Seniors On The Move

In a few short weeks our seniors will be moving on to the next chapters of their lives, and we thought you'd like to know a little bit about their plans.

Brooke Bergeron has one more term of classes and soccer at Alma and will finish in December.

Zach Cresswell will be looking for a math or government teaching position in the area.

Jacob Dayringer is applying for hall director jobs in Michigan. He plans to get a masters in student administration.

Brian Hassevoort is headed to Ball State University to pursue a master's degree in Information and Communication Science.

Danny Hearit has accepted a job as a Java based web application developer at Auto-Owners Insurance. He's getting married on June 10th.

Dan Krauss begins in May at Auto-Owners Insurance as an Associate Software Developer.

Ian Kurth will be student teaching in the fall, then he'll look for a math teaching position.

Heath Laugal will be taking some extra classes this summer; he'll then apply to pharmacy schools in the fall.

Jonathan Morley has a job at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange starting on May 9th.

Chris Przybylski has an internship this summer at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Then he'll return to campus this fall to finish his computer science major.

Ryan Spitler will start working as an Associate Software Developer at Auto-Owners Insurance in June. He is also getting married this summer.

Jamie Young will be student teaching and coaching football at Shepherd High School in the fall. After that, he'll look for a job.

The faculty in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science wish you well.

Summer R.E.U. Participants

Please congratulate *Bob Bixler, Chad Stripling, Garrett Rodriguez, and Chris Welcher*. All four will be participating in REU programs this summer.

Bob Bixler will be studying applied intelligent systems at the University of Texas El Paso.

Chad Stripling will be testing the strengths of metal alloys at the Cornell Center for Material Research.

Garrett Rodriguez will be at the University of Michigan participating in a physics REU.

Chris Welcher will be participating in a computer science REU.

Jamie Young is Barlow Winner!

Please take a moment to congratulate *Jamie Young* on receiving the 2011 Barlow award.

CONGRATULATIONS
Jamie Young

April is Math Awareness Month

Did you know that April is Mathematics Awareness Month? This is no April fools joke. Every year, The Joint Policy Board for Mathematics sponsors Mathematics Awareness Month, recognizing the importance of mathematics. They publish materials that feature mathematical applications, breakthroughs, discoveries, and developments in certain locations. Each year is given a different theme. This year's theme is "Unraveling Complex Systems." You can find the poster for this year's theme at: http://www.mathaware.org/mam/2011/poster/8x11.pdf It describes a complex system to be anything from power grids and transportation systems to financial markets and even the Internet. Using statistics is a great tool for understanding complex systems and improving them. Also, mathematical models often uncover common behavior in what seems to be spontaneous organization, such as schools of fish or flocks of birds. *Stephen Sorensen*

Poster Session for Math 223 - April 22nd

You are invited to the Math 223 poster session held on **Friday, April 22nd**, from 9 to 11 on the first floor of SAC. The students have investigated a variety of famous theorems and problems in mathematics and will be displaying their work on posters. Come and see their work and enjoy some refreshments.
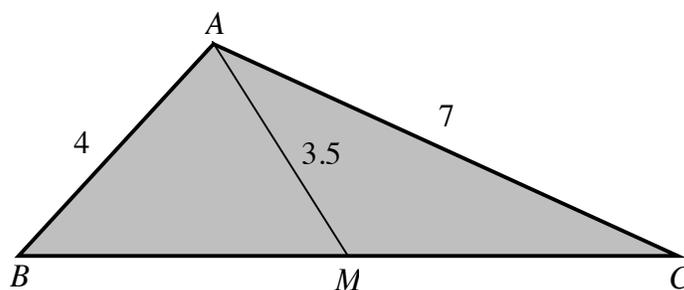
Taking a Summer Course?

If you're thinking about taking a mathematics or computer science course this summer, then be sure to complete the *Approval Form for Transfer of Credit* before leaving campus. To guarantee that the course you'll be taking back home will transfer back to Alma, you'll need Dr. Molina's signature. Don't wait to the last minute to take care of things.

Juniors: Consider doing a Senior Thesis

If you're a junior, now is the time to think about receiving honors in the department, which means doing a senior thesis. Talk to any professor in the department for more information.

Solution to the Problem of the Bi-Week

The sides *AB* and *AC* of triangle *ABC* have lengths of 4 inches and 7 inches, respectively. The median *AM* is 3.5 inches. What is the *exact* length of side *BC*?

Using the Law of Cosines, both **Alex Hegedus** and **Ben Brow** correctly solved the problem, finding $BC = 9$.

Student assistants:	Matt Mansell = M^2
	Stephen Sorensen = S^2
Distribution:	Deb Smith
Faculty advisor:	Tim Sipka

If you would like to submit an announcement or a short article, please send it via e-mail to Stephen Sorensen or Tim Sipka.