



# Delta-k

Volume XIII, Number 1, December 1973

## News to You?

### MATHEMATICS KITS

Due to the popularity of the two mathematics kits over the past two years, the executive of the Mathematics Council decided to expand the kit idea. Three separate kits will be compiled: one containing elementary materials, another junior high, and the third, senior high. If you have ideas for commercial or student materials that would be of value to circulate to our members, please write to Stu McCormick, 6428 - 84 Street, Edmonton, Alberta.

Another monograph will definitely be coming to members in the new year. One is in the beginning stages of production at Barnett House. Edited by Dr. Bruce Harrison, it deals mainly with mathematics activities. The second possibility contains the general interest sections as well as the general session addresses of the Math Council/National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference. Remember that the monographs are available to all Math Council members, and to new members who join before publication.

### ANNUAL MEETING 1974

Our next meeting is already in the discussion stage. We have tentative dates of October 4-5, 1974. Our program is open to all suggestions you may want to make. Themes already mentioned are "Teaching of Application of Mathematics to Real Situations" and "Teaching Metric Measurements". What is your particular need that could be used to make our meeting more attractive and valuable to you? What contribution would you like to make? Send your answers to these questions to Dennis Beaudoin, Rockyford, Alberta.

### REGIONAL NEWS

The North Central Regional presented a list of their new executive to the directors at their recent meeting. Congratulations on acceptance of the responsibilities. We trust we will be able to present news of your 1973-74 plans and activities.

Other regionals may be activated and/or originated with the Math Council

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giving counselling and financial assistance upon request to any member of the council executive as listed in each *Delta-K*. We will help obtain speakers for your meetings. (If you have need for resource personnel for any activity involving mathematics, we will assist whether you are a regional or a single school wanting to improve your knowledge and teaching ability in a problem area.)

### FORMAT

This issue has been put together by a new editor utilizing a new philosophy as to what a newsletter should contain and what it should present to the membership. Is this better suited to your needs and desires? How would you change the format to better meet your needs? This publication is only as good as its usability. It costs all of us a portion of our membership dues and must justify the expense and time involved. Your editor can only make improvements as you react. Letters to the editor are solicited and will be published when the topic is addressed to all math teachers and used as a guideline for changes in publication where indicated and feasible. Manuscripts are desirable when you have a strong pertinent message that requires more than a letter for proper presentation. Long manuscripts will be considered for monographs. You have your chance to publish, and if you don't take it, others will.

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# NCTM Conference Report

*J. F. Woloshchuk*  
Mathematics Department Head  
Dr. E. P. Scarlett High School  
Calgary

## I. What is important in preparatory mathematics for university?

Jack Macki,  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton.

Entering students are faced with problems, such as:

- lack of good study habits,
- pace of programs, especially the beginning lectures,
- lack of supervision (often) of homework,
- required appointments for meetings with lectures,
- testing procedures: work for solutions must be shown,
- social and cultural shock,
- resistance by students to using proofs,
- student literacy, reasoning.