

1077-J5-1099 **Kathryn Behrend Andrist*** (kathy.andrist@uvu.edu). *Bringing Down The House?*

As keynote speaker for Utah Valley University's (UVU) Math Week, David Irskine, featured in the New York Times bestseller "Bringing Down the House" and major motion picture "21" shared his experiences as an MIT student turned professional card counter. This event was attended by several hundred students, mostly non-math majors. The Math Club followed up this popular presentation with a casino afternoon. Math Club officers were trained as blackjack dealers. An 'experienced' card counting Math faculty member (whose name shall remain anonymous) coached 30+ students in card counting. Students from many disciplines attended to see if they had what it takes to beat the house. Moans, groans and an occasional wahoo could be heard as they tested their ability to concentrate and focus on the cards. The presenter will discuss how to host such an event and will share UVU's creative solution for funding their Math Club. (Received September 16, 2011)