Mathematics People

Fishburn Receives von Neumann Prize

PETER C. FISHBURN, distinguished member of the technical staff in the Information Sciences Research Center at AT&T Bell Laboratories, has been awarded the highest prize given in the field of operations research and management science.

The 1996 John von Neumann Theory Prize is awarded by the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences to Fishburn "for his remarkable, extensive, and seminal contributions to the fields of individual and group choice under uncertainty." Examples of his work on decision-making range from studies of voting processes to determining the amount of insurance needed for the launch of telecommunications satellites.

"The von Neumann Prize recognizes just part of Peter's many scientific and business contributions, which also include extensive work in discrete mathematics and communications," says Andrew Odlyzko, head of the Mathematics of Communication and Computer Systems Department. "He has done excellent work in several areas, and this award is especially deserved."

A graduate of Pennsylvania State University, Fishburn holds master's and doctoral degrees in operations research from Case Institute of Technology (now Case Western Reserve University). He was a professor at both institutions before joining AT&T in 1978. Fishburn is a fellow of the Econometric Society, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He holds the Frank P. Ramsey Medal of the Operations Research Society.

—AT&T News Release

Coifman Receives DARPA Award

RONALD R. COIFMAN of Yale University has received the Achievement Award for Sustained Excellence by a Contractor. The award, presented by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), recognizes Coifman's technical innovation, ability to transform his work into critical Defense Department applications, and his work's impact on the DoD.

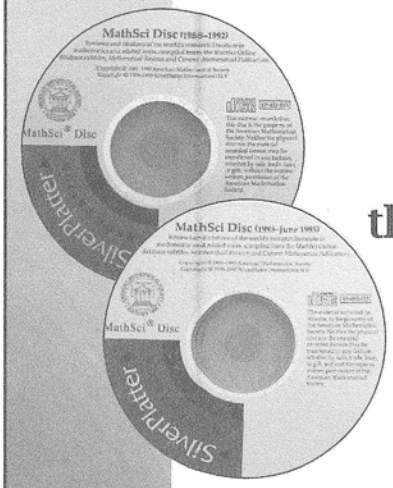
During his seven years of work in DARPA's Applied and Computational Mathematics Program, Coifman has shown how modern mathematics can be effectively applied to solve engineering problems. He and his collaborators extended the ideas behind wavelets to construct two new classes of bases, known as "wavelet packets" and "local Fourier bases", which have led to significant advances in signal analysis. He has applied this theoretical work to engineering problems, such as the development of new compression algorithms and improved methods for radar detection and classification. Coifman also founded a small company to develop software products using his newly developed mathematical algorithms, allowing his technical breakthroughs to evolve very quickly into solving real-world DoD problems.

—from News Release of the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense

New NAS Members Elected

The National Academy of Sciences has announced the election of 60 new members and 15 foreign associates. Among

American Mathematical Society



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the new members are: ENRICO BOMBIERI, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton; ULF GRENANDER, Brown University; RICHARD V. KADISON, University of Pennsylvania; NANCY J. KOPELL, Boston University; JOHN F. NASH JR., Princeton University; and CLIFFORD H. TAUBES, Harvard University. Elected as foreign associates were JACQUES-LOUIS LIONS, Collège de France, and ANDREW J. WILES, Princeton University.

—*National Academy of Sciences News Release*

1996 d'Alembert Prize Awarded

Every two years, the Société Mathématique de France presents the d'Alembert Prize. Established in 1984, the prize is intended to encourage mathematical works in the French language and the exposition of mathematics for the general public. The prize recognizes an article, a book, a radio or television broadcast, a film, or other project that is designed to improve understanding of mathematics and its recent developments.

There are two joint recipients of the 1996 d'Alembert Prize. *Ondes et Ondelettes*, by BARBARA BURKE HUBBARD, published in November 1995 in the collection "Pour la Science" by Belin, was honored for the exemplary character of its approach to a subject of current interest in mathematics. The association "Ecoutez Voir" was honored for its production of video programs and television broadcasts devoted to mathematics.

—*from* Gazette des Mathématiciens

Visiting Mathematicians

(Supplementary List)

Mathematicians visiting other institutions during the 1996–1997 academic year were listed in the July 1996 issue of the *Notices*, pp. 784-786. The following is an update to that list (home countries are listed in parentheses).

EDWARD J. FARRELL (Trinidad), Pace University, Graph Polynomials, Graph Theory, 8/96-2/97.

STEFAN GLASAUER (Germany), University of Oklahoma, Integral Geometry, 8/96-5/97.

JOONKOOK SHIN (South Korea), University of Oklahoma, Algebraic Topology, 8/96-1/97.