

The Humboldt State University Department of Mathematics
Presents:

The 45th Harry S. Kieval Lecture**

Thursday, February 17, 2005

8:00 P.M.

Founders Hall 118

Joseph Gallian

University of Minnesota, Duluth

**“Breaking Driver’s
License Codes”**

Many states use complicated algorithms or formulas to assign driver’s license numbers but keep the method confidential. Just for the fun of it, Professor Gallian attempted to figure out how the states code their license numbers. In this talk he will discuss how he was able to break the codes for several of the states. The talk illustrates an important problem-solving technique that is not emphasized in mathematics classes. It also teaches the lesson that sometimes things done just for the sake of curiosity can have applications.

**A lecture on some popular and/or broad aspects of mathematics attractive to undergraduates and the public
For More Information go to: <http://www.humboldt.edu/~mathdept/HarrySKieval/kl.html>

HSU is an AA/EQ institution.
Disability accommodations may be available from event sponsor at 826-5347