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Subject: Re: A Programmer's Education

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Tue, 05 Dec 2006 17:56:33 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

>> Braedley writes:

>

>>> Why don't I ever see these simple solutions?

>

>> You are probably University-educated. Not your fault. :-)

>

> While we are on this topic (and while I wait for SOLARSOFT

> to finish downloading), what is the most useful class you

> ever took in school?

Easy. Programming in Fortran 251. Not so much for the Fortran stuff (it was taught to us physics majors, with drippingly evident disdain, by a CS professor) but because said prof failed me on the first assignment because I was the only one in the class that had ordered the (correct) results opposite from everyone else. When I confronted him about it mentioning that he never specified an order in the assignment, he grudgingly (at least, how I remember it) agreed and gave me an appropriate mark. That's when I learned that smart people are sometimes just as dumb as the rest of us. No more pedestals for me! :o)

> For me, two come immediately to mind. The typing class

> I took as a sophomore in high school because I was a shy

> boy and the girl/boy ratio was 15:1. I use that knowledge

> every single day of my life. (In, uh, more ways than one.)

>

> And the freshman English Composition class I took in my

> first semester of college from a hippie instructor who

> gently taught a good evangelical Christian boy to question

> everything.

Hmmm...maybe there's a theme here. The important lessons that one remembers are those that provide more questions than answers. (Although, nothing earth-shattering there I guess).

paulv

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Paul van Delst            Ride lots.

CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC

Eddy Merckx

Ph: (301)763-8000 x7748

Fax:(301)763-8545

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