

The Math News

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Monday, February 23, 2004

MATH JEOPARDY RETURNS!

Tuesday, February 24, 1830-1930pm in Rickover 110.

Teams of three midshipmen from each class will compete for fame, fortune, and Math tee shirts. A lively, short, and entertaining event. Competing will be:

2007: Charles Creamer, Marjorie Drake, Christian Smith

2006: Timothy Davis, John Doherty, Daniel Ryan

2005: Matt Collinsworth, Steve McMath, Christopher Volnek

2004: Laura Perazzola, Tsuwei Tan, Katie Thomas

MATHEMATICS OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1800-2000

CHAUVENET HALL 2ND DECK

Quick Math Problem

If you break a line segment into two pieces by selecting a break point at random, how likely is it that each piece is at least half as long as the other?

Last problem's solution: (100 coins on a table, 40 heads, 60 tails. Without being able to which are which, how can you divide the coins into 2 groups, each with the same number of heads?) Separate the coins into a group of 40 and one of 60, and turn over all the coins in the smaller group.

Visit the Mathematics Department web site at <http://www.usna.edu/MathDept/website/index.htm>

Prof. Hoffman wins USNA Research Award

Michael Hoffman continues a string of **7** consecutive yard-wide awards for the **Mathematics Department**.

2003: Prof. **Nakos**, Benac award, teaching; 2002: Prof. **Price**, research; 2001: LCDR **Skufca**, Clements award, teaching; 2000: Prof.

D'Archangelo, service; 1999: LT **Lucas**, Apgar award, teaching; 1998:

Prof. **Crawford**, Benac award, teaching; 1989: Prof. **McCoy**, research;

1989: Prof. **Benac**, teaching award, now named the Benac award; 1982:

LCDR **Giannotti**, Clements award, teaching.

New for Class of 2007: 4 New Math Majors

SMA: Mathematics

SMP: Applied Mathematics

SMAH: Honors Mathematics

SMPH: Honors Applied Mathematics

Yes, they are all "technical" majors!

This issue's quotation: "...there is no study in the world which brings into more harmonious action all the faculties of the mind than [mathematics] ..."

--J. J. Sylvester

Famous USNA Mathematics Majors

(A Periodic Feature)

RADM Patrick Dunn graduated from USNA in 1972, majoring in mathematics. He attended Nuclear Power School and earned a Master of Science in mathematics from NPS. He is now the **Superintendent** of the **Naval Postgraduate School**.