

MSCS



Mess

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Another Game Night!

The MSCS Department recently acquired well over a dozen board games. We'll celebrate by having (another) game night on Tuesday May 10th from 7:00pm into the evening in the RMS 6th Floor Lounge. Please come join in on the games -- snacks and soda will be provided!

Also, contact Prof. Adam McDougall <mcdougal@stolaf.edu> if you are interested in being added to the game-night mailing list <mscs-games@stolaf.edu> for next year.

MAA Elections and T-Shirts!

St. Olaf's student chapter of the MAA will be holding elections for next year's MAA executive positions. The deadline to submit your name for the ballot is Wednesday, May 11. Elections will then be held through Wednesday May 18. Watch for an email about how to vote. For more information about the positions or to submit your name, email maaexecs@stolaf.edu.

MAA t-shirts have been ordered! An email will be sent once the shirts arrive. Watch for tabling outside the caf where you can bring your \$10 and pick up your t-shirt. If you didn't get a chance to order one, extras should be available.

Last Week's Problem of the Week

In last week's POW, Jeb and Ted noticed via decoder rings (A=1; B=2; C=3; etc.) that their names share a property with the 5 English words DAD, GAG, YAY, PAP, and TAT. You were told there was a common English word missing from this list. Chris Nygren & Sevy Bialke found the pattern:

[1st letter] = [2nd letter] x [3rd letter], and found the missing word: **RIB**.

Note: it's fitting that the *missing* word whose first letter is the result of *multiplying* the other two letters is RIB because Eve was said to be made from Adam's missing rib, and the two were told to 'go forth and multiply' (insert groan here).

This Week's Problem of the Week

Ann, Bri & Cid are each wearing a hat that has positive whole number on it (1,2,3...). Each can see the numbers on the other two hats, but not their own.

Everyone is told this fact: one of the three numbers is the sum of the other two (but no one knows which is which). Starting with Ann, they take turns saying whether or not they know the number on their own hat.

"I don't know my number," states Ann.

"Then I don't know my number either," says Bri.

"Then I also don't know mine," says Cid.

Ann goes again and says, "Now I *do* know what my number must be!"

Assuming that Ann, Bri & Cid all have perfect reasoning skills, can you find a trio of numbers that makes the above situation valid? Email your solution to Prof. Adam McDougall <mcdougal@stolaf.edu> by Friday.

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If you would like to submit an article or math event to be published in the MSCS Mess, e-mail holmc@stolaf.edu