The Math News

Volume 3, Number 7 Monday, March 1, 2004

MATHEMATICS OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 1800-2000
CHAUVENET HALL 2ND DECK

- All-You-Can-Eat ice cream ("Once we run out, that's all you can eat.")
- Simultaneous chess exhibition by Prof. Traves
- Details about the **Mathematics Major** and its **TWO NEW TRACKS**
- Details about the **Honors Mathematics Major** and its **TWO NEW TRACKS**
- Math majors' capstone and Trident projects
- Information on the Operations Analysis **0042E subspecialty code** available to math graduates
- Careers that use mathematics
- Math in the **Marine Corps**
- Cryptography

Quick Math Problem

A sphere of radius 1 contains a cube; inside the cube is another sphere. How large can the inside sphere be?

Last problem's solution: (How likely is it that a line segment broken at random into two pieces will have each piece at least half as long as the other?) It happens 1/3 of the time, exactly when the break point is in the middle third of the segment.

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

2007 Team Second in MATH JEOPARDY!

Charles Creamer, Marjorie Drake, and Chris Smith scored 1801 points, as the crowd favorites narrowly defeated the class of 2005. Repeating as winners were the **class of 2006**, finishing with 2800 points. John Doherty, Daniel Ryan, and Justin Thibault comprised the winning third class team. Also participating: Matt Collinsworth, Steve McMath, Chris Volnek, Laura Perazzola, Katie Thomas, and honorary 1st class Aaron Robinson.

Mathematics is the only Technical Major with no labs in any of its required major courses.

This issue's quotation: "Abstractness, sometimes hurled as a reproach at mathematics, is its chief glory and its surest title to practical usefulness." --E. T. Bell

THE NEW APPLIED MATHEMATICS TRACK

Required courses: matrix theory, topics in math, intro to applied math, fundamentals of math, **probability***, applied statistics, advanced calculus, scientific computing, senior project

Electives: mathematical modeling, math methods for physics, partial differential equations, topics in applied mathematics, **discrete structures***, advanced operations analysis

*applicable to the network problems described on the other side

This year, group II majors were the most successful in getting their first choice at service selection.