1023-55-1256   **Mark Brittenham** (`mbrittenham2@math.unl.edu`), Department of Mathematics, Avery 203, Lincoln, NE 68588, and **Jacqueline A Jensen*** (`jensen@shsu.edu`), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Box 2206, Huntsville, TX 77341. *Canonical genus and the Whitehead doubles of pretzel knots.* Preliminary report.

The canonical genus of a knot K is the minimum genus among all surfaces built by Seifert's algorithm for a projection of K. We prove, for an alternating pretzel knot K, that the canonical genus of its Whitehead doubles $W(K)$ is equal to the crossing number $c(K)$ of K, verifying a conjecture of Tripp in the case of these knots. (Received September 25, 2006)