The Brats are Back!
Hello Everyone! First things first, I just wanted to say that Canada Day was AWESOME!! So many people came out, lots of [fake] birdies were nerfed, and the clown took quite a beating, as did some awesome volunteers who took the sponges like real pros. A huge shout out goes out to all my volunteers who helped make this event a success as well as the backbone of this event, my fellow steering committee members. Seeing everyone’s happy content faces really made all the energy, time, stress and aches and pains worthwhile. Now for those of you who missed the party, no worries there’s still tons of events coming up. For instance, WASAGA BEACH PARTY!! I mean come on, the sun, the sand, hot life guards... what more can you ask for? Come sign up right outside of MathSoc. Well I’m off to another assignment...or sleep... just think less than one more month of classes left!! YIKES!

Linda Wang
MathSoc VPAS S05

MathSoc Movie Night

Movie Goodness!

So, hopefully enough of you showed up last night for Romantic Comedy Night #2, where we aired Guess Who and Fever Pitch. I was pleasantly surprised to have a higher turnout for Primal Fear than for Fight Club on June 30th. I had not realized that this was the night before Canada Day when I made my schedule. So yeah, thanks all for coming out!

So, this is the part where I tell you which movies you should look forward to seeing in the next two weeks...and they are:

Keanu Reeves Night (July 14th)
7:00 PM - The Matrix
9:00 PM - Constantine

Samuel L. Jackson Night (July 21st)
7:00 PM - The Negotiator
9:00 PM - S.W.A.T.

As some of you may have heard, the freeness of Movie Night is in question (i.e. it may not have been free last night), so keep your eyes open to find out what decisions are being made for the last few nights of the week (chances are the posters will have this info on it, otherwise, check out my board on the 3rd floor of the MC, just across from the Comfy)

Mark the MathSoc Movies Guy

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 mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca on the Internet.

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs License. To view a copy of this license, visit http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/ca/ or send a letter to Creative Commons, 559 Nathan Abbott Way, Stanford, California 94305, USA. Terms may be renegotiated by contacting the editor(s).

Absent, absent, present: Ian MacKinnon, Eric Logan, Jenn Smith
The Presidential Briefing

Because I like Subheadings

The summer term is in full swing. With midterms well behind us (at least for the majority of math courses), we can concentrate on more outdoor-centric entertainment, such as ultimate and lunch at the Bomber Patio.

Math Conserves

If you regularly visit the FEDS website, or have read the KW Record on Monday, you may have read that the Societies are on an endeavour of power conservation and reduction. At the last Committee of Presidents meeting, the group of society presidents decided to take the lead in conserving energy in a bid to set a good example for the faculty. To start, the photocopiers and computers within the MathSoc offices will be shut off at night, and the usage of lights will be reduced whenever a natural light source is a viable option. In addition, MathSoc has asked our MathSoc clubs to do the same thing to save power. Now that our student clubs are doing their part, it is time that I ask you, the average Math student, to join in on the power reduction effort.

In most cases where consumers have been asked to conserve power, it’s usually a long and easily forgettable list of conservation techniques. The Math Conserves campaign, however, is very simple: Turn off our computers when we’re at school. I believe that most Mathies have computers at home, and most likely are not using it while we are at school. Something as simple as turning off our computers amounts to a sizable power consumption reduction.

Now I know some of you are saying I run my torrents/grokster/Kazaa during the day, but you can run them at night instead of the day, and isn’t knowing that you’ve made a difference worth a few more hours of download time?

So I challenge everyone, from frosh to graduate, to shut off their idle computers at home when they are at school. It is so simple to do, it’s ridiculous not to do it.

Greetings fellow grads! It’s now July, which means that a) it’s terribly hot, and b) it’s high time to do something fun with the summer, instead of sitting around MC tanning under the glow of your laptop screen. What does this have to do with anything? Well, funny that you should ask...

Whitewater Rafting Trip!

Yes, it’s true, the Math Grad Committee is organizing a whitewater rafting trip on the Ottawa River. The trip runs July 22nd-24th, is open to all math students, and will be tons of fun. Your modest fee (described elsewhere in this issue - right Diana?) includes exciting activities like sport-rafting, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, volleyball. We’ll even have access to bungee jumping for those among us who want to earn a medical reason to push back final exams for a few months. And, as icing on the cake, we get to do all this in the pristine wilderness of the Ottawa Valley. Who could ask for more?

Also, we invite you to bring your significant other along for the trip. Alternatively, if you don’t have a significant other you could come on the trip and meet one there!

You can sign up for this once-in-a-lifetime deal in the third floor hallway or in the MGC office. If you have questions, please come and ask.

Farewell, Goodbye

On behalf of the volunteers of the Mathematics Society, current and past, I’d like to thank both Dean Alan George and Executive Assistant Shirley Thomson for their tireless efforts to make student life so enriching and engrossing over their years of service at the Faculty. I know, personally, that I will miss Shirley’s sage advice and her dedication to helping student leaders. We wish both of them the best of success, and much happiness at their respective cottages.

Student Life 101

Each year, the school organizes a massive pre-frosh campus tour called Student Life 101. Like years past, MathSoc is looking for volunteers to help with the Society BBQ that serves the throngs of people that comes to our campus to catch a glimpse of university life. If you like BBQing, volunteering, and are free on July 23 (yes, it’s a Saturday), email president@mathsoc.uwaterloo.ca or drop by the MathSoc office (MC3038) and sign up on our volunteer list. No previous MathSoc experience required! A good sense of humour, flipping technique, and a passion for fun is preferred.

Lunch with the President

To close, I am inviting all Mathies to come out and have lunch with me, and volunteers of the Math Society, every Tuesday afternoon at 12:30. This is an excellent opportunity to meet the MathSoc executives and volunteers in an informal environment, and to take advantage of Taco Tuesday at the Bombshelter Pub. Don’t be shy: I’ve seen Mathies go into the Bomber as strangers, and leave as friends. To take part in Lunch with the President, bring $3.99 (plus tax) and meet in front of the MathSoc office (MC3038) at 12:30 on Tuesday!

Raymond Lai
Math Society President, S05
I like them tacos...

MGC Sez

Bonfire!

In addition to our rafting trip, we will be holding a bonfire evening on Friday, July 15th - weather permitting. This event will be complementary for graduating students, and refreshments will be available. Keep your eyes peeled for details. Cheers!

Alex Perel
MGC Chair, Spring 2005

MGC Rafting Trip!

Hey grads, if you’re interested in going rafting with MGC on July 22-24, reserve your spot soon! The trip includes transportation, all-you-can-eat food, white-water rafting on awesome 7-person rafts, and all the canoeing/kayaking/swimming/campfire-ing you can handle! Thanks to the generous support of MathSoc, tickets are now only $140 including transportation ($150 for non-grads, $120 without transportation). We really need to know how many people are going, so if you want a space, sign up in the 3rd floor hallway soon!

Remember, bring your significant other, or meet one there!

Diana Chisholm
MGC Social Director
Greetings fellow mathies, and especially 2006 grads. The Math 2006 yearbook now has editors - so fear not!

We’ve only been on the job a couple of weeks, but we’ve already got tons of ideas. Your yearbook is going to be awesome. But what would make it even better is input from YOU! If you’ve got ideas, or want to help out, or just want to say hi, we’d be thrilled to hear from you.

First off, we need volunteers. If you did yearbook in high school, or even if you didn’t, and want to help with layout, publicity, or any of the million other things that need doing, give us a shout! You’ll get your name in the book’s credits, not to mention our eternal gratitude.

Another thing we need from you is pictures. We can be a lot of places, but not everywhere, and if you’re anything like us you’ll want to see tons of cool pictures in your yearbook. Please send us your shots from:

- school terms
- work terms
- vacations
- math events
- non-math events
- parties
- you or other grads “back in the day”
- random semi-math-related stuff
- anything else you want to see in the yearbook (no nudity!)

Digital Submissions

If you’ve got digital, the higher the resolution the better - so don’t shrink them down for the sake of file size! Email them to mgcbook06@gmail.com, or leave a CD/diskette in the MGC/yearbook mailbox in MathSoc.

Print Submissions

Again, these can be left in the MGC/Yearbook mailbox in the MathSoc office (or you can bring them by the MGC office in person, of course). If you need your prints back, please leave your phone number or email address so we can get your prints back to you. We’ll scan them in and return them as soon as possible.

All Submissions

Make sure you include the names of the people in the pictures, and what it’s a shot of (pints with profs, your trip to Holland, that work term at Microsoft, comfy-lounging, etc.). That’s it for now! Send us your photos, or face the wrath of the monkey minions! (Actually they’re pretty friendly...)

Gillian Gothard & Terry Vaskor
MGC 2006 Yearbook Editors
mgcbook06@gmail.com

A new t-shirt design is being added to the MathSoc novelties collection. It should be available mid-to-late next week (hopefully by July 12th). There will be male and female style shirts. Also, at that time next week, cheat shirts should be restocked in slightly different colors. Come check it out at MathSoc!

Jenny Mecking
Novelties Director

Obviously, absolutely everyone on campus has been slaving away on their robocode submissions (and if you aren’t, you better start now!). Submissions are now open, so get your code in to contest@csclub.uwaterloo.ca and make sure it actually compiles on our machines.

For more information on the RoboCode contest, visit http://www.csclub.uwaterloo.ca or drop by the CSC on the 3rd floor of the MG.

Want free videos?

Recently, Google decided to launch itself into the market of Internet rebroadcasting of television shows, video and the like. I decided to test it out, and decided that “Family Guy” was a good idea for a first search. I ended up getting the first episode in its entirety. What free video goodness this is! I have yet to really test this out, but I’m sure that those who do will find tons of video goodness at the low low cost of an Internet connection. To test it out yourself, just use the interweb to browse on over to www.video.google.com.

Mark “Beatlemaniac”

It is with great pleasure that the Faculty of Mathematics announces the release of its next generation breakthrough deanware. Dean 2005 promises those improvements and changes we’ve come to expect, and then some. Improvements include the following:

- Built from the ground up to be more efficient than ever before
- Less expensive to run than the previous version
- Bigger and stronger than ever before

These vast improvements are available now. To take advantage, talk to your local Dean retailer today. Or, feel free to check out our demo, online next week!

Richard
G8 Summit Continues Trend of Previous Summits

In the typical fashion of international leaders gathering, this week’s G8 conference succeeded in doing absolutely nothing relating to world affairs. In the interest of knowing not just where your tax dollars are going, but where the tax dollars of all the citizens of the world’s eight most powerful economies are going, we at *mathNEWS* got the REAL list of all the events that they participated in. The first major event was, of course, their dinner on the 6th, where sources from in the restaurant say that the group of them spent well over $60 000 on the meal. It would have been higher, but since the conference is in Scotland, they had a hard time finding good food.

The meal was followed by the traditional opening night slumber party with makeovers, pyjama pillow fights and gossip. Apparently Condoleezza Rice has had quite the interesting past. Breakfast conversation included Paul Martin giving Gerhard Schroeder some tips on how to actually survive confidence votes, if he can stay in power long enough to have another one.

Thursday afternoon they got together for a game of football, but that plan died quickly as Bush kept trying to pick up and throw the ball, despite all the other leaders telling him not to every time. Thursday night’s event included the leaders sitting down and watching *Fantastic Four*. Although it’s official release isn’t until today, to get a copy of the movie, apparently all they had to say was, “Come on, we’re the freakin’ G8 leaders!”

Finally, Friday morning was a lot of sad goodbyes because the summit was over and they “needed to be getting back to their jobs again”. This was met with some laughter among them, since nearly all the world’s governments stop doing anything for a summer break. This much time off doesn’t just make elementary students envious, even local university students who aren’t in co-op wish they could get vacation time like these guys.

And that was what really happened this week in Scotland.

**Mathie Sexual Position of the Week**

*Woman on top, Man on back*

[I said - Don’t touch me!]

Elliptic Curve

10 Reasons why we are better than you

10. We showered this morning  
9. We did not select our clothing by picking the least smelly thing off the floor  
8. We comb our hair  
7. We don’t play Magic the Gathering  
6. Our lives don’t revolve around video games  
5. You live in the comfy  
4. You smell like the comfy  
3. You need our help with homework  
2. We can beat you up  
1. We get laid

**Why are cyclists not smart?**

*Wear a helmet and lock your bike properly*

The average cyclist does not know why helmets are important. This is because the average cyclist does not know that permanent brain damage can be caused just from falling, *with no forward momentum*, while seated properly. What does this mean? Well, add forward momentum and your odds of getting permanently injured go up astronomically. This is about as ridiculous as driving a car as fast as you can while not wearing a seat belt. You wouldn’t drive without a seat belt, so why bike without a helmet?

The other thing that really irks me is the way people lock their bikes. As in they don’t. When I can walk by and, with a basic set of tools, walk away with all but the front wheel of your bike, well, something is wrong. What’s even worse is when two bikes are next to each other and one can leave with a full bike by taking all but the front wheel from one and just the front wheel from the other, well, yeah. The best way to lock your bike is easy. Really, it is. All you have to do is make sure that whatever cable you’re using goes around the main three posts (that nifty little triangle-shaped part that intersects your seat post, your handlebars and your crank). It really is that easy.

**How to write a *mathNEWS* article**

*In ten easy steps*

1. Come up with an idea. Of course, it must be at least one of “informative, interesting, insightful or funny.”  
2. Try to write it up, before you forget it.  
3. Realize that it just won’t work. Hold down backspace until it’s completely gone.  
4. Try again. Hit a roadblock right away and say, “forget it.”  
5. Actually forget your old idea. Try to come up with a new one.  
6. Draw a blank.  
7. When all else fails, make a list.  
8. Number your list and specify how many items it has, so you have a target. It’s much easier to write when you know how much you want to write.  
9. Don’t worry if you can’t finish your list. Since nobody reads *mathNEWS* except for the prof QUOTES, nobody’s going to notice anyways.
Stop the Kife. Libertarian for Life.

Volume 2: Alcohol laws

Welcome to my second installment of what I hope will continue to be an eye-opening experience for all of you. To truly appreciate the libertarian “cult”, you have to learn to question all the laws and rules you’ve grown up with, not be afraid to challenge the status quo, and check your premises at the door. In this spirit, the very first premise to check is that the government knows what’s best for you! By now you may have realized that the very act of attending this fine institution of erudite thought qualifies you as smarter-than-the-average-bear. Have you ever wondered why some laws exist? So have I.

I’m going to continue to deal with lighter subjects for a while, until I have a few fans and a few fanatics. I do promise well-researched articles on health-care, labour relations and regulated industries which are sure to get you thinking. Until then, let’s talk about getting drunk.

First and foremost, do not drink and drive. Libertarianism is about making educated decisions for yourself. Think of drinking and driving, even a little bit, as strapping yourself into an aero-dynamic projectile being propelled by exploding chemicals surrounded by psychopathic maniacs, controlled by someone with the speech pattern of an autistic gorilla and the hand-eye coordination of a one-armed Cyclops with an eye infection. I hope that was educational. In fact, I support the continued policing of drinking and driving for the same reason I support the continued policing of firing handguns wildly into the air: the fool who’s doing it usually doesn’t have the skill to make sure they only kife themselves.

Moving on, let’s discuss two sets of alcohol laws: age limits and the control board. Both are in place to prevent the two largest problems alcohol creates for society: binge drinking, and drinking and driving. Age limits exist throughout the country to prevent ‘irresponsible’ teenagers from having unlimited access to alcohol, and as one way of limiting the possibility a drunk teenager will attempt to drive. You may also have read recently that the control board in Nova Scotia has raised the base price for some spirits to curb excessive drinking. The control boards in some provinces are in place to make it easier to enforce age limits, but also to provide a steady stream of revenue to the province.

I’ll tackle the challenge of age limits first. Around the world, governments have age limits in place to prevent young people from doing things that might hurt themselves. If you’re an average Canadian, you may have noticed that by the time you were old enough to drink you had a pretty good idea of why alcohol is a ‘controlled substance’. You also may have noticed you had to wait an arbitrarily long time to become ‘legal’. You might have wondered why if you drove 5 hours to Montreal you were all of a sudden more mature, as if you had just grown up a year. Or if you drive 2 hours to Buffalo you were all of a sudden less ma-

They say in Britain, “if you can reach the counter you can buy a pint.” I think officially their age limit is 16. Considering their society hasn’t ceased to function in the throes of an alcohol-induced orgy, I think it’s safe to say that their policy isn’t horrible. If you think age limits prevent alcohol from getting into the hands of youths, you haven’t been to a high school party. If you think age limits prevent youths from binge drinking, you haven’t been to a high school party. Indeed, if you’re trying to protect youths from themselves, you’re trying in vain. Youths with money can buy rubbing alcohol at the grocery store, Draino at the corner store, a bottle of painkillers at Shopper’s, and a nail gun at Canadian Tire. What I’m trying to get at is that if a youth wants to risk injuring or killing themselves while having fun, they can do it legally, without alcohol. Kids are always finding ways of getting themselves into trouble, regardless of the laws in place. Now, if you’re trying to protect society from youths, you might have a valid cause.

However, if your concern is only to protect society from drunk youths, the scope of your concern is not wide enough. Drunk drivers, drunk assaulters, drunk rapists and drunk murderers exist in every culture and every age group. Perhaps youths are more prone to these activities, I couldn’t find relevant statistics. But if Quebec thinks that 18 year olds are mature and responsible enough to drink, and their society hasn’t collapsed into a criminal underworld, then maybe they are. If England thinks 16 year olds are mature enough, maybe they are. And maybe 15 year olds are not mature enough, but they’re rarely big enough or mobile enough to cause any serious damage. Fundamentally, kids do stupid things. It’s part of growing up. But through empirical evidence, society carries on. The burden lies on the parents and educators to help the kids make good decisions. The problem is EVERYONE makes bad decisions, especially relating to alcohol. This begs the interesting question of whether we should try another prohibition. I am fundamentally opposed again on the basis that I believe everyone can make their own decisions about how to treat themselves. Anyway, society wouldn’t go for it, like they didn’t go for it in the 20s.

Actually, I did some brief research on the prohibition in the US, and discovered that a) the rate of petty crime decreased, but b) the rate of serious crimes increased by 24% in the first year. This was a result of organized crime taking over the alcohol business. Also, instead of decreasing the amount of liquor consumed, Americans increased consumption. Evidence includes a 41% increase in arrests for disorderly conduct, an 81% increase in incidents of drinking and driving, and a quadrupling in alcohol poisoning deaths over the period of 1920 to 1925. (see: http:/ /www.geocities.com/athens/troy/4399/, a well-researched term paper)

So prohibition won’t work, but we can’t keep the alcohol out of the hands of the children. Age limits aren’t working, but they feel right, right? Wrong, they’re arbitrary. They give the sense to the community that the problem is under control when clearly it is not. However, this is not something that can be legislated away. Like obesity, drinking is a social problem that can only be controlled by the individuals abusing it. I’d rather our youths learned their lessons about alcohol the hard way BEFORE they’re old enough to get behind a wheel and make that critical second mistake in the same night.

Now, if age limits are unnecessary, then the control boards are unnecessary. They don’t actually control the flow of liquor, they just make sure the only group profiting is the government. Keeping prices artificially high on alcohol (and cigarettes) either by
setting a minimum price or taxing heavily does reduce consumption somewhat, but also provides a predictable and arguably unfair supply of income to the provincial government. In essence, minimum prices on goods create false profits and ultimately serve the same purpose as taxes, as the money goes to the same place. If these taxes are arbitrary, then the government is profiting at the expense of the very people they are trying to help. Instead, these taxes are likely punitive, with the intention of moving the money to the police and health-care services drunkards are expected to draw on. However, the need for taxes on cigarettes and alcohol to support our failing health-care system can be eliminated by making people responsible for their own actions and health care with higher premiums for those who smoke or drink chronically (a little prelude to my upcoming health care article).

The US has a simple system in place for selling alcohol, quite similar to our system for selling cigarettes. Sell them in convenience stores, grocery stores, or wherever else wants to provide them. Alcohol prices are substantially lower, but the per capita rates of consumption are virtually the same. Binge drinking can be curbed somewhat by excessive prices, but if the government continues to raise the prices arbitrarily to discourage alcohol use, we’ll end up at the equivalent to prohibition and alcohol will start flowing illegally from the States. In the end, the control boards are just another state-sponsored kife.

Age limits serve as the state’s curtain over the window to the real problem, which is that alcohol is a widely available, addictive drug with a powerful hold on the world. But then again, so is caffeine. If the government truly wants to reduce consumption, they can only educate. If they truly want to protect our youths, they must educate the youths and the parents. Or lock all children in a basement until they’re 18.

I once heard a story a pair of dogs tied to a tree. They whined and barked and whimpered at every passerby in a vain attempt to be let free. One sympathetic man stooped to untie them, and continued on his way without looking back. When the owner returned, the dogs were lying under the shade of the tree, just a few feet from the end of their leashes. Freedom is a simple concept, understandable even by dogs.

David Wheatley

Happy Friday (or whichever day you happen to be reading this) Squizzers! Let’s start, as usual, with the answers to last issue’s questions:


For this Squiz, we had only one submission. So congratulations to David Jones and Charmane Zeigner, who again submitted for a perfect 20/20! You can pick up your $5 C&D gift certificate at the MathSoc office (MC 3038)!

Well, for this week’s Squiz, I thought we’d pay tribute to the country that we call home. With Canada Day last week, it’s only fitting that the Squiz goes truly Canadian. So put on your thinking toques, answer these questions 20, and then submit your entry to either the black box outside the C&D or by email to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca and you might win that $5 gift certificate!

Not More Flying Questions!

Give the city you’d be flying from if you had the following airport tags on your luggage:

1. YYZ
2. YVR
3. YWG
4. YYC
5. YHZ

Canada Rocks!

Identify the following Canadian bands from their members:

1. Chad Kroeger, Mike Kroeger, Ryan Vikedal
2. Jim Creegan, Kevin Hearn, Steven Page, Ed Robertson and Tyler Stewart

Canada Day Babies

Identify the following people who were born on Canada Day. Identify them.

1. 1934: This man is best known for his role as Corporal Klinger on MASH.
2. 1952: This actor and former SNL cast member’s less famous roles included a starring role in the late 90s sitcom Soul Man.
3. 1971: This rapper recently hosted her own reality TV show entitled The Road to Stardom.
4. 1977: She’s the daughter of a rock star, but most mathies would know her from her role in the Lord of the Rings films.
5. 1978: Not a celebrity per se, but this contestant on Survivor: Marquesas was best known for bringing his Teddy Bear with him onto the island.

Random Canadiana

1. For how many months did Kim Campbell serve as Prime Minister?
2. Based on a 1980s television series, name the current program whose cast includes Jake Epstein, Mariam MacDonald and Adamo Rugierro.
3. What is the longest river in Canada?
4. What are the names of the two French-owned islands in Atlantic Canada?
5. In which city would I be if I was doing the Grouse Grind? Bonus Question: From which Canadian city does the Squizmaster hail?

Alright, that’s it for this week’s Squiz! Be sure to submit your solutions!

Squizmaster Stoken
**profQUOTES**

“You are an ant living without any purpose in life.”
Chan, CS 666

“Is someone baking cookies in here?”
Orchard, CS 370

“‘So at the 11:30 lecture I’m going to sound really smart by saying that South Africa has 3 capitals.”
Van Beek, CS 245

“That looks horrible! I say poof, then just write a bunch of random stuff, then ‘QED’. Any questions? Good.”
Orchard, CS 370

“I need a faster computer so that MATLAB can crash faster.”
Orchard, CS 370

“Problem: [reads the slide] You are given n objects and a knapsack. I know how to solve this right away. Take everything and RUN!”
Zima, CS 341

(referring to Fermat and Descartes) “I don’t know how you can put his picture on a page, because their heads are so big.”
Crippin, CO 480

“Let’s say the people who were coached [on the SAT] got an average of 1620.”
Cherry, STAT 231

“You should forget your name and memorize this, that’s how important it is.”
Wolczuk, MATH 136

“Vim or Emacs? It’s irrelevant from the University’s point of view. [...] You could breathe on your bathroom mirror, write letters with your finger in the fog, take a digital photo of them, and run it through an OCR program if you wanted.”
Ragde, UW Forum for Admitted Students

“Linear transformations are about the most fantastic thing invented since the wheel! And air conditioning.”
Wolczuk, MATH 136

“The only time I smoke is when I’m set on fire.”
Wolczuk, MATH 136

“When you listen you learn, and coming to class is a terrible mistake...”
Cherry, STAT 231

“Midterm solutions actually took some time... I don’t know how you manage to do it in two hours.”
Zima, CS 341

“Who cares? 2n is the same as 1n or 3n, right?”
Zima, CS 341

**gridCOMMENTS**

There is no *gridWORD* this issue, because, well, there isn’t. Want to write one? Send it to mathnews@student.math.uwaterloo.ca. It’s fun, and stuff.

However, I do have winners to past grids (finally)! The winners of the grid of three issues ago were Jenn Meacoe and Diana Chisholm. For the issue after that, the winner was Adam Weatherhead. Finally, the winners of last issue’s grid are Rebecca deBoer and Cam Christon (also, I used their solution as the sample). Congratulations to all winners! Your prizes can be picked up from the *mathNEWS* mailbox in the MathSoc office! (Really! I just put them there!)

See you next issue (maybe).

Eric “inkEd” Logan

---

**Who Cares About Homolka?**

*Other than a whole bunch of you*

All right, so as of the time of writing there were few other things topping the news than this whole Karla Homolka release thing. Correct me if I’m wrong, but the whole point of our “Correctional Service Canada” agency is the Correctional part. It’s supposed to punish people, but more importantly prevent them from doing it again. So, my question is, why do so many people care? Is there even a chance she’d consider doing something again? There’s questionable morality, and there’s pure stupidity. Even though I can’t comprehend it, and even though she’s trying to get court orders to prevent it, there will be people who do nothing but watch her, trying to get her in trouble. It’d just be too stupid not to try to be a “productive member of society,” or for her to even think about a repeat offence. In fact, I’m almost willing to bet that she’ll be more productive than the people following her non-stop.

DanS