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April Meeting of Rocky Mountain Section

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## APRIL MEETING OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN SECTION

The 61st Annual Meeting of the Rocky Mountain Section of the MAA was held April 28-29, 1978 at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Chairman Vern Nelson, Metropolitan State College, presiding. There were 81 in attendance, including Professor Henry Alder, President of the MAA, Professor Erdős, and Professor Forest Fisch, Section Governor.

Dr. Alder presented the banquet address *Prime Generating Functions and Congruences* and an address on *Recommendations for the Preparation of High School Students for College Mathematics Courses*. Professor Erdős presented *Unconventional Problems in Number Theory and Problems on Consecutive Integers*.

There were two panel discussions:

*Ways to Encourage More Women to take Mathematics Courses*, Professor Ruth Struik, moderator; Professor B. Gimmedstad, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; Professor J. Hodges, Colorado U; Ms. Ann Pape, Denver.

*Employment Problems of the Undergraduate B.A. and B.S. in Mathematics*, Professor Dale Rognlie, moderator; Professor V. Nelson, Metro State; Professor D. Elliott, UNC; Professor A. Magnus, CSU; Professor David Ballew, SDSM&T.

The following papers were contributed:

*The Approximation of  $\pi$* , Professor Arne Magnus, CSU.

*Some Matrix Models in Accounting and Finance and some Exponential and Logarithmic Models in Economics*, Professor C. G. Mendez, Metro State.

*A Lemma Useful in Multivariate Analysis*, Professor Hung C. Li, USC.

*When are  $a^2 + b^2$  and  $a^2 + (b-na)^2$  Perfect Squares*, Professor Gerald E. Bergum, SDSU.

*The Probability of a Number Being Prime*, Professor David Ballew, SDSM&T.

*A Problem Concerning Polygons in Networks*, Professor B. Jones, CU.

*Mathematics Competition for High School Students*, Professor D. W. Hardy, CSU.

*Avoiding Variation of Parameters*, Professor Roger Opp, SDSM&T.

*Geometrical Modification of Continued Fractions*, Professor John Gill, USC.

*Color Symmetry and Group Theory*, Professor R. L. Roth, CU.

*A Geometrical Problem in Graph Theory*, Professor Laurel Rogers, CU at Colorado Springs.

*Boundary Value Problem at Resonance*, Professor M. Martelli, CU (University of Florence).

*Hand Held Calculator Supplement for Calculus Courses*, Professor Lewis Huff, CSU.

In addition to the above papers and addresses, exhibits were presented by the MAA, The Association for Women in Mathematics, Worth Publishers, Inc.

The business meeting was convened on Saturday, April 29 by Professor Nelson who presided. Thirty-five members attended. New officers for 1978-79: Professor John Hodges, University of Colorado, Chairman; Professor Laurel Rogers, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Chairman Elect; Professor Allan Skillman, Casper College, Vice Chairman; Professor David Ballew, Secretary-Treasurer; Professor David Hector, Denver University, Program Chairman. Professor Duan Porter has been elected Governor of the Section.

It was noted that Professor Clarence Swanson had passed away. Professor Swanson has been a long-time member of the Section and had served as Chairman. Professor George Donovan of Metropolitan State was formally recognized for his long service as Chairman of the High School Lectureship Program. Professor Ballew reported on prospective by-law changes to increase registration fees at the meetings. Professor Forest Fisch gave the Governor's report and discussed the proposed new building for MAA headquarters. Christopher Bretherton of the University of Colorado was given a membership in MAA for his high placement on the Putnam examination.

The 1979 meeting will be in April at the University of Denver; the 1980 meeting will be March 29-30 at the University of Colorado.

David Ballew, *Secretary-Treasurer*

## NEW JERSEY SECTION MEETING

The New Jersey Section of Mathematical Association of America held its annual spring meeting in cooperation with AMTNJ (Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey) on Saturday, April 29, 1978 at Steinert High School, Trenton, New Jersey.

During the two morning sessions of the conference, attendees could choose among six simultaneous presentations. Professor Anneli Lax of Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences spoke on *Linear Transformations and Function Theory*. MAA-sponsored short student talks were given by Mark Kleiman, winner of the International Mathematics Olympiad (*Generating Functions*); Brian Farrell, St. Peter's College (*A Model for Pedestrian Crossing*); Jose Fernandez, St. Peter's College (*A Model for Music Theory*); Betsey Taylor, Douglass College (*Surfaces of Crystals*); and Erick Schweber, Monmouth College (*Maxwell Functions*).

The afternoon session was a panel discussion inspired by the MAA publication *Recommendations for the Preparation of High School Students for College Mathematics Courses*. The panel was moderated by Section Chairman, B. Melvin Kiernan, and included Daniel Flegler, Waldwick High School; Dr. John K. Reckzeh, Jersey City State College; and Dr. Francis T. Rush, St. Peter's College. A lively discussion among MAA and AMTNJ members followed. Slides of the new national headquarters for MAA in Washington were shown, and the advantages of the purchase were discussed.

The November meeting of the New Jersey Section will take place on November 4, 1978 at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, New Jersey.

Jean Lane, *Secretary*