All profQUOTES, All The Time!
“You all know what RAM is … it was probably the 3rd word you ever said: ‘Mom’ … ‘Dad’ … ‘Random Access Memory.’”

Vasiga, CS 241

“You can drink, you can have sexual relations with whoever you want, but you can't use GOTOS.”

Vasiga, CS 241

“Prove by example … the most powerful proof in the world.”

Vasiga, CS 241

“When you're on the bus visiting Aunt Bertha, you can do subset constructions … it kills HOURS! And people will stare at you!”

Vasiga, CS 241

“It's a common custom in some cultures to exchange Finite State Machines on Thanksgiving.”

Vasiga, CS 241

“What if you were expecting 100 bytes, and the client sends 256? Well, if you're in Redmond, you would say, “This is just a webserver, I don't need to check that stuff.”

Cormack, CS 452

“What's the sum lemma? it's probably the biggest piece of dumbass there is.”

Irving, Math 239

“What do you have? Crap + Crap cube + Crap squared … if you don't follow the crap stuff, it's ridiculous.”

Irving, Math 239

“Let me first write the wrong answer here.”

Haxell, MATH 239

“The weight of an elephant is itself.”

Haxell, MATH 239

“If you liked CS 134, you'll like this course. If you didn't … have you checked out sociology?”

Munro, CS 240

“Who here adds two positive numbers and gets a negative number? Any accountants here?”

Mann, CS 251

(Students guessing the order of an element of a group)

Prof: “The answer is not 8.”

Student: “Is the answer 8?”

Prof: “It’s NOT 8.”

New, PMATH 336

“The graph G is 2-edge connected, and what does that has to do with the price of eggs in China?”

Richter, C&O 342

“These aren't the brightest terrorists you've ever seen … probably because they haven't taken a course in macro-economics.”

Smith, ECON 102

“This is a bird course.”

Clarke, CS 452 (that's real time)

“I was advised not to do this [cover the overhead with a sheet of paper and lower it one line at a time] as it looks like striptease.”

Cheng, CS 360

[Later, forgets what he said about striptease and does it again] “I heard whistling. No tips please.”

Cheng, CS 360

“Spread out all your fingers, treat your left hand as x and right hand as y. Put them side by side and you have xy. Now flip over both hands … you get reverse(xy) = rev(y)reverse(x). Truly a handwaving proof.”

Cheng, CS 360

“If you're going to get it wrong anyway, why don't you get it wrong the right way?”

Cheng, CS 360

“Why do you study CS 360? First of all, it is required.”

Cheng, CS 360

“... but the reason we call these non-negative constraints is a secret.”

Tuncel, C&O 350

“[About the final] We don't try to wipe everybody out, we accidentally do it sometimes.”

Springer, STAT 231

“[About the final] No calculators, if you can't divide by four, go out and shoot yourself.”

Burkowski, CS 445

“I'm sorry, you'll have to speak up. I'm getting old and deaf.”

Hoffman, PMATH 330

“... but that's beyond the scope of this curse ... I mean course.”

Balka, STAT 230

“... and if that isn't obvious, just do it again until what's obvious becomes totally clear.”

Chan, CS 341

“On previous terms, no matter how many times I say it, a non-empty set of students get this wrong.”

Lawrence, PMATH 330
“I hope nobody is offended by the male numbers.”

Munro, CS 240

“Z,’ contrary to popular belief, is the millionth letter of the alphabet.”

Munro, CS 240

“A terabyte here, a terabyte there, pretty soon your C drive is full.”

Munro, CS 240

“I have a hockey pool and picked Wayne Gretzky to score first tomorrow night.”

Munro, CS 240

“We’re going to restrict ourselves to an infinite subset.”

Lawrence, PMATH 330

“Variables go away when the block they are declared in is excited.”

Mavaddat, CS 246

“You get an overflow error on your calculator when it starts smoking on you.”

Furino, MATH 135

“Proof: it’s obvious.”

Furino, MATH 135

“Try to use mathematical terms. I make an exception for the word ‘stuff.’”

Furino, MATH 135

“This is a good opportunity for me to take my drugs…” (leaves the room and returns 5 minutes later) “…It’s amazing how good this stuff feels.”

Pretti, CS 134

“That’s a very nice proof. So let me make it a bit uglier.”

Tuncel, C&O 355

“This is like something from chemistry. Big name, small concept.”

Wagner, C&O 330

“You aren’t paranoid if they are out to get you. You have to understand that.”

Murno, CS 240

“Look, jokes are hard to find in this course. At least give me a smile.”

Reynolds, MTHEL 305

“I am going to pick a number today.” (students ramble out numbers) “No, YOU can’t pick it, I’m going to pick it, I’m going to pick it!”

Zorzitto, MATH 145

“No fractions! They’re illegal!”

Zorzitto, MATH 145

“You can use something to find the answer … the question is, what is that something.”

Gilbert, MATH 147

“Do we all feel safe to put a bracket here? Good! Coding by democracy.”

Kierstead, CS 130

“Okay, guys, I suppose I’ve got to teach you something now. So don’t snore too loud.”

Reynolds, MTHEL 305

“Who’s got the Wednesday notes? Let me read from those.”

Zorzitto, MATH 135

“Clock says: talk fast.”

Zorzitto, MATH 135

“So a man can spend 10% of his life with woman #1, 20% with woman #2, 30% with woman #3 … or vice versa. And I don’t want that to be on mathNEWS.”

Best, C&O 370

“No cookies until you answer the question.”

Best, C&O 370

“It’s fun to write programs which trash your caches.”

McCool, CS 251

[Student asks why a 3 page proof is so important to graph theory.] “Well, in our case it’s not so important since we probably won’t use it again.”

Godsil, CO 342

“Take an optimal schedule satisfying the lemma I just erased.”

Cheriyan, CO 454

[Student] “Will there be any proofs on the midterm?”

[Prof] “Is this a pure math course?”

Dickey, PMATH 360

“Using this method may be boring, but it works! Getting the wrong answer isn’t boring!”

Andre, MATH 136

[cell phone rings]

“Is that for me? I’m not here! It’s Revenue Canada! They always find me!”

Andre, MATH 136

“A, B, C, D, E, F … what’s after F?”

Andre, MATH 136

“One, zero, zero, zero, one, zero, zero, zero, one spans R^3. Obviously! Just … look at it!”

Andre, MATH 136

“Before you hire the co-op, you have to get drunk.”

Vasiga, SE 240

“The co-op has to do a variety of tasks, like making coffee.”

Vasiga, SE 240

“When you’re on the highway 407, you know you have to pay money, or the owner of the car will have to pay. Might be your dad, your mom, or the person you just carjacked from.”

Vasiga, SE 240
“A constant sequence is both increasing and decreasing. It’s a schizo-sequence.”

Andre, MATH 138

“If you stood there and waved your arms, you’d eventually convince some people.”

Andre, MATH 138

“You go, ‘Are you convinced?’ And they’d go, ‘I’m convinced.’ Proof by intimidation.”

Andre, MATH 138

“Say you go to an election and your party loses. Like, say you vote NDP. You’ll always lose.”

Andre, MATH 138


Best, CO 370

“I always love that — it’s not bacon, WHAT IS IT? … where was I?”

Brecht, CS 350

“If you start losing data, people won’t be using your operating system for long. Of course, there are counterexamples to this…”

Brecht, CS 350

Student: “How are we supposed to write robust software in two weeks? Microsoft can’t do it in ten years!”

Prof: “Ah, but do you know why? Because they hire Waterloo grads!”

Student: “But they didn’t hire you, eh?”

Prof: “… touche.”

Brecht, CS 350

“I’m giving you this so you can do the implementation using plug and play… rather than plug and pray.”

Brown, CS 338

“My father used to say, ‘You know, someday a plaque will be up on the house where I was born.’ And I would say, ‘Yes. It will say David Brown’s father was born here.’”

Brown, CS 338

“These are good examples. Whenever I do something stupid… oh by the way, I plan all these out. Yeah… right…”

Brown, CS 338

“According to CSCF, the guys who do the work for us had it up and running for you two weeks ago.”

Brown, CS 338

“Implode your food.”

Brown, CS 338

“We’ll get back to imploding later.”

Brown, CS 338

[To student] “Now that was a good explanation.”

[To class] “Now I’m going to give you a lousy explanation.”

Chieh, CHEM 123

“The proof of this is a bit hand-wavy…” [waves hands frantically]

Chipman, STAT 231

[Discussing a midterm] “Do not use auxiliary variables. Do not solve the problem. Do not pass GO and do not collect $200.”

DeKlerk, CO 350

[Upon learning about the softies’ lack of prerequisites] “What I can say is, you people can take a lot of abuse.”

Hennis, E&CE 493

“This data structure is all pointers. It would make CS 131 students weep.”

Kaplan, CS 488

“I’m not a freak. I look it up in the stat table.”

Metzger, STAT 340

[Explaining why he was allowed further than kindergarten] “When you bribe your teacher, it seems to work.”

Metzger, STAT 340

“I’m not a very nice person… ask my wife!”

Metzger, STAT 340

“Now that equation will look funny when you take it home and show mom.”

Oldford, MATH 136

“That’s scalar mult. Multi? It’s like ‘malt’ but it’s an operation instead of a drink.”

Oldford, MATH 136

“This is so easy an Arts student could — well…”

Orchard, CS 370

“Right, m columns… how do you spell ‘columns?’”

Orchard, CS 370

[showing his MRI on the projection screen] “You can see how massive my brain is…”

Orchard, CS 370

“You could design a GUI for either a MAC user or a UNIX loser.”

Safayeni, CS 430

“If you don’t have any idea about the right answer, then there is something wrong with you.”

Safayeni, CS 430

“What have we learned so far? Nothing really. We have to learn to draw from the normal distribution, for God sakes!”

Zhu, STAT 440

“Even an Arts student can solve… OK, maybe not.”

Orchard, CS370

“I’m going to get myself into a scandal of exposed-boob proportions if I keep spouting off about arts students.”

Orchard, CS370

[during quiz, room absolutely silent… cell phone rings] “Yes, Lord? Is that you?”

Kenyon, PHIL 145
“Everything is made in China anyway.”
Udde, FINE 355

“If I erase all this before anyone else comes in, they’ll never know how much I embarrassed myself.”
Vanderburgh, MATH 148

“You see, by making enough squiggles on the board, I can make it look like I know how to spell continuous.”
Vanderburgh, MATH 148

“My kids can do arithmetic better than I can.”
Ragde, CS 251

“This is university, we’re loosy-goosy. You can drink, you can vote, you can use goto.”
Vasiga, CS 241

“We don’t care, we’re in computer science, we’re corrupt!”
Vasiga, CS 241

“This is the kind of theorem where it is either trivial, or it is wrong!”
McKinnon, MATH 146

“Think of this as a bunch of dotted lines on the board that look nothing like they’re supposed to.”
Vanderburgh, MATH 148

“At this point we will need to hire an accountant to find the answer for us.”
Vanderburgh, MATH 148

“Calc - Check - If a limit … Let me start that sentence again.”
Vanderburgh, MATH 148

“This next lemma says that … Ian has to tie his shoe.”
Vanderburgh, MATH 148

“So we have this matrix, and I’m going to take this one and use it to kill off all these stars. Man, I sound like some celebrity stalker or something.”
McKinnon, MATH 146

“How do you do this? You do nothing! And by this nothing I mean one thing.”
McKinnon, MATH 146

“These are interesting, and by interesting I mean go insane when you try to implement them.”
Vasiga, CS 241

“I hate double primes. Well, I don’t hate them, but I’ll never have them over for supper.”
McKinnon, MATH 146

“You cannot do assignment 5 in one day. People have tried and spontaneously combusted”
Vasiga, CS 241

“Do all of you konw where Russia is? If you don’t, I hope that you won’t admit it.”
Kapur, PSCI 282
“We can do that by perversely picking animals.”
Lubiw, CS 240

[Prof hides behind board, notices note]
“Do not read what is behind other board”
[Prof walks over and looks behind other board]
“Don’t you have anything better to do?”
Best, C&O 227

“Being mathematicians you must be inherently lazy.”
Best, C&O 227

“I hope you haven’t written any of that down, that’s all hot air.”
Goulden, MATH 239

“In this course we’re going to look for one answer and we’re
going to be happy if it’s not a really dumb answer like 3.”
Goulden, MATH 239

“I want to invoke my theorems”
Goulden, MATH 239

“I’d like to say something about induction. I hate induction. I bet
that you do too.”
Goulden, MATH 239

“I’m a first derivative kind of guy, so we’ll do the first deriva-
tive.”
Chipman, STAT 340

“I’m warning you, in about 20 seconds I’m going to start waving
my arms and not explaining myself.”
Chipman, STAT 340

“If you’re not in [STAT] 330, just think of it as magic, the spooky
type.”
Chipman, STAT 340

“That’s why you go to Teacher’s College, so you don’t do silly
things like that.”
Brown, STAT 231

“That’s short for the ticket guy slamming the window in your
face and going ‘Ha ha, we’re closed.’”
Chipman, STAT 340

“This is the space spanned by the columns of ‘x’; of course it
doesn’t waffle around like that, but it’s an Artist’s interpretation
of the space.”
Brown, STAT 231

“We haven’t written down anything useful yet…”
Law, CS 337

“I’ll be a little bit of a dunderhead.”
Law, CS 337

“I’m going to blunder on ahead anyway and you’ll figure it out.
But please ask questions…”
Chipman, STAT 340

“Enough questions. Don’t ask me any more questions.”
Nica, PMATH 453

“The character code for ‘M’ is 01001101… that won’t be on the
midterm.”
Beatty, CS 230

“The answer is ‘That’s where you’re going to put it!’ Dude.”
Beatty, CS 230

“[the computer] went to sleep … DON’T say the obvious!”
Beatty, CS 230

“Is there anything else you want to complain about?”
Beatty, CS 230

[tripping over the overhead cable]“Oops… crash… we lose more
professors that way.”
Beatty, CS 230

“You guys must have had four cups of coffee this morning!”
Beatty, CS 230

“Anything else I say will get us all in trouble.”
Beatty, CS 230

“We looked at that and thought, ‘Gee, I’m in an alternate dimension
here…”"
Chipman, STAT 340

“Notice the absence of the letter t in the word ‘Eroica’ … no one
got that?”
Hull, MUSIC 260

[tripping over the overhead cable]“Notice the absence of the letter t in the word ‘Eroica’ … no one
got that?”
Hull, MUSIC 260

Prof: “[the midterm] is on Valentine’s Day… that’s cruel…”
Student: “Can we bring a date?”
Prof: “Dates, prunes, plums, I don’t care.”
Hull, MUSIC 260
“The rule is: never read chapter 6 before chapter 7.”
Zima, CS 487

“Well, it turns out that programmers don’t like to program in pure lambda calculus.”
Cox, CS 442

“There are other register conventions; they’re all stupid.”
Cormack, CS 444

“In North America you learn to divide like this: [does long division on the board] In Russia, we learn to divide like this: [does it again, but differently] I wonder how they divide in Vietnam… I think probably in South Vietnam, they do it like this [points to North American division], and in North Vietnam, they do it like this [points to Russian way].”
Zima, CS 487

“To make this interesting, let me show you the error you get if you screw it up.”
Cox, CS 442

“I don’t like pointers. I don’t mind coding them, but I don’t like drawing them on the board.”
Cormack, CS 444

“So we’ll take the type and the variableness, and we’ll call that a ham sandwich or something, and then we’ll have ham sandwich equivalence.”
Cormack, CS 444

“Here, you have Mother’s Day and Father’s Day. In Russia, we have International Women’s Day and Red Army Day instead.”
Zima, CS 487

“Last time I taught this course an evaluation said ‘Too much steak, not enough sizzle,’ so this course is going to have sizzle.”
Davis, CS 338

“Today my numbers are in disorder; it must be the Y2K bug.”
Nica, PMATH 354

“Fix a positive integer H, where ‘H’ is for ‘huge’.”
Nica, PMATH 354

“I’ll call this NSG — that’s not nonosodium glutamate, it’s a normal subgroup.”
Hoffman, PMATH 467

“G is generated by nonosodium glutamate of X.”
Hoffman, PMATH 467

“So start getting used to arrows, or… DIE!”
Hoffman, PMATH 467

“I got a message — not on e-mail; we didn’t even have photocopi- ers when I was in grad school. I had to write my thesis out about ten times to have enough copies.”
Hoffman, PMATH 467

“Why all the giggles? Have I got a hole in my pants or something? Is my fly down?”
Hoffman, PMATH 467

“That may be a little bit loosey-goosey.”
Hoffman, PMATH 467

“Today, I’m still under the influence, so you’ll have to excuse me.”
Lu, PMATH 352

“I’m going to write down a formula which doesn’t make much sense.”
Younger, C&O 350

“Sometimes I write Rs one way, sometimes I write them another; I don’t make any distinction, but they mean the same thing.”
Younger, C&O 350
“I guess we could use that to show a more general case. But that would ruin my example.”
Andre, AM 331

“This is not what we wanted to prove, so we’ll just change what we wanted to prove.”
Andre, AM 331

“Watch this carefully: my fingers will not leave my hands.”
Best, CO 227

“I will need close to complete silence, this is a dangerous proof.”
Chipman, STAT 206

“If you leave this assignment until the night before it’s due, you’ll be in deep shit.”
Hoffman, PMATH 330

“Rather than prove it, I’m going to do an exhaustive bunch of examples until you think you’ve sensed a pattern”
Ingram, CS 240

“Chalk turns really funny colours when it’s saturated in blood.”
Liston, CLAS 205

“I’m feeling somewhat flakier than normal today.”
Liston, CLAS 205

“Even though it won’t give you the coolest points on the geek-o-meter, it’ll still work.”
Lopez-Ortiz, CS 240

“I don’t know how much you remember from the first class from recovery from all that sex you got during frosh week.”
Lopez-Ortiz, CS 240

“There’s 31 letters in Spanish and 29 by the Mexican count. We’ve gone to war over that.”
Lopez-Ortiz, CS 240

“If you’re going to be wrong, you’ll want to be really wrong so you can just flip the answer around.”
MacKay, STAT 362

“I should have a big pile of marks here. Every time you catch an error I take some out.”
MacKay, STAT 362

“These slides are very bad; they confuse me.”
Mavadatt, CS 246

“The pattern is obvious unless the reader is a bonehead.”
Mosco, MATH 239

student - “What’s the difference between union and concatenation?”
prof - “Everything. Between you passing and failing this course.”
Mosca, MATH 239

“Little by little, by the end of the term, I’m going to be in total control of your mind.”
Nica, PMATH 351

“You can try to guess the solution of 3.8592, or you can just do a binary search on your calculator.”
Chan, CS 466

“If this is true, then we are screwed.”
Hoffman, PMATH 330

“Look at Appendix B — B for Boring.”
Hoffman, PMATH 330

“You can do better then me in one little question, but you’ll never be better in every question.”
Lau, ECON 101

“If you increase the price [of an airline ticket] by fifty bucks, they say ‘Forget it, I’m going to Shoppers’ Drug Mart to buy a bag of chips. That’s a good enough holiday for me.’”
Lau, ECON 101

“This is when you phone your parents and say you are only eating Kraft Dinner, and you have only one box left; and this is when your parents send you another box.”
Smith, ECON 102

“I have a rod.” [pauses] “I have an infinitely-long rod.” [pauses again] “I have an infinitely-long rod. Then I have a electric field that is horizontal. I can take ‘p’ anywhere.”
Jayasundrea, PHYS 122

“Anyone here from Statin Island?” [No one raises a hand] “Good.”
Devereaux, PHYS 122

“Go to this conference … It’s got some interesting talks on Monday, you’ll understand none of it because I don’t neither.”
Cheung, C&O 350

“Thanks to my friend, who introduced me to Pro-Line last night, I’ve learned to optimize it.”
Chung, C&O 350

“This is really important … This is really REALLY important … that means it’s going to be on the final.”
Cheung, C&O 350

“Now let’s move on to something a little more exciting. Well, it is for me.”
Cheung, C&O 350

“As you know, I’m a grad student. These evaluations are important for me because I’ll be looking for a job next year.”
Cheung, C&O 350

“It makes sense, at least for me it does.”
Labbe, STAT 230

“Don’t worry, it’s not supposed to be easy.”
Labbe, STAT 230

“I will tell you, unless you don’t care. Bah, I’ll tell you anyway.”
Labbe, STAT 230

“If we get an answer in term of cars squared, it’s probably an indication we screwed up.”
Paduada, STAT 230
“Your brain will go into overdrive and try to consume itself.”
Cowan, CS 246

“If a computer could talk, it might say “I am creating a linked list” or “I am creating an abstract stack,” and you would say “Who gives a shit.”
Cowan, CS 246

“Well screw you. I’ll just do whatever I bloody well feel like…"
Cowan, CS 246

“This is a general vector right here.” [looks on board for vector]
“Uhh… this is a general vector right here…” [still looking] “Where the hell am I? Oh, yeah.” [finds it] “This is a general vector right here.”
Crippin, MATH 136

[Referring to matrix on the board] “Shows like an underwear commercial…"
Crippin, MATH 136

Prof: “Didn’t you hear what I said before? I said you really don’t know what you’re talking about.”
Student: “Then why don’t you teach us it then?”
Prof: “Well, see, that depends on the quality of the student.”
Crippin, MATH 136

“My brain hurts.”
Chipman, STAT 230

“You guys in the front row laugh, but I almost killed somebody doing that.”
Chipman, STAT 230

“Ooops, almost killed another one of them!”
Chipman, STAT 230

“I’m going to jump up on the desk and start kicking people out in a minute.”
Chipman, STAT 230

“Do I have to come up there? I can… it’s not that far…”
Chipman, STAT 230

“Oh, I’m sorry. How long has this been hanging out?”
Chipman, STAT 230

“This looks like a job for… HYPERGEOMETRIC IDENTITY! Doo doo doo!”
Chipman, STAT 230

“The excitement is palpable…”
Chipman, STAT 230

“Ok. Who’s in favour of me writing a ‘…’ and then giving you the answer?” [most hands go up] “Anyone against?” [one hand goes up] “You disgust me. Out!”
Chipman, STAT 230

“Yes, we are flogging a dead horse here…”
Schellenberg, MATH 239

“This is kinda magical…”
Schellenberg, MATH 239

“I go through these computations every time I shop.”
Irving, MATH 239

“I don’t know if I should say this, but I’ll go for it and see if I get fired.”
Irving, MATH 239

“Would you like it doggy style?”
Irving, MATH 239

“If you can solve that, you’re ready for, I don’t know, heaven or something.”
Irving, MATH 239

“If you think we’re going to use any of these algorithms to write concurrent programs, you’re crazy.”
Buhr CS 342

“I do that in the dark all the time at home; I’m not supposed to do it here.”
Marshall, AM 332

“This course should be renamed to ‘Solving Systems of Linear Equations in Different Contexts.’"
Lam, MATH 136

“Yes, you — [Male student starts to answer] No, behind you. She’s much prettier then you.”
Andre, MATH 138

“If you’re from Mars and have three heads I’ll give you 100% on your final. Anyone?”
Case, CS 134

[On Dictionary] “I’m not looked up as often as ‘sex.’ I have re-signed myself to that … I’m not as popular as sex, and I’m fine with that.”
Vasiga, CS 240

“Maybe that’s your question; that’s called a mistake.”
Vasiga, CS 240

“There was another question; maybe it was a mistake too.”
Vasiga, CS 240

“Not a a big problem since people don’t usually write self-modifying code … except me.”
McCool, CS 251

“This is a assembler for a real assembly language. Unlike what giving you.”
Omar, CS 241

“When you write embedded systems you often write loops that never terminate … They terminate when you turn off the power or the missile comes in and hits the tank.”
Clarke, CS 342

[Prof acts like he’s dying] “If I’d actually died, that’d be too good to be true. You’d still have a final exam though.”
Clarke, CS 342

“This is called ‘The Lost Cow Problem’ … but you can call it the ‘Robot Navigation Problem’ if you want to get funding.”
Chan, CS 466
“It’s a philosophical question: Can women be represented in the legislature if they don’t make up a proportional portion?”

Boychuck, PSCI 110

“That’s trick programming, and Trix are for kids.”

Buhr, CS 343

“We gave each scan an individual name. Like ‘Left Pubic Hair #34’.”

Kari Pulli, speaking about taking a 3D scan of Michelangelo’s David
U of Oulu, Finland

“There are a lot of drugs in this course... [pause] sorry no samples.”

Fogel, ENGL 208B

“The aliens have stolen my brain.”

Haxell, MATH 145

“Why Mean, as opposed to, uh, the Goofy theorem?”

Zorzitto, MATH 137

“We can talk forever about triangles, and we will.”

Ken Peters, Transcendental Functions, 120

“This is something I told you a long time ago. But I was actually lying.”

Forrest, MATH 247

“In this subject, you have to abuse notation.”

Forrest, MATH 247

“Now this is a row vector and this is a column vector, but you have to use your imagination.”

Forrest, MATH 247

“Now, this is not hard, but it’s notationally ugly.”

Forrest, MATH 247

“Does everyone agree with that...[no response]...nod encouragingly...Ok.”

Best, C&O 227

“One of the most important things you can do is to screw up.”

Best, C&O 227

“This is a ‘μ’, tail to the left. This is a ‘u’, tail to the right...if I see that in mathNEWS, I’ll kill someone!”

Best, C&O 227

“Trivial, trivial, by observation, now I’m done.”

Vasiga, CS 134

“I do whatever else I do in the day. Teach and deal drugs for a living.”

Vasiga, CS 134

“Were you reading my mind? My guardian programming angel said ‘Assign it to another variable.’”

Vasiga, CS 134

“You are an ant living without any purpose in life.”

Chan, CS 666

“Is someone baking cookies in here?”

Orchard, CS 370

“Does coefficients have one or two ‘f’s? Ill put three just to be safe.”

Orchard, CS 370

“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!”

Orchard, CS 370

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

Zima, CS 341

“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

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

Wolczuk, MATH 136

“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

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

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

“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