
Special points of interest:

- FASt Talks
 - Conferences and Meetings
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Logical Times

“Monthly News You Can Count On”



Wednesday FASt Talks:

It is safe to say with an average attendance of over 35 students, the first semester of Wednesday FASt Talks were a success.

On November 19, **Dr. Hutson** shared his experience helping design a 1.2 million sq. ft. manufacturing/warehouse facility in his talk “*WANTED: A Traveling Salesman with a Stable Marriage Who Knows How to Evacuate a Building.*” . We found that some of the problems could be efficiently solved, whereas a few boiled down to the elusive traveling salesman problem. We also found out, to some students’ dismay, that although optimization via calculus works in some simple cases, it is often impractical in the real world.

On December 3, computer science



major **Adam Wu** presented his summer research with **Dr. Feil**, “*Computerized Distorted Text Recognition—A Trial Against CAPTCHA.*” In the talk, Adam presented the various types of security measures used to distinguish computers from people. Not only did Adam share his clever approaches to the problem, but he demonstrated, hands down, that he is a Power Point guru!

Faculty/Student Activities

“Math Club”

On December 1, 23 students attended the first meeting of the newly formed “Math Club.” Many ideas for future activities were shared including a tutoring outreach for local schools, attending various conferences, a math jeopardy competition, puzzle and pizza nights, and the ever popular club t-shirt.

Our next meeting will be held the first week of February in Olin 222. At this meeting we will decide on an “official” name for the group, discuss

tutoring possibilities with local schools, and have some fun! Due to some scheduling conflicts, it was decided to have you vote on the best time for the next meeting. Please tally your vote with Helen Viles in the math office.

- 6:00 PM February 4 Tuesday
- 6:00 PM February 5 Wednesday
- 6:00 PM February 6 Thursday

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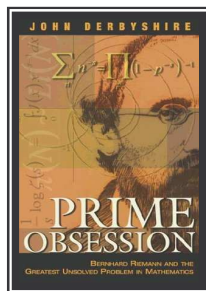
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Got noteworthy
news ideas?

Contact Dr. Ludwig



Fruits of Our Labor

On December 7, students from the MAA Ohio Section meeting at the University of Cincinnati in late March presented their semester long research projects on a mathematical topic new to them. Subjects included voting schemes, cryptography, check digits, the Riemann Hypothesis, the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, baseball statistics, a mathematical biology, and a new look at e . The talks were well presented and insightful. Several students intend to present their talks at



A Busy Saturday

While most of us were fretting about the end of the semester details, 5 Denison students— Elizabeth Ehret ('04), Tony Fressola ('04), Kati O'Neill ('06), and Evan Starr ('07) — were wracking their brains over The Sixty-

Fourth Annual William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition. The Putnam is considered the “world’s toughest math test...” See **Dr. Bonar** for more details.

Gordon Speaker

On January 29, author John Derbyshire will give a talk on his new book, *Prime Obsession: Bernhard Riemann & the Greatest Unsolved Problem*. The talk is at 7:30 PM in the Burton

Morgan Center. Refreshments will be available beforehand. This presentation is being generously supported by the Gordon family.

An Opportunity to Excel

Denison will host The Five College Mathematics Contest this February 7, 2004 from 10:00-12:00. We need students to represent DU in the contest. Students work in teams of up to three members and try to solve as many of the ten questions as possi-

ble. Each school can have up to four teams. A lunch with the students from the other four schools (Antioch, Kenyon, Ohio Wesleyan, and Wittenburg) will follow. Contact **Dr. Bonar** if you are interested. He can also provide copies of part exams.