Announcements

● First Midterm Exam: The first midterm exam will be given in class this Thursday, February 23. Please see the “First Midterm Exam Guide” that was given out last week for details concerning its structure and content. Please be sure to bring the following to the exam:

1. One pink SCAN-TRON Form No. F-288-PAR-L. You may fill out the informational portion of the SCAN-TRON prior to the exam: On the front side, this includes writing your name, class, and hour/day at the top, and then bubbling in your I.D. Number (use only the first nine columns for the I.D., leaving the 10th column blank) and name (leave the Phone Number and Code sections blank); on the back-side of the form, you may bubble in your I.D. Number (again, use only the first nine columns, leaving the 10th column blank) and Exam # (001), leaving the “Test Form” column blank.

2. A #2 pencil.

3. Your “Official First Midterm Exam Cheat-Sheet”, with your name at the top and all the information you want inside the black box on the page. This sheet is found in the “First Midterm Exam Guide” that was given out last week, and should be detached from that packet.

4. A good eraser! This is to remove any stray marks on your SCAN-TRON left from changed answers and so forth. Note: if the SCAN-TRON machine rejects your form for any (legitimate) reason, your final raw exam score will be reduced by one point (out of the 40 total). The SCAN-TRON machine will reject a form for having (a) more than one answer filled in for a question; (b) having no answer filled in for a question; (c) having the informational section of the sheet filled out incorrectly or incompletely; or (d) having stray smudges on the sheet. Please ensure that your sheet does not suffer from any of these ailments!

When you come to class on Thursday, you will find exams already laid out in alphabetical order on the desks with last names written on them. Find your exam, sit down at that desk, take out your cheat-sheet, pencil, and eraser, and wait for the exam to begin (it will begin promptly at 9:30). No calculators are needed or permitted.

● Help Before the Exam: Help is available before the exam through:

1. My office hours: Tuesday February 21, 2-4 PM (Rm. 238 Physics building; NOTE – there was a typo on the Week 2 Weekly Handout that incorrectly gave my office as Rm. 218, this is INCORRECT. I am in Rm. 238, Physics.)

2. TA help room hours (Rm. 215, physics-astronomy building):
   - Tuesday: 4-6 PM
   - Wednesday: 12-2 PM

3. Last-minute question-and-answer session. On Wednesday February 22 (the evening before the exam), an extra help session will be held in our regular classroom (Rm. 216 physics-astronomy building) from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. I will be there to answer any questions that you may have; note that this is NOT a formal “review session”; no additional information about the exam or its contents will be given at this session. Rather, it is provided solely as last-minute help to answer any questions that may have cropped up during your studying.

● Interesting PBS Television Show: At 8 PM Tuesday night (Feb. 21), KPBS San Diego (local channel 15, but check with your own cable channel setup) will be airing a new NOVA show: “The Ghost Particle”, which is all about the hunt for an elusive particle, the neutrino, and how its study has led to a new understanding of matter itself. Watching the show is optional, but is useful and relevant to our course as we shall be discussing neutrinos very shortly when we study the Sun; what’s more, it looks to be quite entertaining! More details can be found at: http://www.pbs.org/nova/neutrino
Reading Assignment for Tuesday, February 28

A short assignment covering some basics about the Sun. As this material will not be part of the midterm exam given on Thursday, you may want to wait until after the exam to read it!

  
  A rather brief assignment that just covers the essentials about the surface composition and features of the sun.

- *On-Line Material*: Chapter 6 – Look at the Active Figure called “Center of Mass”. Take the Post-Test, numbers 1-10 only (we did not cover the second half of the chapter).

Writing Assignment for Tuesday, February 28

Please answer the following question from the textbook. Note that the question has 13 (short) parts! Please clearly label your answers to each of the individual parts. You will turn this in with the next homework collection, on Thursday, March 30.

1. Chapter 6, Review question #2, on p. 150.