



This computer game is cool, man.



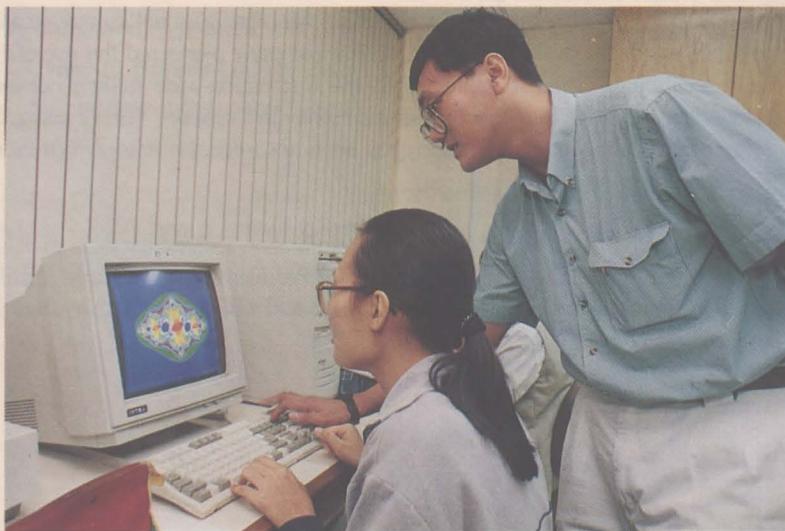
I must solve this puzzle before I go home today.

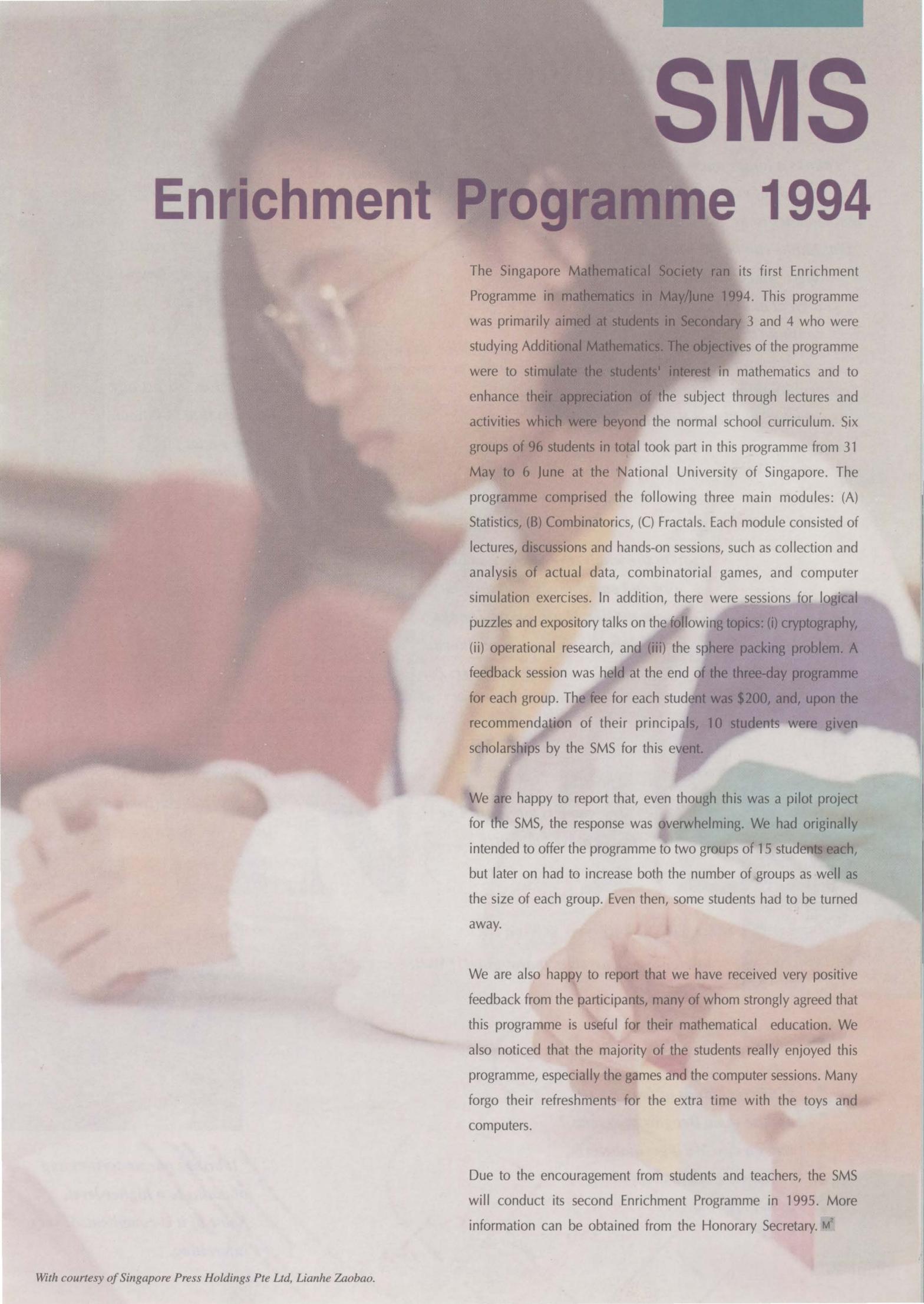


Analyzing the intricacies of Rubik's cube with instructor Dr. Chan Onn

“ . . . many of whom strongly agreed that this programme is useful for their mathematical education. We also noticed that the majority of the students really enjoyed this programme, especially the games and the computer sessions. Many forgo their refreshments for the extra time with the toys and computers. ”

Appreciating the beauty of fractals with instructor Dr. Tan Eng Chye





SMS

Enrichment Programme 1994

The Singapore Mathematical Society ran its first Enrichment Programme in mathematics in May/June 1994. This programme was primarily aimed at students in Secondary 3 and 4 who were studying Additional Mathematics. The objectives of the programme were to stimulate the students' interest in mathematics and to enhance their appreciation of the subject through lectures and activities which were beyond the normal school curriculum. Six groups of 96 students in total took part in this programme from 31 May to 6 June at the National University of Singapore. The programme comprised the following three main modules: (A) Statistics, (B) Combinatorics, (C) Fractals. Each module consisted of lectures, discussions and hands-on sessions, such as collection and analysis of actual data, combinatorial games, and computer simulation exercises. In addition, there were sessions for logical puzzles and expository talks on the following topics: (i) cryptography, (ii) operational research, and (iii) the sphere packing problem. A feedback session was held at the end of the three-day programme for each group. The fee for each student was \$200, and, upon the recommendation of their principals, 10 students were given scholarships by the SMS for this event.

We are happy to report that, even though this was a pilot project for the SMS, the response was overwhelming. We had originally intended to offer the programme to two groups of 15 students each, but later on had to increase both the number of groups as well as the size of each group. Even then, some students had to be turned away.

We are also happy to report that we have received very positive feedback from the participants, many of whom strongly agreed that this programme is useful for their mathematical education. We also noticed that the majority of the students really enjoyed this programme, especially the games and the computer sessions. Many forgo their refreshments for the extra time with the toys and computers.

Due to the encouragement from students and teachers, the SMS will conduct its second Enrichment Programme in 1995. More information can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary. 

SMS Enrichment Programme 1994

"Thanks a lot for opening the door of very interesting mathematics to us. Never knew that Maths can be such a rich subject. Sincerely hope that you great and cute guys will continue to do such noble things, and break the conventional image of boring mathematics. Please Keep it up!"



"I am looking forward to another such course next year."



"Tea is good. I wasn't hungry during lunch! It is good to let us experiment with the things and come to a conclusion. We usually don't do that in school. Thanks a lot for everything."

"On the whole, the course has been fun and enriching. It certainly has made me like Maths more. Thanks for the humour and patience shown by the lecturers."



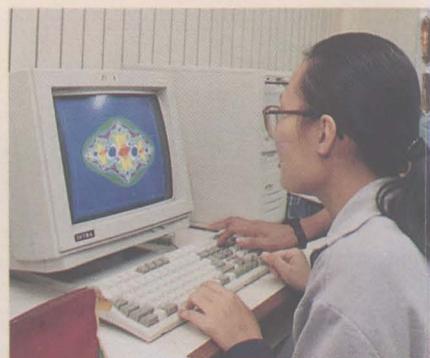
"The 3 days in NUS is certainly very enriching and enjoyable. Mathematics was brought to me in a very different (from school) but interesting way."



"The camp is too short. I've truly enjoyed myself!"

"We enjoyed ourselves thoroughly!!! We'll miss you!"

"Different kinds of food for tea, not the same Bengawan deserts 2 times a day. We'll get diabetes! Lecturers need to dress nicer, so as to look younger!"



"It brings our understanding of maths to a higher level. Some of it is complicated. Very interesting."