It Came, It Went, What Was The Event?

Hickory Dickory Dock,
the year 2000 was on the clock.
The calendar had to switch,
there was no computer glitch,
because the programmers had already rocked.

NCC FACTS

• Largest undergraduate college in the state
• Enrollment exceeding 20,000
• Over 70 academic and certificate programs
• Nearly seventy percent transfer rate
• Two-math course requirement
How Our Collaboration Began

- College-Wide Curriculum Committee
- Information Literacy Requirements
- Databases vs “Trolling the Stacks”
- The IDEA

Goals of the Collaboration

- Place The Subject Matter In A Human Context
- Reinforce Skills Needed For Other Courses
- Provide A Venue For Information Literacy Instruction
- Embed Web 2.0 Technologies

Not Too Hard, But Not About Cards

This game of 21 was not in the cards for Van Doren, whose lying was a disservice to all in education.
The Millennial Student*

- No life without the Internet
- Social, experiential learner
- Constantly connected
- Digitally comfortable though not always technically competent
- Demands immediacy

* Diana Oblinger, V.P. Educause

Using Blogs And Wikis

Extends the contact zone- librarian becomes part of the virtual classroom community

Another Clue, Ready For You

Herr Dumpty sat on a dividing wall.
It was not Humpty Dumpty who had the great fall.
Boolean Logic and Database Searching

Math Meets Information Literacy

Using the database demonstrated in class, answer the following questions.

\( d = \text{"death penalty"}, \ c = \text{"capital punishment"} \)

\( n = \text{"New York State"} \)

Search for:

- \( n \land (d \lor c) \)
- \( (n \land d) \lor c \)
- \( n \land d \lor c \)
- \( (n \land d) \lor (n \land c) \)

You must record the number of hits and exactly what you entered as your search criteria.

Which searches yield the same results and why?

Student Results And Conclusions

New York State and (death penalty or capital punishment) - 421

(New York State and death penalty) or capital punishment - 5, 539

New York State and death penalty or capital punishment - 5, 539

(New York State and death penalty) or (New York State and capital punishment) - 421

Mathematical Logic

B & C yield the same results because of the associative law and A & D have the same results because of the distributive law.
Verbal Problem Assignment

Some scientists believe that the build up of greenhouse gasses will contribute to global warming. Another theory suggests that the build-up of greenhouse gasses will trigger an ice age.

Student Answer

- $g =$ "greenhouse gases", $i =$ "ice age", $w =$ "global warming"
- "greenhouse gases" and ("ice age" or "global warming") = **526 hits in Infotrac**
- $g \land (i \lor w)$

One More Clue Comes Into View

I have a sinking feeling Leonardo DiCaprio didn't see this big hit.
Gaming With The Historical New York Times

RULES OF THE GAME: Part 1

- Find the story corresponding to your clue.
- List initial search you used in the NY Times. Report any filtering choices (such as Date Range) in your search.
- Write a search containing only literal strings, ANDs, ORs and NOTs that will cause the article to appear first in the search string. Report any filtering settings.
- Modify and paste MLA citation of your article.

Student Wiki Page
Number One on the Hit List

- We googled “Eagle Has Landed” for the date.
- We entered Eagle Has Landed and Voice from the Moon in the database.
- We included the date, July 21, 1969
- We selected Front Page as document type.

RULES OF THE GAME: Part 2

- Locate an interesting or funny advertisement from your paper.
- Modify and paste the citation for the ad on your page.
- Review the advertisements of all other teams.
- Using the comment feature on the Wiki, vote for the funniest, and/or most interesting ad and why.
- Winner is the team that gets most votes.

“Ads of the Times Votes”

- I liked this advertisement because now if someone had a coyote fur coat, animal rights people would be outraged.

- The most interesting ad was the one on page 3. Its irony is no one should smoke, let alone doctors and yet the ad says "More Doctors Smoke Camel".
And The Winner Is.....

Student Assessment Survey

Scale 1=not  2=most likely not  3=probably  4=definitely

The Game
- Will help me do research in other courses = 3.3
- Was interesting = 3.2
- Was difficult = 2.3

Connecting Databases and Boolean Logic/Set Theory
- Will help me do research in other courses = 3.5
- Added to my overall knowledge of course material = 3.1

Future Considerations for the Project
- Slightly more explanation of the database.
- Slightly more explanation on use of the Wiki
- Would recommend doing this again

Assessment: Student Comments

- Fun and definitely useful in other courses
- Gave me a good understanding of Boolean Algebra in a way that kept my attention
- A good change from the regular course material
- Learned more about databases which will help me with other classes
- Interesting but quick; would be better for a full semester course
Moving To The Next Level

- Virtual Treasure Hunt
- All Clues Must Be Found to Identify Common Thread
- Programmed By Two Students in Computer Science Independent Study
- Prototype For Other Second Life Scenarios

A Mathematics/Library Connection?

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

- Check Out Our Wiki
  paperwiki.pbwiki.com
- Contact Us
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  spiegem@ncc.edu