

1096-M1-2353 **Jeffrey Liebner*** (liebnerj@lafayette.edu), 232 Pardee Hall, Easton, PA 18042. *Breaking Codes for Mathematics Enjoyment (and Cash)*.

From the simplest Caesar cipher to the more complex RSA ciphers, mathematics and code writing have forever been intertwined. With the enticement of the challenge of decoding a hidden message and the exhilaration of succeeding, activities surrounding cryptanalysis are naturally appealing to people of all ages, especially those with an appreciation for the mathematics that is involved. In this spirit, the Lafayette College Math Club has hosted an annual Cryptography Competition which leads students through a race that is part code breaking and part scavenger hunt as teams compete for bragging rights and a cash prize. We will discuss the nature of the competition, the logistics involved, and the impact the competition has had on the mathematics club and the students of Lafayette College as a whole. (Received September 17, 2013)