1023-N1-292 **Andy D. Martin*** (`admartin@ms.uky.edu`), 509 Bayberry Bend, Lexington, KY 40517. *In Praise of Cranks: Are You Thinking What I'm Thinking?* Preliminary report.

Underwood Dudley's books on Mathematical Cranks illustrate a chief feature of cranks: their refusal to accept(or, often, to even consider) the truth of statements whose proofs they do not understand. But why should they? Despite numerous cases of erroneous published proofs, mathematicians and mathematics teachers generally accept as established (for eternity!) theorems in fields outside of their own, established by proofs beyond their knowledge and, perhaps, beyond their ability to understand. Should they? Can my understanding of even the mere FACT of Fermat's Last Theorem be the same as Andrew Wiles's? Judith Grabiner famously asked, "Is Mathematical Truth Time Dependent?" We would ask, "Is Mathematical Truth personal?" (Received September 03, 2006)