Undergraduate Math Club Winter 2006 East Hall 1360 (room change!) Jan. 26, 4:10-5:00pm (free pizza and pop, as always)

Movie Night

The Proof

Abstract

In 1993, Andrew Wiles astonished the mathematical world by announcing a proof of Fermat's Last Theorem, which he had been working on in private for seven years. The referee process uncovered a serious flaw, but after some uncomfortably public months of mounting pressure he had a flash of insight that led to a new argument that repaired the proof.

The Nova documentary "The Proof" explains the history behind Fermat's Last Theorem and the story of Wiles' eventual triumph over this 350-year-old conundrum. It is arguably the best documentary ever made about the challenge of solving a difficult mathematical problem. Note that this meeting is being held in EH 1360, not the usual place.