

# Math Mess

Department of Mathematics  
St. Olaf College  
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## Senior Salute!



**Luke Anderson:** Immediately after graduation, I will be backpacking through Europe. To be clear, by "backpacking," I mean "working," and by "through Europe," I mean "in the Cities." Yes, it may not sound very exotic, but I'll be starting work as a fixed income portfolio analyst at Piper Jaffray in Minneapolis. The job involves a lot of travel to Denver, CO, my hometown, so I'll be getting a bunch of free trips home to visit the family. And I'll spend all my Minnesota free time this summer either water-skiing, playing disc golf, or, you know, reciting pi. I'll see you all in "Europe"!

**Shad Bauer:** Following the grueling actuarial exam and graduation I am going to undertake a massive project. Hopefully, when it is completed this fall I will have a job as an actuary. My project is to create the worlds largest Lego Camel Soccer Field. This project will bring the end to donkey basketball and bring the due attention and respect to multicolored camels everywhere. I will be naming the field, David "J" Molnar Memorial Field, in honor of the great one himself.

**Darren Best:** Although I do not yet have a job, my plan is to teach high school math and coach football in the Twin Cities area. If that doesn't work out I want to be a professional driver for car commercials or ball boy for a major league baseball team.

**Jeff Boerner:** On June 8th I will be embarking on an epic tour of all thirty major league ballparks. Accompanying me will be my friend Mark and his trusty Hyundai. I plan to use my math skills acquired here at St. Olaf to somehow fashion a workable budget. A big highlight of our journey will be our stop in Montreal as we are throwing out the first pitch at the game. That will be quite an experience, as the Expos are known for their rich history and huge following. We know the franchise will be around for years to come. I will return July 28th to attempt to pursue gainful employment and become an active participant in the real world.

**Jamie Bown:** Next year, I plan to start working in the financial world. I will be living in a house in

Minneapolis near Lake Calhoun with 3 other Oles. This summer I plan to actually HAVE FUN (after working 3 jobs the past three summers) and spend as much time outdoors and with friends and family as I possibly can. Thank you to all my professors for everything!

**Josh Braun:** This fall I will attend the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus. I will pursue a master's degree in the Agricultural Engineering department.

**Chris Brav:** This summer Larissa Kiyashko and I are getting married. And at the end of the summer, if all goes well with immigration, Larissa and I will be moving to Kingston, Ontario, where I'll be studying mathematics at Queen's University.

**Jacob Burkman:** Next fall, I get to really try things out on the other side of the big table. I'm student teaching at Hong Kong International School, which, naturally is in Hong Kong. This will be an exciting and challenging time. I'm planning on going home after I get finished doing my student teaching, and work to preserve the speech and drama program I love by being a coach and director. Who knows, I have heard that they have some job openings for next year--maybe they'll hold one for my glorious return.

**Andie Bykerk:** This summer I'm heading home (to Omaha!) to a very low-key part-time job and bumming around. In August, I'm heading out to Durham, North Carolina for Duke's doctoral program in Statistics and Decision Sciences, focusing on statistical genetics. I plan to pick up a nice southern drawl, lose the Minnesoota "o's", and not see snow. Hopefully I'll be hanging out with Brooke Rittgers (at UNC), not wishing I'd paid more attention in ERA like Tom Waeffler, and being happy not to have joined the real world (just yet) like Nathan Hubbell. It's all a big mystery, but

should it prove to be as much fun and as out of control as Olaf, I should be all set! ☺

**Andy Carter:** My plans after the 26th are rather hazy at the moment. I do know that I will be backpacking around Europe for the 4 weeks following graduation. The skies are clear from there on out, as I have no set schedule for myself. Grad school is still a possibility, and so is a career for that matter. One thing IS for sure though, I had fun in the basement of the science center in my tenure at St. Olaf and I will miss it greatly.

**Cory Dingels:** After I graduate, I will be moving to Minneapolis where hopefully I can find a job in computer programming. If not, I will do most anything to make rent until I do find a job. I have always planned on teaching math someday, so that is an option as well.

**Tom Dow:** I am going to UCLA to study biostatistics at their school of public health.

**Dustin Elbing:** No information submitted.

**Robert Engle:** This summer I plan to enjoy not being a student for a couple months before heading out next fall for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where I will be pursuing graduate studies in computer science.

**Tom Engle:** Next year I will be moving a few hours east to study computer science at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. My current plan is to finish a Masters and then see how I still feel about higher education. What will happen beyond that only time will tell.

**Paul Ericson:** My post graduation plans begin with a wonderful 5 weeks with nothing to do but hang out and party with friends, appreciate non-cafeteria food, move into my new place in Golden Valley and get overall relaxed. Come July I will be

starting a store manager position at the Abercrombie and Fitch store at the Mall of America. Not exactly what I had in mind for a first job out of college, but the pay is good and I plan to learn a lot from it. After a year or two there it's off to grad school to get an MBA and start making my way in the business world.

**Evan Frodermann:** After graduation, I am going to take a little break...about 2 weeks. During these two weeks, I will be fishing, swimming, watching baseball games, visiting family and packing. Ok, maybe I will be just packing. I will be packing because at that time, I will begin graduate studies at Ohio State University starting in the middle of June. I am entering the Ph.D. physics program on a fellowship at OSU and plan to finish sometime in the next 4-7 years. Thanks to everyone in the Math dept, you all are terrific!

**Cathleen Gosselin:** No information submitted.

**Matt Grimsrud:** No information submitted.

**Karen Hamre:** What are my post graduation plans? Ideally I will find myself traveling around the world at someone else's expense. If that plan for some reason falls through, I will probably just get married and start a family. If interested in either, call x6396.

**Peder Hanson:** I plan to move to Shanghai, China before June 20th to teach English at the Kai En English Training Center. I'll be there for at least one year, and eventually I hope to study linguistics, language acquisition, or international relations at a graduate level.

**Peter Hanson:** No information submitted.

**Becky Houle:** I will be attending St. Scholastica in Duluth, MN for management and Native American studies in the fall of 2002.

**Nate Hubbell:** I'm going to Disney World! Seriously. But that is only one week in the rest of my life. Many other weeks in the near future I will spend in a cozy office, predicting the future with the best crystal ball to date—the desktop computer. That is, I have accepted a position at the St. Paul Companies (in St. Paul, MN, a small capital city near Chicago), as an actuarial assistant. I will endeavor to climb the mountain of 8 actuarial exams, reaching mathematical enlightenment, statistical perfection, and economic brilliance before the time I retire. I also plan to retire next year.

**Kathryn Jensen:** Shortly after graduation I will be returning to Tucson, AZ. I don't have a job, but luckily my parents will let me stay there for the summer. Next fall I will be attending Iowa State University's graduate program in Statistics. I hope to get my master's degree and then move to NY for a few years.

**Emily Kaspar:** After graduation, I will be deciding what I want to do with my life, whether it be teaching, health care, or becoming a professional TV watcher. In December, I will be getting married. Oh, and I'll be playing with my cat, Ernie, too.

**Zackary Kent:** I am going to medical school in Washington, D.C., on an Air Force scholarship.

**Gabe Kortuem:** I will be teaching secondary school somewhere in Minnesota close to Northfield where I will be living. I will also be coaching diving/swimming somewhere. I will also continue to build things (construction) because I like to. I am currently unemployed or self-employed if you count my construction projects on the side.

**Richard Kurhajetz:** No information submitted.

**Jon Larson:** No information submitted.

**Ryan Lussenden:** Undecided.

**Ed Magnuson:** I will be moving to Nepal where I will continue the work of my late grandfather. There, with nothing more than a compass and his fine set of trail maps, I will try to capture that elusive Yeti. Once this is accomplished I will use my math skills to create some fun and interactive Yeti connect-the-dots books for people of all ages. These books, while helping to develop their counting skills, will also help to foster and promote their understanding of the Yeti's rich and diverse culture.

**Jill Mattson:** I will be attending Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine to pursue a career in rural family practice and primary care. Following my four years at KCOM, I hope to return to Minnesota and establish/join a clinic run by general practitioners.

**Nathan Meunier:** No information submitted.

**Toyia Mills:** I will be taking a year off to work part time and take background courses for graduate school. I am planning to go grad school for international economic policy and development. Hopefully, after graduate school I will work for the US embassy overseas.

**David Olson:** It seems like it was just yesterday that I stepped into professor Hanson's calculus class, and now I find myself writing about my plans after graduation. Where has the time gone? Immediately after graduation I will be taking a trip to Florida as a reward for all of my hard work (hopefully spring will have sprung in Florida by that time). During the month of June, I will be completing some research for professor Miessler in the Chemistry department. When this is done, I

plan on enjoying my last month of freedom and getting ready for graduate school. Finally, in August I will be moving down to Iowa, where I will pursue my PhD in Chemistry at Iowa State University.

**John Palmer:** As this goes to print I'm waiting to hear if I've landed a sales job with Fisher Investments, a money-management firm located in Woodside, California, just south of San Francisco. Assuming that I receive a job offer (cross your fingers), I plan on moving out there in mid-June and starting work July 1st. I would be working with their private client group. I plan on gaining some work experience before going back to school to get a M.B.A, a J.D., or both. If I do not get an offer, I will most likely stay in the Twin-Cities for a year working some crummy job and then head to law school next fall.

**Satyam Panday:** I will be working for Upward Bound this summer. After that, I have two choices—hunt down an American girl who is willing to marry me so that I can extend my stay here *or* go to Thailand to teach math in an "elementary school" (I think I can handle basic math). Only time will tell!

**Pete Pearson:** No information submitted.

**Lynne Peeples:** After graduation, I will be heading back home to Seattle for a couple months of relaxation and non-thinking. This will likely include a week or so of lying on a beach in California, hiking in the mountains, cheering on the Mariners, and possibly a little waitressing on the side to help fund these endeavors (not to mention Boston rent). In August, I will be moving out to Boston to begin the Biostatistics doctorate program at Harvard School of Public Health. When I'm not busy doing stats, I hope to do lots of running on the Charles River (perhaps train for the

Boston Marathon), explore the East Coast, and try very hard not to pick up a funny accent.

**Debby Pressnall:** After graduation, I will definitely be using my math skills on a daily basis, working as an actuarial analyst for Watson Wyatt Worldwide in Edina, MN starting June 3rd. I will be moving to Bloomington, MN around the same time, but it's not a really big move since I'm from Farmington. I am also planning on taking my first actuarial exam this May and then another this coming fall.

**Brooke Rittgers:** I'm excited to spend the summer in the sun, teaching swimming lessons and coaching the swim team at Rolling Green Country Club near Plymouth. This fall I'll be attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to study biostatistics.

**Kyle Rudser (RudZ):** There are several things in my plans for after graduation, and several more I wish were. One of these is to attend the University of Washington next year as a graduate student in biostatistics. Before I break free of the Midwest (and specifically Northfield), the plan for summer (under the advice of Dr. Kahn) is to do whatever I want, whenever I want. However, a majority of this time will be spent working with Gabe Kortuem, a physics and math department regular, doing construction, and visiting various places and people in Wisconsin. I will also be taking part in an "upgrade" for Humke's office by donating a certain extremely comfortable pleather couch. Now going in for discussion during office hours will be slightly more appealing for students in his classes.

**Becky Rutka:** After graduation I will be using my math major to the extreme. This summer I am working at Inspiration Point Bible Camp as an assistant cook. In the fall I hope to be volunteering

for Lutheran Volunteer Corps, although I am still in the process of interviewing with agencies.

**Sam Schutz:** Before I go and get a job, I plan on taking this summer off while I stalk Bud Selig. I will try to convince him that the Twins should stay using my mathematics knowledge (I'm sure Erdős or Sperner had something to say on the subject). But if that doesn't work I will resort to using force, my weapon of choice being a Louisville Slugger Albert Belle signature edition.

The end of summer will bring two possibilities. I will either be working a chemistry research position or I will be serving 5 to 10 for assault and battery.

**Nick Shaw:** The next few months I will be recording in the studio with my band 'Made in Suburbia,' after which we will be touring in support of the new EP. Look for us at such venues as Tom Waeffler's Cabin. After a hard summer of touring, I will be researching theoretical organic chemistry, with my fellowship, at Clemson University. While at Clemson, I will finally stop talking about being a minority, play a lot of ultimate frisbee, and pursue my Ph.D. The whole time wondering why I didn't major in english, \*As Desired.

**Jill Slater:** As of right now my future plans are not 100% concrete. On June 1<sup>st</sup> I will be moving to St Louis Park and pursuing a job in finance or marketing. More than likely I will be working for an insurance and investment company doing financial planning or accounting. In the distant future I would like to work for a large corporation doing marketing or advertising.

**Beth Speich:** This summer I will be working at Luther Point Bible Camp in Grantsburg, WI. In the fall I will start with Lutheran Volunteer Corps. I will be working in Minneapolis at the MN Council of Churches in their Refugee Services

Program as a Case Manager and as an Employment counselor for refugees. I will be living in Minneapolis with other LVC volunteers and will be taking up any offers to be taken out to lunch (since I will be living on a volunteer's budget) ☺

**Aubrey Spilde:** After doing something somewhere in the Midwest for the summer, I will move to southern Massachusetts to spend the year as an AmeriCorps VISTA.

**Karen Stennes:** I am heading off to be an Assistant Program Director at Luther Park Bible Camp on May 30. I plan on photographing all of the fractals present in nature! At the end of the summer I am moving into a new house with my parents. I have no idea what I will be doing. I may actually buckle down and work towards a PhD in Economics. Or I may pack up my things and head to the East Coast where I would be working at the Census Bureau as a Statistician. I also plan to fondly remember my years here on the Hill!

**Soren Strom-Jenson:** No information submitted.

**Andrew Tedford:** I will be student teaching at Hopkins West Junior High this fall in hopes of finding a job come January. Oh, and this summer I'll be waiting tables at Nora's Restaurant in uptown Minneapolis; come on by and we'll chat.

**Tom Waeffler:** This summer I will be in northern Wisconsin doing nothing except fishing, reminiscing about geometry with Darren Best and John Palmer, and occasionally playing softball with the locals while supporting the local bar. In late August I will resume being responsible: I will be living in St. Paul with two non-math majors (disgusting, isn't it?) and student teaching at South High in Minneapolis. Since neither my roommates nor I will have any money, I plan to mooch off of Mike

Eliason and Grant Riewe until I begin teaching full-time. All this time I will be thinking of Nick Shaw, Andie Bykerk, Lynne Peeples, and Nate Hubbell and how each of them will be making as much in one minute of their work as I will make in three weeks of mine.

**Eric Weinhandl:** After driving just 14 miles from home to attend Saint Olaf, I have decided to see the world. So, I'm moving to Apple Valley, a whopping 32 miles from Cannon Falls! In June, I will join Nephrology Analytical Services, a biostatistical firm that specializes in the analysis of Americans suffering kidney failure. Also, in September, I will enter the M.S. program in biostatistics at the University of Minnesota. In the meantime, I will continue my quest to collect every country music album that has ever been issued!

**Sean Wesche:** No information submitted.

**Craig Williams:** I will work on my master's degree in physics at the University of Chicago starting this fall. In my spare time I will watch old episodes of Star Trek: The Next Generation.

**Erik Wilterding:** No information submitted.

**Annelisa Zander:** No information submitted.

**Alexia Zarling:** No information submitted.

Good Luck To All Our Graduates!

Best regards from the Math Department

Rich Allen	Peder Bolstad
Donna Brakke	Dick Brown
Judy Cederberg	Cliff Corzatt
Jill Dietz	Gerry Ericksen
Doreen Hamilton	Bruce Hanson
Paul Humke	Mike Kahn
Julie Legler	Steve McKelvey
David Molnar	Arnie Ostebee

Matt Richey  
Ted Vessey  
Paul Zorn

Kay Smith  
Martha Wallace