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Georgia Southern University Math / CSC Newsletter

Mary Margaret Hoy, editor

Vol. 7 FEBRUARY 1995 Edition 5

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sharon Morris has resigned from her position as System Support Specialist IV for the Math/CSC Department. Her resignation becomes effective at the end of Spring Quarter. She will be applying for other positions in the area.

Brenda Carter and the entire Math Tournament Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the 7th Annual GSU Mathematics Tournament. Nearly 800 students competed, and disregarding the problems with the scantron machines, the day went well! Everyone working in the tournament did a great job; it could not have been successful without the faculty's aid. Details about the individual and team winners will be distributed later.

Rumors have been circulating that Ermamedes, estranged spouse of Archimedes, will attend **Norman** and **Rosalyn Wells'** retirement to-do.

The Algebra/Trigonometry Computer Test Bank (LXR 5.0) for College Algebra and Trigonometry Second edition by Aufmann/Barker has arrived. If you are currently teaching Trig, you are entitled to this Macintosh software. It takes 18.5 MB of hard disk space. Contact **Sharon Morris** if you would like to have the software installed on your computer. The single copy of the manual for the test bank is available for check out from **Sandra Ellwood**.

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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Arthur Sparks initiated and coordinated a Program Collaborative Strategic Allocation Proposal that has been submitted to the Chancellor's Office. This proposal, titled *Center of Applied Mathematics and Computer Science*, is a collaboration between Georgia Southern (the lead institution), Armstrong State College, and Savannah State College. The proposal is oriented toward the programs in computer science, computer science technology, and applied math at the participating institutions. The purposes of the proposal are to strengthen academic/research programs at the institutions and to increase collaboration between the institutions including shared classes/seminars, curriculum development, and research. The proposal requests \$250,000 for each of the three years for personnel, operating expenses, and equipment. The three-year Georgia Southern budget is approximately \$488,000.

Thanks to contacts of **Martha Abell** and **Jim Braselton** at Georgia Tech, the Department was invited to team with Georgia Tech (the lead institution), North Georgia College, and Southern Tech to submit a Program Collaborative Strategic Allocation Proposal to the Chancellor's Office. The three-year proposal is titled *Distance Learning in Science and Mathematics* and proposes joint seminars between institutions, programs for high schools, and college classes by distance learning. The proposal requests \$500,000 for each of the three years for personnel, operating expenses, and equipment. The total three-year Georgia Southern budget submitted by **Arthur Sparks** is \$375,000. **Arthur** is Georgia Southern's Coordinator for the proposal.

Arthur Sparks represented the Department at the Atlanta Recruiting Receptions held at the Perimeter Marriott Center in Atlanta on February 14 & 15. These receptions hosted high school students interested in attending Georgia Southern. Attendance was excellent both nights. While in Atlanta, **Arthur** visited Georgia Tech with representatives of Sun Microsystems to attend a special demonstration of AV workstations. These workstations allow audio/video communication between workstations.

Yingkang Hu's joint paper "Copositive Polynomial and Spline Approximation" with X. M. Yu and D. Leviatan has appeared in the Journal of Approximation Theory, Vol. 80, (1995), pages 204-218.

Anne Pierce and John Henry wrote a paper that will be presented at the 1995

SIGCSE Computer Conference held March 1-2, 1995, in Nashville. Anne has been practicing the "tush push" so she can go to the Wild Horse. Watch for her on TV.

Janet O'Brien and **Susie Lanier** attended the 19th annual conference of the National Association for Developmental Education (NADE) in Chicago held February 21-26, 1995. While at the conference, NADE/Georgia (**Janet** is the president of this organization) met with the executive board of NADE to present a proposal to host the national conference in Atlanta in 1998. Louisiana also submitted a bid to host the conference. The executive board chose Atlanta. This is a really big project and will be lots of work, but it will bring recognition to our state as well as Georgia Southern. **Janet** will surely be asking for volunteers to help with the planning of this conference over the next 3 years.

Martha Abell wants to report that we will receive approximately \$63,000 from the National Science Foundation to establish an Advanced Mathematics Computer Laboratory for our students in Calculus IV and above. These funds will be matched by GSU. More details later.

Here is the text of a letter received in January at Savannah College of Art and Design about **Wayland Brown's** Word 6.0 reviews: "I'm one of your out-of-town [readers], enjoy your newsletter very much, and want to commend you on being the first newsletter to fry Word 6.0: that's why you were reprinted so widely!

Thanks for the great service you folks provide!" Tom Brown, Louisville, KY.

Wayland Brown's initial reactions to Microsoft Word 6.0, originally published in MacMonitor, were reprinted in BServer, the newsletter of the Kalamazoo, MI, Mac user Group. Part I of his review of Microsoft Word was read aloud by a Word Perfect Vice President to the Word Perfect Sales and Marketing staff in Utah and reprinted in the following: The Savannah Business Journal, Savannah, GA, (February, 1995), Club Mac, Toronto, Canada, (February, 1995), SPUG Newsletter, Alamogordo, NM, (January, 1995), The Apple Source, Providence, RI, (January, 1995), MacValley Voice, Burbank, CA, (January, 1995), MacViews, Ft. Wayne, IN., January, 1995, and MC/DC, Knoxville, Tennessee, December, 1994.

Wayland Brown has the following articles and reviews appearing in the March, 1995, MacMonitor: "Microsoft Word 6.0, Part II," "Backing Up with Syquest Removable Drives," "Systematic Observations," a piece about system software, "A First Look at Nisus Writer 4.0," and reviews of three books: "Protect Your Macintosh," "The Macintosh Bible, 5th Edition," and "Internet Starter Kit, Second Edition."

Lila Roberts and **Wayland Brown** ran the following Mathematica graph on four different machines: Plot[h'[x],{x,-7,7}], where h[x]=sin[sin[sin...[x]]] iterated 100 times. Allowing for other things running on each machine, all of which would slow things down, here are the results: Mac Quadra 950 - 7 hours 30 minutes; Lila's SUN - just under 5 hours; Lila's

486 33 - 2 hours 36 minutes; Wayland's Mac PowerPC - 1 hour 20 minutes. Try it on your machine, and e-mail **Lila** and **Wayland** how long it takes. Mathematica will time itself. Look under Preferences>Action, and check the appropriate box to have it do so. **Wayland** is going to retry on each machine with all the background things off he can possibly turn off. How about Maple results, someone?

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MAA NEWS

submitted by **Martha Abell** and **Jim Braselton**

We want to thank **Bill Meisel** for his interesting presentation on taking square roots of numbers by hand. The program was well attended. If any of you have a 20-30 minute talk that you can share with a group of students, then let us know.

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PERSONAL NEWS

Sharon Morris and former graduate student **Keith Barrs** got engaged on Valentine's Day. The wedding date has not yet been set.

Joseph Knapp Boddiford III, who will be called Knapp after his grandfather, was born to Joe and **Susan Boddiford** on Tuesday, February 21, 1995. He weighed 8 lbs 10 ozs and was 21 inches long (with n! stitches in his mother!!!). **Susan's** water broke at 2:00 am on Tuesday and

Knapp was born at 9:39 pm that evening (a LONG DAY!!!!).

William James Middle High attended the district-wide Mathcounts Competition held in Savannah on February 4 and won first place. All four team members won individual awards: Harry Hu (**Yingkang Hu's** son), first; Billy Francisco, second; Jennifer Brantley, eighth; Ryan Duncan, ninth. Seventy students from 13 schools competed. WJMH Math Team will go to Atlanta for the state-wide Mathcounts competition.

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MARCH BIRTHDAYS

David Heath	5
Lacrecia Maddox	5
Pam Watkins	6
Beth Hardy	24
Jim Vargo	26
Walter Lynch	28

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