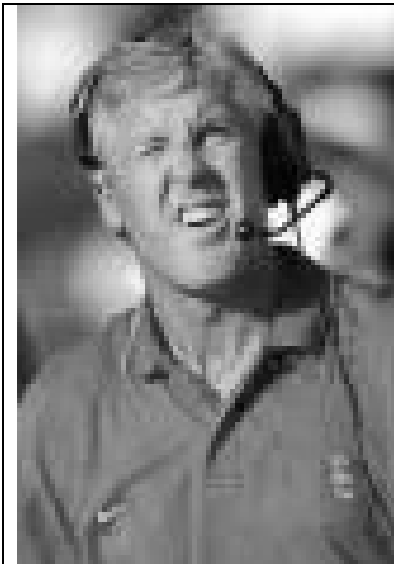


MATH COFFEE



**What's
bothering
this guy?**

This is Pete Carroll, the head football coach for the University of Southern California. His team was ranked #1 by the Associated Press national poll of sportswriters, but finished second to the Louisiana State University Tigers according to the controversial "Bowl Championship Series" (B.C.S) system for determining the national champion.

Many bloody noses and broken bones have resulted from arguments related to the confusing B.C.S. formula, often due to the "mysterious" computer rankings which are taken into account. Indeed, of the seven computer rankings used in the B.C.S. formula, only one is completely open about the algorithm it uses to rate the teams. Attend this talk for a rundown of the B.C.S. system and a description of the one computer ranking which, for the thinking football fan, provides a thoroughly objective way to determine the best teams. A basic knowledge of linear algebra is helpful, but not necessary.

**"How to rank college football teams sensibly"
---Karl Kattchee, Mathematics Department**

**Thursday 3:15 p.m.
Coffee and cookies in Cowley 102
Talk to follow in Cowley 151**