

Tears of Mathematical Joy

By: Laurie L. Lacey

There once was a calculus student
 who thought that he would be prudent.
He'd ask the great Oracle, Maple, to show what he did not
know.
So to the computer he went with only the best of intent...
With logical deductive skill and a boatload of sheer
mathematical will,
 the student begged and cajoled,
 'till lo and behold, Maple gave up the gold.
At this the student began to wail, for this was the end of
a happy tale –
 For Maple, you see, will not show
 more than the student can know.
 And it was not Maple who earned the
 gold for it does only exactly as told.