by The Campus League of Puzzlers

Welcome to the first Spring 2013 issue of Fiat Enigma! The Campus League of Puzzlers is a group of students and alums who enjoy writing and solving puzzles. Our main event is the annual Berkeley Mystery Hunt, a 12 hour puzzle solving competition where teams of up to 10 try to solve puzzles as fast as they can to ultimately locate an item of interest hidden somewhere on campus. This year's hunt will be Sunday, May 5. You can visit our website (http://puzzle.berkeley.edu) to view archives of past hunts as well as past issues of this column.

The goal of this column is to introduce you to a wide variety of puzzles. Each of the next five weeks, we'll present a different type of puzzle. If they're unfamiliar, don't worry, we'll explain the rules as we go along. The solutions to each of the puzzles will clue a single letter of the English alphabet. If you've solved it, visit our Facebook page to confirm your answer.

This week's puzzle is typically called Slitherlink or Fences. The goal is to draw a single line that forms a closed loop. The line segments are drawn b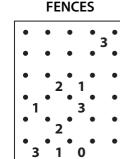etween the grid points and can travel only vertically or hori-zontally. The line can't cross itself, and the line probably will not travel to all of the grid points. The numbers in the grid give you the constraints on the solution. Each number is inside a "square" with four corners formed by the grid points. The number tells you how many sides of this square are line segments. If there is no number in a square, all that means is that you have no information about that square - there still could be any number of line segments forming its sides.

FENCES