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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Readers might be interested in the solution to a couple of leftovers from a couple of articles published in JRM.

In J. A. Lindon's "Dee-Dee Consecutives" (JRM, Vol. 2, No. 1, January 1969, pp. 21-24) I had pointed out (on page 23) that 1 divides 2, 2 divides 34, and 34 divides 5678. This can be represented as a dee-dee consecutive in divisor notation:

1 | 2 | 34 | 5678.

At that time I had asked, "When does 5678 first divide the continuation 9101112131415...?"

I can now answer my own question:

1, 2, 34, 5678, 9101112131415161718192021222324252627282930313233343536.

I also discovered the following longer dee-dee consecutive:

1 | 2 | 34 | 567891011121314151617.....117118119120.

(That last integer has 248 digits!)

In Leslie E. Card's "Patterns in Primes - Addenda" (JRM, Vol. 1, No. 4, October 1968, pp. 250-252) progressive or "snowball" primes were listed. These are primes which remain prime upon addition of successive digits. The Table on pages 251 and 252 listed some snowball primes. There were a few question marks, indicating lack of knowledge of the primality of the next member in the series. Edgar Karst, in a "Letter to the Editor" (JRM, Vol. 2, No. 3, July 1969, page 154) cleared up all but one of those question marks (but added a new one in his own tabulation).

I can at least clear up the remaining question mark in Mr. Card's table. The seventh row on page 252 of that table is

409-4099-40993-409933-4099339-40993391-409933913-? (or 409933919-?).

The second question was taken care of by Mr. Karst as follows:

409933919-4099339193-40993391939-409933919393-?

(leaving it with one more question mark).

The first question mark in Mr. Card's entry, unfortunately, terminates right there. The

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four likely contenders as snowball primes are all composite (the following are completely factored):

$$4099339131 = 3 \cdot 1366446377$$

$$4099339133 = 823 \cdot 4980971$$

$$4099339137 = 3 \cdot 1366446379$$

$$4099339139 = 7 \cdot 585619877$$

Note the presence of a rather large prime pair: 1366446377-1366446379.

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