THE RiddleR

by David Gardner

VOLUME IX:

The Riddler hereby postulates that the relative inability of those ingesting posed conundrums is primarily due to the vastness of His nebulous intelligence.

The suggestion that the commonplace cerebral gnat poses any threat to His intellectual sovereignty grates His reasoning in utter cacophony. Existing as the epitome of wit, the sole embodiment of creative genius, The Riddler, rather than mercifully relenting, now reiterates his goal: to raise the collective logistic competence at York; those who fail forfeit only their sanity . . .

1. Make this nine fifty with one stroke.

10 10 10

2. Of three sisters named April, May, and, June, none is yet 21-years-old. April is now as old as June was 14 years ago, and two-thirds of May's age. May, on the other hand, will be June's age when May is twice as old as she is now plus two years. Three years ago, May was as old as April is now. How old are April, May, and June?

3. A dark stranger meets you on a long bus trip. He bets you that of the next eight cars that pass, at least one will have a licence plate that ends in double digits (00,11,22, . . . 99).

A plate with one or two letters as its last two characters doesn't count. Does this bet favour you or the stranger, and why?

Answers to VOLUME VIII (Monday Nov. 19):

1. The lowest score is 160. In every spare, the first ball knocks down no pins.

⊠	✗	⊠	✗	✗
20	40	60	80	100

				✗⊠⊠
110	120	130	150	160

2. 846 matches. If you concentrated on finding the one winner in 847 players, you probably got hopelessly lost. Try rephrasing the question as: How many matches are needed to determine 846 losers?

3. Carl ran the 6.2 mile race in 43 min, 24 secs (8.6mph). Ben used the following strategy (or one similar to it) throughout the race. He ran the first .2 mile at a fast pace, in one min, 17 secs (9.4mph) and the next .8 mile at a slower pace, in five min, 44 secs (8.4mph).

Notice that if Ben repeats this strategy, his average time for any mile length along the course is seven min, 1 sec. His time for the first six miles was 42 min, 6 secs, but the last .2 mile was run in the faster time of one min, 17 secs, which gave him a total time of 43 min, 23 secs.

Ben finished the race one whole second ahead of Carl.