

L'Augarithms



vol. 25.06 Visit us at <augsborg.edu/math/> We're prettier in color

December 7, 2011

Mathematics Colloquium Fall Lineup

Colloquia are typically held Wednesdays 3:40—4:40 in Oren 113. Immensely appealing refreshments are served.

- Sept. 7 The Annual Department Meet & Greet
21 Robert Miner, Ph.D.
Oct. 4 Katy Micek, Augsburg College
19 Mike Weimerskirch, Augsburg College
Nov. 2 Austin Wagner, Megan Sutherland
16 Sarah McKagan, McKagan Enterprises, Seattle
Dec. → 7¹ Steve Kennedy and Deanna Haunsperger

¹This week's Colloquium

A Glimpse at the Horizon

What do a square-wheeled bicycle, a 17th-century French painting, and the Indiana legislature all have in common? They appear among the many bright stars



on the mathematical horizon, or perhaps, more correctly, in *Math Horizons*. *Math Horizons*, the undergraduate magazine started by the Mathematical Association of America in 1994, publishes articles to introduce students to the world of mathematics outside the classroom. Some of mathematics' best expositors have written for the magazine over the years; here is a glimpse back at the first ten years of {Horizons}.

Biographies: **Deanna Haunsperger** and **Steve Kennedy** are professors of mathematics at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota. They have long been interested in increasing the number of students who study mathematics, a passion which has guided them as former co-editors for *Math Horizons* and as co-directors since 1995 of Carleton's Summer Mathematics Program for Women. Together they have two children.

Refreshment mode = On

Problem of the week...

There were no solvers to the last issue's POTW, so, here is a new one:

Consider a square with sides of length 1. Choose a point at random in the interior of the square (by throwing a dart, perhaps). What is the probability that the point you selected is closer to the center of the square than it is to one of the sides of the square?

❖ Reprinted with permission from Bradley U's old 'POTW' page <<http://hilltop.bradley.edu/%7Edelgado/potw/potw.html>>

Puzzle of the week...

For the PZOTW from vol 25.05, **Mathia Colwell**, **Jazmine Darden**, and **Tyler Rivard** all found that Lenny has 20 frogs and 9 birds.

Here is a new PZOTW:

A volleyball tournament has 163 teams competing. It is a double-elimination tournament, meaning that a team is eliminated by losing two games.

How many games will be played in the whole tournament?

❖ Submit POTW & POZTW solutions to kaminsky@augsborg.edu, or under Ken's door at SCI 137E, or in the puzzles and problems box just outside of Su's office.

Tidbits of the Week (TOTW)

Which are the two-digit primes such that reversing their digits also produces a prime? **11, 13, 17, 37**

What is the smallest 3-digit prime such that all other arrangements of its digits are also prime numbers? **113**

What is the smallest integer greater than one that is equal to the sum of the cubes of its digits? **371**

❖ That's the last TOTW until next year. We'll have some new tidbits in the next issue.

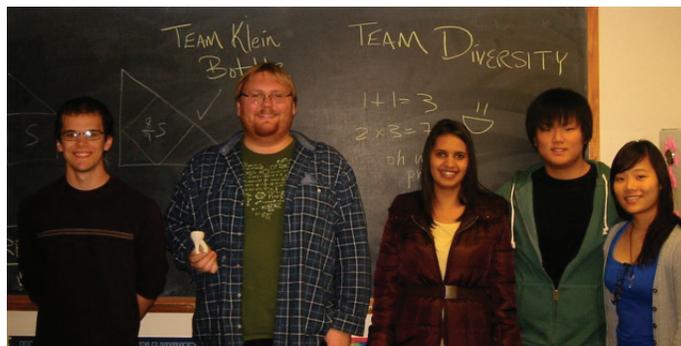
L'Augarithms

The approximately bi-weekly newsletter
of the

Department of Mathematics
at Augsburg College
Editor.....Kenneth Kaminsky
<kaminsky@augsborg.edu>

Results from the 15th annual NCS-MAA Team Contest

On Saturday, November 12, Augsburg fielded two teams for the *North Central Section of the Mathematical Association of America Team Math Contest*. Team **Klein Bottle** (Austin Wagner and Carl Benson) and Team **Diversity** (Amani Al-Qubati, HeeChan Kang, Thu Nguyen) made a strong showing. Teams had three hours to solve 10 challenging problems—no calculators, no books, no internet—just pencils and chalk. 76 teams representing 26 schools participated. Top scoring teams came from



Carleton, St. Olaf, and the UofM Twin Cities.

This year's holiday party

The department holiday party this year will take place in Science Hall 108, from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Exquisite foods and beverages will be served. Also lutefisk.



Season's Greetings from some of the many voices of Augsburg



Gott Nytt År

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

BUON NATALE

Arabaina tratin'ny
Taom-baobao



Bonne Année

Vrolijk Kerstfeest

Happy New Year

FELIZ NAVIDAD

Kesimasi va go

Merry Christmas

Hasta la Próxima



Buon Capodanno

Fröhliche Weinachten

God Jul

