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Georgia Southern University Math / CSC Newsletter

Mary Margaret Hoy, editor

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

All of us would like to thank the Wells' Retirement Committee (**Pam Watkins**, Chr., **Brenda Carter**, **Dale Gibson**, **Earl Lavender**, and **Donna Saye**) for a job well done. Spike Jones did his usual splendid job and there were special appearances by distinguished (extinguished?) mathematicians who looked suspiciously like **Brenda** and **Wayland**. The Retirement Party was a fine event and was enjoyed by all. It was a fine send-off for **Rosalyn** and **Norman**. Everyone did a great job! THANKS!!

Attention: Macintosh PowerBook 100/140/170 owners. Check the part number on your AC Adapter. If it is M5140, call 1-800-SOS-APPL and arrange to swap it out free for a new 24-amp (watt?) AC adapter if you have a PB170/140 or a new 17-amp (watt?) adapter if you have a PB100. When (not if) the plastic in the tip of the plug cracks, the M5140 can cause logic board damage, and, after all these years and

blown logic boards, Apple has decided to make a free "customer satisfaction" replacement. Authorized Apple dealers can also do it, but good luck finding one who (1) knows about the relevant Tech Bulletin, (2) is happily willing to do it, and (3) can get you a new adapter before your PowerBook dies of electronic anemia.

When Windows 95 is released sometime in 1996, it is expected to ship on 32 to 36 high density floppy disks, and, as a result, rumors have abounded that Microsoft is amassing huge quantities of floppies in anticipation of filling millions of orders for the new operating system and for the fix that will certainly follow in about a year to try to make the original release work. (Actually 450,000 copies of the prerelease version are out, and it doesn't work. Nor does the fix, which has also been released but doesn't.) The Chicago Board of Trade has temporarily suspended future trading in floppy disks on the commodities exchanges because panic buying had caused the prices to inflate artificially past the \$1.50 limit, which heretofore had been reached only at GSU.

The Ogeechee Choral Society will present a concert on Tuesday, April 11 at 8:00 p.m. at First Methodist Church on Main Street. **John Davenport**, **Lila Roberts** and **Mary Margaret Hoy** are members of this organization and invite you all to come and enjoy some good music! Admission is free.

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PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Martha Abell and **Jim Braselton** each received a Summer Award of \$1500 from the Faculty Development and Welfare Committee to write applications projects for calculus, differential equations, and applied math classes.

Stuart Davidson attended the Annual Meeting of SEAS-SIAM held March 24-25, 1995, on the campus of the Citadel in Charleston, SC. He participated in a short course on wavelets.

Stuart Davidson submitted a paper entitled "The Steady Linear Thermoelastic Problem for a Circular Hole with Two Radial Edge Cracks of Unequal Length" to *The Journal of Engineering Fracture Mechanics*.

Anne Pierce received a \$3000 summer sabbatical to write curriculum materials on Computer Ethics for CSC 281 and CSC 283.

Debbye Stapleton and **Cynthia Sikes** attended the Southeastern Sectional Meeting of the Mathematical Association of America in Asheville, NC, on March 30 - April 1, 1995. Their presentation was entitled "Survey Results Regarding the Use of a Graphics Calculator in the Teaching of Trigonometry."

Lila Roberts presented a talk entitled "Visualization in Calculus Using MATLAB" at the 74th Annual Meeting

of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America on March 31 in Asheville, NC.

Lila Roberts has been invited to participate in the NSF Sponsored Consortium for Ordinary Differential Equation Education (C-ODE-E) workshop at Stetson University held June 8-13, 1995.

Martha Abell and **Jim Braselton** presented a talk entitled "Mathematics at Work" at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America on March 31 in Asheville, NC.

Jim Vargo presented a talk entitled "Directing a Summer Mathematics and Computer Science Enrichment Program for Talented High School Students" at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America on March 31 in Asheville, NC.

Debbie Westcot Evans presented a talk entitled "All Students Must Take College Algebra?" at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America on April 1 in Asheville, NC.

Don Brown, Susie Lanier, Janet O'Brien, Donna Saye, Joyce Strozso, and **Jim Vargo** attended the 74th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America held March 30 - April 1 in Asheville, NC.

Arthur Sparks gave an invited talk to the *Together We Can Make It Work In Georgia* Mathematics, Science, and Engineering (MSE) Conference held in Atlanta, March 3-4, 1995. The conference was sponsored by Clark Atlanta University and The Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network. A number of impressive minority students were present and Arthur's talk, *The Georgia Southern Calculus Project*, was well received by them. During their dinner presentations, a number of the students enthusiastically endorsed the use of technology in the mathematics curriculum and indicated how the use of technology has enhanced their understanding of mathematics.

Arthur Sparks has agreed to be a member of the Georgia State-wide Mathematics, Science, and Engineering (MSE) Steering Committee.

Arthur Sparks attended the Southeastern Section Meeting of the Mathematics Association of America held March 31-April 1, 1995 in Asheville, NC. A Professional Travel Grant paid for **Arthur's** travel.

Wayland Brown wrote a piece about PowerBooks and one about something else equally important but whose title he cannot remember for the April 1995 issue of *MacMonitor*. While watching the OJ trial, he also wrote and submitted a monthly column for the next ten months and is now working on three word processor software reviews as well as a book on Word Perfect for the Mac. (Might as well do something for the masses and hope they buy it!)

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MATH 151 COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted by **Cynthia Sikes**

The Math 151 Committee voted to continue using the present textbook, *College Algebra* by Lial / Miller / Hornsby. The committee is examining the present algebra topics and is considering possible changes for next fall.

REMINDER TO ALL FACULTY WHO TEACH MATH 151 - Please remember to turn in your tests and include the sections from the text that are covered on the test and the date that the test was given.

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MAA NEWS

Submitted by **Martha Abell** and **Jim Braselton**

STUDENT CHAPTER - Five students attended the Southeastern Section Meeting in Asheville, NC. They were Lisa Norton, Kim Harrell, Dawn Laning, Afif McGlamry, and Steven Jarrell. Special thanks to **Donna Saye** and **Mary Sikes** for providing transportation for the students during the trip.

GENERAL - Next year's Southeastern Section meeting will be April 12-13, 1996, in Huntsville, AL. The 1997 meeting will be in Atlanta.

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PERSONAL NEWS

Lee Berger, **Rose Mae Bogan's** son, is coming from South Africa and will speak at the Southern Center on April 10, 1995. A reception will be held at 6:00, and his speech is at 7:00. He will speak on his work with Homonids in the South Africa caves. In addition, he is speaking in California and other universities while here in the United States.

Lamont Berger, **Rose Mae Bogan's** son, has been made Head of Special Projects working through the Video Department at Mississippi State in Starkville.

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PROBLEM OF THE MONTH

Submitted by **Wayland Brown**

You are presented with three sacks of Specie of the Realm, one of which contains 100 gold pieces, and the other two of which each contains 100 fake coins. To the naked eye and to the touch, the real and fake coins are indistinguishable, but you are told that each gold coin weighs 1.00 oz. while each fake coin weighs 0.95 oz. You have a scale handy, but you may use it for only one weighing. Can you infallibly choose the gold? How so, or why not?

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APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Deloris Hodges	9
Rosalyn Wells	22
Dana Brigdon	26

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