearts, stars, horseshoes, clovers and blue moons. Pots of gold, rainbows, and red balloons. But don't forget the dehydrated spleen!”

Log(a)ⁿ

Lucky Charms Not So Lucky

New Study Casts Doubt On Cereal Claim

A controversial new report released last week has thrown the breakfast community into chaos. Last Thursday in Waterloo, the Foundation For Money-Wasting Studies unveiled the results of two years of painstaking research into breakfast cereals. Among the items in the report was the claim that Lucky Charms does not increase a person's luck in any way.

“We did not find any positive correlation between eating the cereal and our performance at games of chance,” said head researcher James T. Crunch. “We blew hundred of thousands of dollars gambling, but we couldn't come out ahead. It's a good thing it wasn't our money.” The study also found that, in certain circumstances, the cereal could cause bad luck. “Take a look at the mascot. He is constantly forced to hide from hordes of sugar-addicted children, simply because he has that cereal. I'd hardly call that good luck.” The report also claims that Lucky Charms, while delicious, is not magically so. “The taste of Lucky Charms can be explained through completely mundane means” claims Crunch.

General Mills, the maker of Lucky Charms, says it is unconcerned by the negative publicity. Cereal spokesperson Lucky spoke out in defence of his product. “We've been attacked before and we've always survived. The parents group that misunderstood the word 'Lucky', the parent's group that misunderstood the word 'Charms', the Mothers Against The Exploitation Of The Vertically Challenged — they've all rallied against us and failed. I guess the world will never get tired of marshmallows for breakfast.”

Other findings by the group include the fact that Trix are actually safe for adult consumption, Rice Krispies will occasionally forget to pop, and that Count Chocula will not cause vampirism in children.

Dan Woodley

If The University Admin Made an OS...

- One week a year it would never stop displaying help windows, not allow to you browse to porn sites, and only play Video Games that the ESRB had rated “E” for “Everyone”.
- If, on an isolated incident, your Mail client received a virus, it would no longer allow access to both the Mail and News readers because of safety and demand to the client vendor that the software be integrated into the OS rather than wonder where the virus checker was.
- Every year, it would pop up a message saying that it needs more memory in order to process just as fast, and you would simply buy more memory and accept it.
- Due to lack of executable files, source code that is still a few cycles away from being compiled would run system functions because they are cheaper and more plentiful.
- No screenshots would ever be published of the OS during the winter time.
- It would stake the OS’s reputation on an integrated web browser that only worked for eight out of ten users.
- It would claim to operate 24 hours a day, but for a third of the year, users could only use less than half the programs, and none of the fun ones.
- The gui would not be pretty, but new additions to it would only make it worse by clashing with the existing crappy windows.
- The gui would put all the development programs in a window labelled “Music”, and put all the finance and physics programs in a grouping labelled “Games”.
- Every year it would win “Best-OS” from a prominent Computer Magazine which would take into the account the opinions of Vendors, Computer Experts, Wholesalers, and company managers, but not users.

Ian W. MacKinnon

Derogatory Names For People Who Major in...

BioInformatics — CSer++
 Pure Math — Topological Trash
 Applied Math — Physics Phonies
 Double Degree — Half-Breeds
 C&O — Graph Addicts
 CS — Complexity Creeps
 CS (B.CS) — Mathematical Cop-Outs
 Business/Math — BBA Wannabes
 Act Sci — Death Derivators
 Mathematical Sciences — Undeclared

Ian W. MacKinnon

Lucky Files Lawsuit

Claims Breakfast Cereal Destroyed His Life

General Mills was the target of a \$10 Billion lawsuit this week. Spokesman Lucky C. Leprechaun sued the company, claiming the Lucky Charms cereal is dangerous and that it destroyed his life. “It’s basically just sugar. That can’t be good for our children,” he said. “Breakfast used to be the most important meal of the day, but General Mills has made a mockery of it.”

His most damaging claim is that the cereal is addictive. “I’m constantly pursued by children who want my Lucky Charms. I moved to South America, changed my name, and bought some platform shoes, but it still wasn’t enough to keep me safe. This is not a normal reaction to a breakfast cereal!”

Others have spoken up with their own concerns about the product. “All these pink hearts and green clovers and eye of newt sound a lot like witchcraft. Harry Potter was bad enough, now breakfast cereal is trying to lure my son into the occult,” exclaimed parent Ira B. Rayte.

General Mills claims that the lawsuit is bogus. In a message to the press, the company stated, “Granted, Lucky Charms may not be very nutritious, but it is still magically delicious. The fact that it causes kids to go insane and try and steal it just proves how special it is.” *[Don’t forget all the video evidence Lucky has of those kids hired to stalk and steal from him ... it was even aired on national TV! — KreasEd]*

Dan Woodley

Competition for Lucky Charms

New superstition-based cereals now on the market

With the success of General Mills popular oats-and-marshmallow cereal Lucky Charms, several of their competitors have announced that they will soon be releasing their own superstition-based cereals. Whether these new offerings will be as successful as Lucky Charms has been, only time will tell.

The first is Kellogg’s Tarot Treats. It features puffed rice in the shape of minor arcana — cups, swords, wands and pentacles, as well as marshmallows in the shapes of what market research has revealed to be kids’ favourite major arcana: the Emperor, the Wheel of Fortune, the Magician, the Hermit, the Hierophant and Death. Despite extensive market testing, reviews of the new cereal were mixed. Little Tommy Eliot expressed disappointment over the fact that his favourite major arcanum was absent from the cereal, complaining “I can’t find the Hanged Man.”

A second offering is Post’s Unlucky Charms. As per the standard formula, it consists of the boring bits kids throw back into the box supplemented with the standard complement of marshmallows. Unlucky Charms features pink ladders, orange broken mirrors, yellow spilled salt, green sidewalk cracks, blue calendars opened before the year begins, and purple black cats. When asked how a cat could be simultaneously purple and black, the new cereal’s designer was unexpectedly called to a marketing meeting before having an opportunity to answer.

Eigenvector

Today On Harry Finger

Cereal Celebrities and the People Who Hate Them

Harry: On our show today, our special guest is Lucky The Leprechaun. The cereal celebrity for lucky charms. Let's welcome our special guest now...

Audience: *[Loud boos]*

Lucky: *[Gives crowd the finger, takes a seat]* Those fucking kids are always trying to steal me lucky charms. I tell you Harry, it's hell living like this. And the public makes me out to be a bad guy. Well you know what? You can all kiss me ass!

Audience: *[Loud boos]*

Harry: You can't talk to me — I mean *my* audience that way. *[Audience member has a question, Harry approaches]*

Harry: What's your question?

Guy in crowd: Yeah this question is fer Lucky. Hey Lucky, why ya keep changin' all them marshmallows? Ah mean, one day it's like, ya got stars 'n' moons, and then ya got pots-a-gold.

Lucky: You're about to see stars you limey bastard! I decide what's lucky and what's not!

Audience: *[Loud boos]*

Harry: Shut up. Let's introduce our next guest, after this brief commercial message.

[Screen begins to fade out]

Lucky: What? You told me this was going to be exclusi-

[Cut to commercial]

Announcer: You've all heard the testimonies of Snap and Crackle on Entertainment Tonight and National Enquirer. Well now you can read all about the true accounts of the controversial Rice Crispies trio, as told from the perspective of the two members who were left in obscurity. Read about Pop in Snap's new book "*When The Bowl Stops Talking*". Snap has a lot to say about his former friend and co-elf, who turned on his friends to further his own cereal celebrity career. Call 888-4567 ext. 2324 to order now. Only \$19.95 while supplies last.

[Fade to show, Lucky is being restrained in chair by security]

Lucky: Ya bastard! I'll give you what's for! Ahh!

[Lucky is tranquilized by a security guard]

Harry: Alrighty then, here he is, our next guest — Sugar Bear! *[Sugar Bear enters, slowly walks to center of stage, sits down]*

Harry: So Sugar Bear, tell us the story which has captured the hearts of so many Americans.

Sugar Bear: I lost my family and friends. I lost my job, my life. All because of my addiction. Can't get enough of that Sugar Crisp. I'm jonesin' man! I need my fix!

Harry: *[Crying]* That is so sad. How do you manage to go on living? You should just die.

Sugar Bear: What? Did you say something? Room... spinning... *[Begins drooling]*

Harry: Oh, we have a question from the audience

Woman in audience: I think the guy with the green hat should leave the furry guy with the drool. Ain't no addict good enough to be yo' kids' daddy!

Audience: *[Cheers]*

Harry: They're not lovers, that was last week's show. This one is about cereal celebrities.

Woman: Cereal celebrity or no, he gots to go!

[Sugar Bear spots member in audience eating Sugar Crisp. His eyes widen as Sugar Bear dives at him, violence ensues]

Lucky: *[Wakes up, sees the Bear]* Yeah! Get 'im Sugar Bear! Don't forget to eat the wee bastard next to 'im!

Trix Rabbit: *[Peeks in from side]* Is it my turn to come in yet?

Harry: *[Sighs]* You may as well come in now. So tell us, why are you here?

Rabbit: For too long people have stood by and done nothing. This society is unjust to rabbits. It's time to make a stand now! Equal rights for rabbits! We deserve Trix cereal too!

[Security guards finally bring Sugar Bear back to seat, audience member severely wounded and traumatized]

Harry: Let's go to a commercial break while we call an ambulance.

Rabbit: But what about me-

[Cut to commercial]

Announcer: This week on Buffy The Vampire Slayer, Buffy meets her greatest match ever. *[spooky music plays]* A demon of unspeakable evil and power, from the bowels of hell. His heart so black, it even stays crunchy in milk... Count Chocula, the most vicious of vampires, takes on Buffy in the streets of Sunnydale. You can't miss this very special episode. Also starring Cap'n Crunch as Giles' long lost brother, Cruncher. Tonight at 8:00.

[Back to the show, everyone loudly arguing]

Harry: Now before we continue, we have one more special guest...the kids!

[Kids stroll in, crowd begins cheering loudly]

[Lucky, Rabbit, and Sugar Bear look shocked and angry]

Lucky: You limey bastards!

[Audience boos]

Rabbit: Unfair to rabbits! Unfair to rabbits!

[Audience boos]

Sugar Bear: ...agababgabgga...

[Audience cheers]

Kids: Yeah we wanna get Lucky's Lucky charms. We also don't give the Trix Rabbit any Trix. He's a loser. And sure, We're the ones who got Sugar Bear hooked. It ain't our fault. We just peddle the stuff. We enjoy it and we'll do it again. So what? Whatcha gonna do?

Audience: *[Cheers and begins chanting]* Harry! Harry! Harry!

Lucky: I can't believe you brought those bastards out here! You can all go to hell! *[Picks up chair and throws it at the Kids]* *[Chair fight ensues between Lucky, Sugar Bear, Rabbit and Kids, fade out]*

Harry: Now time for our thought of the day. Eating cereal could get you a chair to the face. Good night.

This madness brought to you by:
Krease & Eyal:9
Part of your complete breakfast

profQUOTES

- “That’s a sexy curve.”
Mammon, MATH 137
- “Some functions can be wild too.”
Mammon, MATH 137
- “If you are not intimidated by this code, you are either a genius or do not have a developed enough sense of fear.”
Morland, CS 241
- “This is a pretty intimidating diagram ... or I hope it is.”
Morland, CS 241
- “Let’s say someone was mean to you and forced you to read assembly code, so someone like Isaac Morland.”
Mann, CS 251
- “Does anyone do laundry this way? Does anyone do laundry?”
Mann, CS 251
- “I want to say ‘no temporary registers.’ It’s a complete lie, but we’ll say it anyway.”
Mann, CS 251
- “You never know how hard number theory questions are until you sit down and do them. If it takes you five minutes, you say it’s not trivial, if it takes you two hours you say it’s hard, if it takes you two years you say it’s very hard, if it takes you ... and then you die and somebody else solves the problem.”
Andr?, PMATH 340
- “The next two are going to look like they suck, but they secretly will not.”
McKinnon, PMATH 464
- “This example I gave you doesn’t work in characteristic two. Well, it does ... except it doesn’t.”
McKinnon, PMATH 464
- “This curve represents a crazy duck running in circles on a lake.”
Winkler, MATH 138
- “If you encounter a vertical tangent on the road when driving your car, make your last will. You’re going to die.”
Winkler, MATH 138
- [After student speaks in broken Spanish.] “You meant ‘anios,’ not ‘anos.’ You just told the class you have 21 anuses!”
Mohan, SPAN 101
- “Our next little topic: computing limits. That is, of course, our favourite pastime.”
Winkler, MATH 138
- “Isn’t this an interesting question?” [No reaction from class. Prof looks at the time.] “I guess not, since it’s almost reading week.”
Brandon, PHYS 122
- [Cellphone rings.] “You shouldn’t give me that cellphone. I could attach it to a string and spin it around the room.”
Brandon, PHYS 122
- “I’m quite fed up with series right now.”
Winkler, MATH 138
- “There are three important numbers in mathematics: zero, infinity and π . The rest is irrelevant.”
Winkler, MATH 138
- [Begins example.] “Let’s choose space shuttles. It sounds sexy.”
Winkler, MATH 138
- “Now I will do something that appears to come out of nowhere.”
Muzzafar, MATH 136
- “We didn’t really find this result, I just produced it from nowhere.”
Muzzafar, MATH 136
- “No one really understands this lab ... including all the instructors.”
Kolkiewicz, STAT 231
- “I’m abusing notation most heinously.”
McKinnon, PMATH 464
- “And the answer is: ‘That’s a stupid question.’”
McKinnon, PMATH 464
- “It’s like asking, ‘What colour is Wednesday?’”
McKinnon, PMATH 464
- “I’m so unintentionally cool!”
McKinnon, PMATH 464
- “Seeing how I haven’t gotten stoned by you yet, I think it’s safe to say the midterm went well.”
Biedl, CS 134
- [Talking about the continuum hypothesis] “Clearly, there’s a hell of a lot of crap in between aleph-naught and c.”
Small, STAT 240
- “[Germans] think of Mississauga as a quaint little village out near the prairies ... and then they found out what it really is ... and then they leave very quickly.”
Smith, ECON 102
- “It’s 99% butter and 1% flavour ... it’s instant-heart-attack food.”
Smith, ECON 102
- “Japan doesn’t want our money ... it’s the wrong colour and it doesn’t even fit in their wallets.”
Smith, ECON 102
- “We’re buying Lexuses ... Lexii? Yes — Lexii — with their money.”
Smith, ECON 102
- “Was that clear what I just said? Or was it gobbledy-goop?”
Sinclair, ACTSC 221
- [Referring to solving a quadratic] “Now, this is algebraically messy, and of course we’re in science because we’re lazy, so there’s got to be an easier way.”
LeRoy, CHEM 123

New Summer Courses

Given the notorious double cohort and how many frosh will be struggling to catch up/keep up in the UW Math core courses, the University has created a number of new seminars that will be taking place this summer. The details are as follows:

Requirements:

The same as any other UW Math student: Algebra, Calculus, English and Virginity (see the article on MathSoc t-shirts that won't be found in MathSoc)

Courses:

Symbols 101

- Crash course in Latin & Greek symbols
- Discusses both upper and lower cases, as well as how many you can grammatically use in one sentence

Gender / Upper Year Integration (generally for females)

- Discusses how to discover friends in upper years without being hit on, and how to identify signs of being hit on and either take advantage by copying homework or how to successfully remove specimen
- Discusses how to work with high quantities of males, or low quantities of females

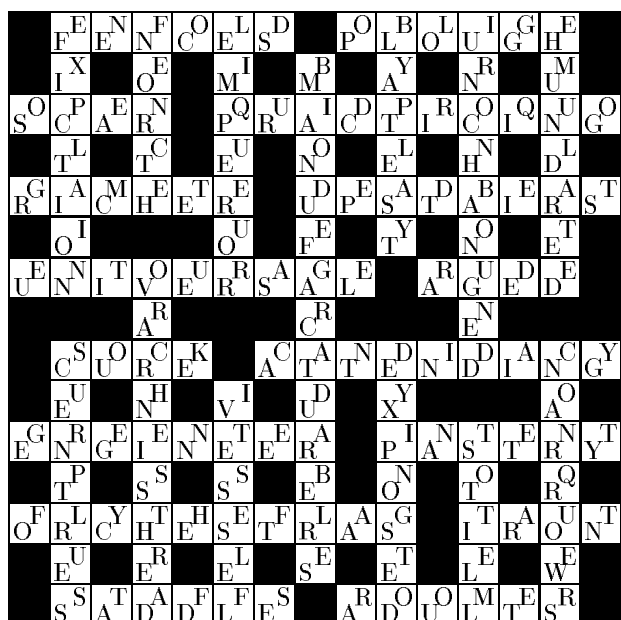
Real Life 069

- Discusses how to interact with human beings
- Has field trips comparing different bars and clubs around campus, especially Phil's and Abstract
- *Note: students should come equipped with fake id

Please Bring:

For students enrolled in the Hogwarts program, please bring your cauldrons, cloaks, potions, and owl. For all other students, don't forget your inhalers. All other materials will be stolen from Arts students.

Last Issue's Grid Solutions



Rejected MathSoc T-shirts

- got ram?
- oed whack
- finger this
- UNIX — it ain't Windows
- CS Students get all the girls
- My co-op job is making these t-shirt slogans
- I'm with desperate —>
- I can count i, 0, 1, 2, e, 3, pi, 4, 101, ...
- I am 1337
- I've got the biggest hard drive around
- Wanna interface?
- Math student today ... arts student tomorrow
- MathSux
- Optimize my soul
- Your curves are continuous
- ```
boolean response = me.askOut(u);
if (response == no)
{ (rejected)me.walkAway(inshame);
}
else
{ throw StackOverflowException();
}
```
- Wanna see my hard drive?
- Mathies love doing it both ways
- Wanna see my vector space?
- They told me trekkie wasn't a profession

Samir Patel

## Popular Tripe

... & u thought we had bad writN ...

Last week I read about a 13 year old girl who submitted an English essay written as if she were talking on ICQ or sending SMS messages. Now *there* is the decay in the quality of written English! The opening sentence:

"My smmr hols wr CWOT. B4, we used 2go2 NY 2C my bro, his GF & thr 3 :-@ kids FTF. ILNY, it's a gr8 plc."

And my response:

FYI, 2 ths ppl who write SA's n SMS shrthnd, u r a bnch o morons. I h8 ur writing & think u r stupid. BTW, I think u need 2 GAL & quit spendN so much time on ICQ. Dumbasses.

Oddly enough, a most peculiar SMS abbreviation I have noticed on websites devoted to the topic is "3some." Why, of all possible abbreviations, did somebody decide to include that one? Are they sending propositions over their cellphones? I suspect they did that because its use immediately transforms other abbreviations into sexual innuendo. I can see it now: "Plz c yr ma (BTDT) 4 a 3some b4 u spk 2 ur bos. R u cmng? Im w8N for some S&M!!! CID!" For those of you who have a foot fetish, we can throw in the following gem: FIM, which translates to "foot in mouth." When used in conjunction with 3some, you could really cook up some gooders.

If you have too much time on your hands, feel free to decode these messages I have written. If you do what they suggest, I don't ever want to talk to you. If you can think of some other stupid SMS compositions, feel free to send them to [sms@tea-mohms.org](mailto:sms@tea-mohms.org) and I may pick the best one to briefly discuss in a future article (but send a translation, please).

Aaron Klotz  
CUL8R

# HorrorScopes

## ACC

Tax time is quickly approaching, and your friends will pass you up for your ACTSCI counterparts when it comes time to do their returns. Threaten to expose their foreign assets to Revenue Canada to gain their "business." Agree to be paid by their income tax refund, and do some "creative accounting."

ACTSCI will remind you of GAAP. Remind them back with the Generally Accepted Enron Principles.

Your lucky number is \$1,000,000.00

## ACTSCI

Now that rank-and-match is over, laugh at your CS friends at the fact that you have a job that pays as much as a CS student in a sixth work term would be paid for.

CS is too depressed due to the lack of a job; they will not retaliate. Laugh at them some more.

Your number is \$21.00/hour.

## AM

Your string of good luck continues as you discover the secrets of combining food with hot scalding oil. Integration of the two components produce a tasty substance and an excuse for a party.

Undeclared will want to join your party. Offer admission in exchange for alcohol.

Your lucky number is 24 blue.

## BBA/BMath

You will prove true rumours that being in BBA/BMath allows easier and quicker access to Laurier girls. However, something unexpected will occur as you find out that they consider dating UW guys as "long distance relationship" and will ditch you for a full time BBA hunk.

You're better than them: Date a Math/Bus.

Your lucky number is 5 days of dating.

## C&O

Providing academic help with MATH 239 to CS may prove frustrating after explaining the handshake theorem 50 000 times with no success. Instead of using the image of guys shaking hands with each other, provide an image of two guys playing against each other on Battle.net.

ENG will provide a visual demonstration of your parallel. Play Night Elf and kick his ass.

Your lucky number is YOU WIN.

## CS

The concept of going to classes now elude you. In exchange of going to class, go to the settlers and play several games of Cities and Knights of Catan.

OR has always tried to be like CS. Let him go to class for you.

Your lucky number is 5 hours of classes missed.

## MATH / BUS

You will find yourself pressed for time as you plan to play exam chicken with BBA/BMath. The trouble is, your exam is at Laurier, and you're in the MC while your friends are somewhere in the other school.

BBA/BMath laugh if you blink first. Show them who's boss.

Your lucky number is 90 minutes late for your exam.

## OR

The drinking map business has dropped off slightly as ARTS is completely drunk off their ass because of the high efficiency of your routes. Sell them to people who can actually retain alcohol well, like other Mathies.

PMATH will be a good drinking partner. Bring your routes.

Your lucky number is 15 pints of Guinness.

## PMATH

You will have the task of explaining your major to relatives this summer break. Apparently, it is hard to describe a subject that is completely abstract, which means it doesn't exist.

Practice philosophical discussions with SoftEng. They crave human interaction of all sorts.

Your lucky number is a 5 hour "serious discussion."

## SOFTENG

You find a eerie parallel to many countries in the United Nations Security Council who are constantly sitting on the fence and making idle threats and gestures. Be like Canada and take no stance at all.

Make peace and truce with ARTS. They are your only allies.

Your lucky number is a 2 inch butt-rash.

## STAT

Everyone else is concerned over CSCF splitting away from MFCF. Since you don't give a damn, have beer and sex.

SCI is also in the same position. Invite them to your house.

Your lucky number is infinite amounts of fun.

## UNDECLARED

The 2A info-sessions held last week has failed to sway you to take any major at all. Contemplate switching to Engineering at Brock. Admission requirements: talking, since walking is no longer an entrance requirement.

BBA/BMATH may try to sell you a glitzy program. Tell them you like staying indoors in heated rooms. Watch them break down and cry incessantly.

Your number is NO, STOP TALKING TO ME ... I'M GOING TO SUE!

## ARTS

You are too drunk to do anything. This will learn ya to drink with Mathies.

Your C&O buddies will try to persuade you to drink some more. Resist as hard as you can, then quickly give in, you weakling.

Your lucky number is 30 beers.

## ENG

Start your own religion: The Church of Anti-CECS. Preach the good word that CECS can't get jobs for engineers if their lives depended on it. Bring your congregation together and invade the Microsoft compound, holding a peaceful demonstration in their lobby until they agree to hire all of you as interns.

A large group of CS will try to pass themselves off as ENG to get a job with you guys. Just let them be and become cubicle-mates. More CS allies for you!

Your lucky number is 1 job.

## Strange Rash

*Boo!*

“I’ve got the FEAR!”

Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas

I have this strange rash, and I am scared it is something serious. What if it is a new plague, that flesh eating disease, or some unknown super bacteria? Channel 7 News wants me to be careful. Don’t touch me, you don’t know what you might end up with. Fear seems to drive us. Fear of diseases, fear of being deceived, fear of crossing the street, fear of clowns. It seems where ever you go there is something to be scared of.

Fear has always been with us and has shaped our society. The first major fear exploit was of the most fundamental fear, the fear of death. Religion exists to ease our fear by presenting various forms of an afterlife, or something after death for us to look forward to. Religions have also used this fear to shape our society. You don’t want to go to hell do you? Religion shaped morals around the world and often collected money while they were at it. Which is all fine until corruption creeps in.

Today we more laugh at the devil and hell than fear it, and so the influence of various religions has weakened. We have new fears today. Fears of being stabbed, fear of air planes crashing into things, fear of VD, fear of commitment, fear of the Killer Bees. I was scared, completely and utterly by the reports of the impending Killer Bees disaster heading our way. I was young, I didn’t like bees, and bought the media dogma. Does media scare us to keep us consuming, or do we simply want to media to scare us, and thus it bends to our will. Bad news sells apparently.

I digress, fear driving us makes sense. Evolutionarily speaking flight from anything remotely threatening is the best survival strategy isn’t it? Our minds are built to extract patterns, and we do it very well. People are often afraid of flying. They fear the plane is going to crash. The pattern that sticks in their minds

is of all the stories they hear about planes crashing. They don’t realize just how often planes don’t crash. Fears like this are helped by bombardment from the media. All you hear about are the bad things that happen in our world, it is easy to lose track the millions of people who walk home at night and survive, and the thousands of planes which land safely every day. But such obvious truths just aren’t interesting. Yet the existence of these fears seems to indicate that people lose sight of these obvious facts.

I am not suggesting that everyone should walk home alone late at night, or that kids should actively talk to strangers, but being needlessly paralyzed by these fears is silly. Kids should be made aware of the threats strangers could pose, but simply not talking to them is pointless, a stranger is just a friend you haven’t met yet. Consider the state of Halloween these days. There is a growing trend to keep kids from going out and collect candy from their neighbours. Yet in the last 50 years there have been only two candy related deaths, and that candy was poisoned by relatives (Bowling for Columbine). Our society reactions to fear masked as a threat is obviously far too extreme. You could even go as far to call it irrational.

To different extents we all seem to living in this world of irrational fear. This is not to say there aren’t threats out there, but focusing on them blindly intensifies them to an unreasonable extent. What is the point of living if you let fear paralyze you? Really, walking around outside is risky, you never know when a frozen column of urine from an airplane might tear through your skull. I guess we should just all wear helmets all the time. Just in case.

Albert “Pht” O’Connor

## Stress of Winter

Note to self: Never take another 6 course term again.

Other note to self: Avoid taking stressful course loads during the winter terms.

The first note should be fairly obvious, at least in my case. I’m taking courses that are generally interesting, however there is a lot to absorb during a short period of time, and it tends to leave me short-tempered around friends when I shouldn’t be.

The second note is perhaps less obvious, but possibly affects all students, especially during winter terms. There is a lot of stress that occurs naturally during the winter, as well as to a university student. This compounds stressful situations.

The winter clinically depresses at least 25% of the population, although I believe that it’s affecting more people than that (the clinical depression is referred to as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)). Being cooped up in an artificially lit concrete building for 24 hours straight is not healthy, however we Math students, who study and code here, are expected to find this normal. Perhaps it is, but the winter sun setting earlier and rising later makes it hard to see any sunlight during the day. (Note: Melatonin, a hormone secreted by the brain causes symptoms of depression, and is produced during increased levels of darkness. This has been linked to SAD.)

Secondly, studies have found that by including a reading week, short enough to not work too hard at a part time job, but

long enough to take a break from school, *decreased* the suicide rates in students. That’s right. It was found that students undergo severe amounts of stress, especially regular students who go from one study term directly into another. (I suspect that co-op students who are required to change from work to school over a weekend also do not acquire an ample enough break). I understand that by having a shorter reading week we are able to have a longer time to study pre-exams. However this is not implementing the stress-relief as originally intended.

I write this as I know of several friends, spanning the continent, and close at home, who seem to be overly stressed. Too many pushing themselves too hard, seeing how much they can handle before they break. I’ve seen people break. And not just a little snapping, but really really breaking — and it hits home *hard*: not just for the person who has put themselves under pressure, but for the friends and family around them.

We’re all bright students. If we weren’t we wouldn’t be here. Please be wise, and please be safe. Use your intelligence to know what you can safely handle, and what is pushing yourself too much. I’ve proved to myself that I can survive 6 courses, but I’m not happy doing it. University is to learn — don’t break accomplishing it: that’s just not fun.

Spring is just around the corner though! Any one for frisbee?

2A Member of the Academic Suicide Squad



## mathNEWSquiz

Once again I would like to apologize for the abundance of sports trivia last week. This week should be better.

Last week we had 1 person enter. Sarah Plews had 19 out of the possible 31 points. Sarah can pick up her C+D gift certificate in the MathSoc office. *[There were two submissions that got 30/31 (from PW20 and DGW), but alas, they were too late — KreasEd]* Here are last weeks answers: Lyrics: 1) 50 Mission Cap — The Hip; 2) Fireworks — The Hip; 3) EI — Nelly; 4) Mrs Robinson — Simon & Garfunkel; 5) The Hockey Song — Stompin' Tom; Leafs: 1) 5 — Bill Barilko, 6 — Ace Bailey; 2) Bill Barilko; 3) Eddie Shack; 4) Darryl Sittler; 5) Tiger Williams; NASCAR Sponsors: 1) #38 — Elliott Sadler; 2) #42 — Jamie McMurray; 3) #8 — Dale Earnhardt Jr.; 4) #43 — John Andretti; 5) #88 — Dale Jarrett; Raptors: 1) Corliss Williamson; 2) North Carolina; 3) 5 Wins 4 Losses; 4) Chris Childs; 5) RIM Park, Waterloo;

Last week showed that you do not need a perfect score to win. Just enter and you never know!

Good Luck this week ... I tried to make it easier.

### Lyrics

- Is this the real life, is this just fantasy  
Caught in a landslide, no escape from reality  
Open your eyes , look up to the skies and see  
I'm just a poor boy, I need no sympathy
- Her placenta falls to the floor  
The angel opens her eyes  
The confusion sets in  
Before the doctor can even close the door
- At home, I make bills a brown from my sound  
In the states green like the grass in the ground  
When I'm in England, they pass me pounds now  
I collect cash in every town
- Every time I try to talk to you  
I get tongue-tied  
Turns out everything I say to you  
Comes out wrong and never comes out right
- Have you been half asleep  
And have you heard voices  
I've heard them calling my name  
Are these the sweet sounds that called  
The young sailors

### Movie Quotes

- "You will die in seven days"
- "If you blow chunks and she comes back, she's yours. If you spew and she bolts, then it was never meant to be."
- "And I guess that was your accomplice in the woodchipper"
- "This is my rifle. There are many like it but this one is mine. My rifle is my best friend. It is my life. I must master it as I must master my life. Without me, my rifle is useless. Without my rifle I am useless."
- "Why are frogs falling from the sky?"

- What beer, on St. Patrick's Day, is served with a green clover in the head — and why?
- According to legend describe what a Leprechaun looks like (try for as much detail)?
- What does "Erin Go Braugh" mean?
- What gift is kissing the Blarney Stone supposed to bring?
- St. Patrick used the Shamrock to represent what?

### Frosh Week Themes Trivia

Name the theme from the following Frosh Weeks:

- 2002
- 2001
- 2000
- 1999
- 1998

**Bonus Question #1:** What is your best suggestion for a frosh week theme (PACO approved)? (email [orientation@student.math.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:orientation@student.math.uwaterloo.ca) before Monday, March 17th, 2003)

**Bonus Question #2:** What is the theme for Frosh Week 2003?

See you next issue.  
Daryl McEachern

## So You've Decided to Enjoy Some Pie

In remembrance of ... some guy ... we are holding a party with pie. This is a very special occasion because without this guy we would be nowhere. He was so important he ... he was so cool that ... I have no idea who this guy was. Is there even a guy? What the hell are we celebrating anyway? Bah! Ok, so like, on with the crap.

Pie is good, here are some things you can do with pie:

- eat the pie
- throw the pie at some loser
- throw the pie at that guy in remembrance of the awesome stuff he did
- pretend you're a stupid high-school student who's never got any play and decide to re-enact that scene from American Pie
- create a pie sculpture of a mountain and repeat "this means something" over and over
- cut it up into tiny pieces
- cut it up into large pieces
- raise it to the x and declare it better than yourself
- forget what a pie is and go do something else
- exchange it for money
- exchange it for pie
- use it as a pillow

Well, that's all I've got for this week and ... AAH!! I'm using capital letters! Meh. Oh well. Until next week (where next is defined as not next), keep up the good work.



## gridCOMMENTS

Hey all, you gridMaster; back again. We got quite a few submissions this week so thank you everyone. A quick rundown of the submissions and gridAnswers and we get the following winners: for the Conventional clues Paul Vet wins with the answer "A large pocket protector..." (Yes...for protecting larg...pockets...) And for the cryptic Rachelle Boisjou who actually answered both the conventional and cryptic correctly...but sorry= you can only win for one. And her answer was "...who would want to collect geeks? ...actually, a good collectable geek would be one who would sponsor my Arizona GreenTea addiction" (Well, there is one person I know who collects geeks, and I am already sponser an addiction, but I guess the C+D gift certificate will have to do.) The solutions to last issue's grid are on page 14.

Here's this weeks *gridWORD* and the *gridQUESTION* is "How many green beers will you buy on St. Patricks Day...and WHY?" (yes...no random numbers here you MUST give a reason)

Geoff

(Your Cuddly CollectED Geek)

## Grid Clues (Cryptic)

### Across

- Let go to eavesdrop on arsonist (7)
- Tempo a chap showed cook (5)
- Six for each snake (5)
- Put it back in atrium without a gas (7)
- Chilling tree frog in air went to pieces (13)
- Imitation found, in antlers, at zoo (6)
- Brutally mug spy, stuff in plaster (6)
- Rubber roe gets fox ill at sea (13)
- A recreational vehicle in tough school (7)
- Frequently found in soft enchiladas (5)
- Time without end I looked terminally shy (5)
- Good man is carried on steps (7)

### Down

- Heat or lost forever (5)
- If profs bust cheats (3-4)
- Hid behind rant about holding flyer (4,2,3,4)
- Pucker up tag before her (6)
- Either cowardly, sad or Communist (7,6)
- Sibilants hold up excuse (5)
- Sounds like another stirring hymn about love, grand love (7)
- Roast he cooks in range (7)
- South tipped stiff (7)
- Crowd reportedly stockpiles (6)
- Said "Oh, are you in radio?" at meeting (5)
- Used to pick up thongs without head start (5)

## Grid Clues (Conventional)

### Across

- Impossible to get for Leafs games
- Kind of shop a bull shouldn't be in
- If Snoopy went to war, he'd be one
- Curb
- Relatively
- Danish or doughnuts
- Sang loudly
- Are yours still running?
- Twister
- You're holding one of the six for this term
- Not merrily
- Focused

### Down

- Type of sentence
- Not rows
- Unusual
- Good in groups
- Thoughtfulness
- Effigy
- Bothered
- Long John Silver and Blackbeard
- Pant
- Grand
- Canned
- Pay

