Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science St. Olaf College Northfield, MN 55057 May 18, 2007 Volume 35, No. 22

## SENIOR SALUTE!!!

Congratulations, seniors! You made it. This year's final issue of the MSCS Mess is devoted to you and your plans for the future. In your own words...

Joe Anderson (Math): I will be moving to Minneapolis and working as an EMT while hopefully finding a restaurant job on the side. After a year or two I might move to New York City to live with my brother or maybe I'll become a street bum in Washington D.C...all good uses of my math degree. These are my back-up options if Kelly and Mikayla refuse to marry me and be my sugar mamas.

**Ryan Anderson (Math, Math Ed.):** Next year I plan on teaching high school math somewhere, hopefully in Hawaii, if not in Hawaii probably in MN somewhere or possibly Colorado.

**Brendan Bailey (Math)**: I don't have any concrete post-graduation plans yet. I'm planning on working for a couple years, hopefully either in a math or CS field, and then consider graduate school in 3-5, depending on where my career takes me.

**Becky Blessing (Math):** My plan is to return to Santa Cruz, California, and become a middle school math teacher. Hopefully my perpetual singing and dancing won't get in the way of my

students' abilities to learn pre-algebra... At least I won't bore them!

**Stephanie Block (Math):** This July I will start my career at Mercer in Minneapolis projecting medicaid costs in the government health sector, working in teams with actuaries, clients, etc, and then taking the actuarial exam.

**Ian Campbell (Math):** I will be moving to Atlanta to get a Ph.D in Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech/Emory studying cardiac biomechanics and really maxing out my post-St. Olaf interdisciplinary skills.

Lauren Cassat (Math): I'm attempting to find a job either in the Twin Cities or in Kansas City... but you can bet I'll will be doing plenty of dancing regardless of where I end up.

**Trevor Davis** (Math): After graduation I will be working as Head Instructor with the Little Traverse Sailors youth sailing school in Harbor Springs, Michigan.

Kelly Dolan (Math): I will continue my tour of the Midwest from Lincoln, NE to Northfield, MN and now onto Madison, WI where I will begin my first "real" job as a Project Manager for Epic Systems, a medical software developing company. In my spare time, I will

remain isomorphic to my beloved roommate and fellow math major Mik by staying active and refusing to retire from my swimming career.

Alex Evans (Math, Statistics): No solid plans yet, looking for a job. Hopefully, in a few years I will go back to school to get my MBA or maybe even continue on with statistics. Umm final words about my math experience at Olaf ... Math was a great way for me to realize how little I know about stuff and statistics was just an added bonus.

Anna Feigum (Math, Math Ed.): I will be traveling to India in August to complete a semester of student teaching at Woodstock. That's as far as I've planned out.

Andrew Gastineau (Math): I am graduating with a degree in both mathematics and physics having played four years of varsity soccer, hockey and track. Next year I am planning on going to graduate school in Civil Engineering at the University of Minnesota working towards a Masters of Science in Structural Engineering.

Andrew Goudzwaard (Math, CS): After graduation I have one month of relaxing vacation where I will travel to the far reaches of the suburbs of Minneapolis. Then I'm committed to working full-time until 2050. I'll be spending my first year in the real world trying to apply my ERA and Abstract Algebra knowledge as a software developer for Bank of America in Chicago, IL.

Michael Haefs (Math, Math Ed.): I'll be spending the coming fall student teaching and possibly coaching football at Montgomery-Lonsdale HS. After that, all I'll have to say is, "Leaves are falling all around, it's time I was on my way. Thanks to you, I'm much obliged for such a pleasant stay. But now it's time for me

to go. The autumn moon lights my way." I'll miss Vessey asking for any epsilon we can find him, Friday fun, and homemade cookies. Good times. But now's the time, the time is now. Ramble on.

Allison Hagen (Math): I'm getting married to Noah Dove (CS Major, '06) in June and then we're moving to Illinois so I can start Physics graduate school in August. I'm going to work on condensed matter physics, and Noah is still working for free on his video game project.

Ben Heidgerken (Math): Next year I'm headed to Princeton Theological Seminary to work on an M.Div. degree. After that, it's doctoral work in theology someplace like Notre Dame and on into the teaching world (Knock on wood)!

**Kristin Henry (Math):** After four years as a Minnesotan, this summer I'll be heading back to my home state of Wisconsin. Come fall, I'll be

moving down to Madison where I will start the Doctor of Pharmacy program at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. I'm still hopeful that someday I might be able to use my math and statistics background to do clinical testing or other research in the pharmaceutical sciences.

**Tony Hoff (Math):** I will be working anywhere that will hire me while applying for med school admission for the fall of 2008.

Jeffrey Hyman (Math): After graduation I am moving to the north woods to be a rock climbing guide and live off the land. Once I establish myself in the international Bear Boxing league, I will move to Portland, Oregon next fall and use my liberal arts education to make successful people espresso drinks. After that I hope to be a ski bum and/or live in

Yosemite valley as a climbing bum. Maybe one day I'll go to grad school in something.

**Aaron Johansen** (Math): Next year I'm working for Mayo Clinic in Rochester as a Medical Imaging Analyst. The following year I will attend law school.

Wendy Kelly (Math, Statistics): After graduation, I'll be returning to work as an associate accountant at CB Richard Ellis, a commercial real estate company. Within 6 months to a year, I'm hoping to transfer to one of their international offices either in Spain or Ireland. My ultimate goal would be to work as a statistician for the NHL, but we'll see how that goes!

Kathleen **Kephart** (Math, **Statistics**): Immediately following graduation I am going to chill with my new puppy, Ella, and learn to watercolor. In the fall I will be attending graduate school in Survey Research and Methodology. But in the spring of 2009 I will be amusing French speakers the world over with my atrocious French when I finish my degree at the Catholic University of Brussels. After that I plan to sell drugs in the US and abroad for pharmaceutical companies, but ultimately I hope to become a political consultant.

**Tom Kukla (Math, Statistics):** I will be working at Thrivent Financial in Minneapolis as an actuary. I don't have a place to live yet, but at least I have a job. While there I will spend the summer with my two girlfriends, Mikayla and Kelly, running around the lakes and attending Twins games. Go Twins!

**Benjamin Landsteiner (Math, CS):** I will be attending graduate school at the University of Minnesota for Computer Science starting in the Fall of 2007. Meanwhile, I will refuse to

acknowledge the existence of my alleged accrued student loans.

## Jake Leibold (Math):

Haikus of the de jour;

math econ majors should be easy to get job I don't have one yet

Minneapolis
right back to the big city
I have to cook now?

Prove: a equals b but a does not equal b proved, as desired

what is going on? 18 years of edu'tion no more learnin now

**Jaclyn Loftsgaarden (Math, Math Ed.):** I will be teaching 6th-8th grade math at New Prague Middle School as well as coaching 7th grade girls' basketball.

**Jake Mahler (Math):** After I leave the hill I intend on marrying into a wealthy royal family and spending my days on a boat trying to prove the total coloring conjecture for all graphs...while training seals to form fractal images.

Anne Malaktaris (Statistics): I'm moving to St. Paul and working as a Program Coordinator for REM Ramsey. Basically, I'm managing a group home with residents who are mentally disabled.

Erin Manlove (Math): My plan for next year is to run my first marathon. In my spare time, I'll be learning how to cook and starting the math grad program at the University of Minnesota.

Elizabeth Manning (Math): The next two years I will be attending the University of Minnesota (Twin Cities). I will be completing an undergraduate dual degree in Civil Engineering. During which I plan to get an internship and hopefully start working in the field.

Jennifer Marsh (Math): After graduation, I'll spend two months in Narnia (aka Holden Village volunteering with kids) before starting my finance job with General Mills. Sadly, I may never get to do real math again, but I will continue to faithfully celebrate Pi day...

Mikayla Meyer (Math): After graduation I will be moving to Minneapolis and becoming a "real adult" working for Target Corporation in Technology Services. While there I will attempt to survive without my second half and hope to find a masters swimming program and join softball and kickball leagues to stay young.

**Ben McDonald (Math):** With my degrees in Physics and Mathematics from St. Olaf, I will enter the University of Minnesota's graduate program in Mechanical Engineering this fall.

**James Morrison (Math):** I will be starting a biomedical research PhD program at the Mayo Graduate School in Rochester, MN next year in virology and gene therapy.

Matt Moynihan (Math): I just can't get enough of that math and thus I will be attending graduate school in mathematics at Brandeis

University in Massachusetts. After five short years, I should graduate with a Ph.D. in mathematics and will hopefully become a professor. That, at least, is the plan for now.

**Kelly Nail (Math):** This upcoming year, I will be teaching secondary school biology in the

rural Mississippi Delta, while earning a Master's Degree in education. After that, I will probably go on for my PhD in biology. I want to thank all of the great math teachers I've had here at St. Olaf for everything they've done for me!

Joey Paulsen (Math): I will be entering the graduate program in physics at the University of Chicago, deferring both my student loans and my entry into mainstream society. I'll see how long I can remain a student and when that runs out I might try to stay in academia as a professor.

**Andrew Petz** (**Math**): I will venture from Rolvaag for the first time in four years to be an investment banking analyst at Piper Jaffray in Minneapolis, MN.

**Reid Price** (Math, CS): After I graduate this spring I will be leaving St. Olaf behind to ... do Global Semester through St. Olaf. After that I plan on working as a programmer during the spring and heading off to Math (perhaps CS) grad school the following fall.

Tyson Reed (Math): After college, I plan on becoming an element in the set of countably infinite mathematics majors who don't know what they're going to do immediately after college. One day, I hope to be integrated by parts of society, learn how to differentiate between what is real and imaginary, and just have plane fun. As the limit of my bank account approaches zero, I will be required either to enter the working force or to attend graduate school. In the meantime, I will work as a Park Ranger Technician at Sand Harbor, Lake Tahoe.

**Julia Rood (Math):** I'll be straying away from math (and the Midwest) for a bit to research HIV at the National Institutes of Health in

Bethesda, MD. After that, I'm planning to study immunology or virology in grad school.

Christina Sampson (Math): I will be teaching English to kindergarden students and kids ages 7-10 for 4 weeks in Beijing, China and then I head to San Francisco where I will be teaching math in an intense tuition free summer school program called Aim High. I will be the 7th mathematics teacher for underprivalaged students in the city of San Francisco until the beginning of August. After that I will be coming back to the states to student teach at probably a middle school in Eagan where I will also be an assistant varisty basketball coach. After student teaching my options are open to subbing in the states or possibly traveling back over seas to teach in another foreign country.

Mike Soma (Math, Statistics): I will be going to grad school at the U of M in statistics. I realized that I truly was a nerd when I brought my ECR card from the brats, beans, and baseball talk to a Twins playoff game so I knew the expected number of runs we should score in each situation.

**Hoang Ton (Math):** I will be attending the Humphrey Institute at the U of M to work on the Master of Urban and Regional Planning Program.

**Paul Tveite** (Math): I'll be going to grad school to work on a PhD next year at Boston University. I'm not sure what specific area I'll be going into, but after grad school I plan on becoming a professor.

**David Vock (Math, Statistics):** Next year I will be attending graduate school at North Carolina State University in Raleigh where I hope to educate the area on the finer points of a Chicago-style hot dog and on my newly adopted Minesooooota accent. I'm also

planning on taking a few classes and getting a PhD in statistics along the way.

**Brooke Walper (Math, Math Ed.):** I will be teaching Geometry and Advanced Algebra at Glenbrook North High School in Northbrook, Illinois.

**Greg Wolken (Math):** I'll be entering the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in the fall to pursue a Ph.D. in Chemistry. I'll be doing research in analytical or inorganic chemistry. After that, maybe I'll do research in industry or be a professor. I'm also getting married this summer!

Heather Wood (Math): With my new mathematics degree I'll be going to graduate school for a Master's in harp performance. (That made more sense in my head than on paper.) I hope to become a professional harpist and spend my time performing and teaching students.

We didn't hear from these seniors, but we wish them all well: Laurie Bardenwerper (Statistics), Adrienne Boeder (Math), Eric Busse (Math), Brian DeLaitsch (Math), Lori Donovan (Math), Heather Evjen (Math, Math Ed.), Chris Feehan (Math, CS), Daniel Gregory (Math), Matthias Hunt (Math), Elizabeth Jensen (CS), Bethany Johnson (Math), Tyler Johnson (Math), William Laxen (Math), Vanessa Lee (Math, Math Ed.), Megan Meier (Math, Math Ed.), Trese Overacker (Math), Elizabeth Quin (Statistics). Tim Skuran (Statistics). Winthrop Smith (Math). **Ben Tucker** (Statistics)

A final salute...

...from an appreciative faculty. Thanks for all of your hard work, inquisitiveness, and enthusiasm. We think St. Olaf MSCS students are second-to-none, and being able to work with you makes our jobs so rewarding. Best of luck in your future endeavors, and keep in touch!

- Rich Allen, Peder Bolstad, Donna Brakke, Dick Brown, Judy Cederberg, Cliff Corzatt, Jill Dietz, Tina Garrett, Olaf Hall-Holt, Bruce Hanson, Mike Huberty, Paul Humke, Christine Kohnen, Josh Laison, Julie Legler, Urmila Malvadkar, Steve McKelvey, Arnie Ostebee, Matt Richey, Paul Roback, Kay Smith, Martha Wallace, Paul Zorn

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