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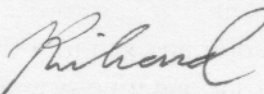
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Professor Ron Graham
9805 Blackgold Road
La Jolla, CA 92037-1117

Dear Ron,

In case you or someone else is collecting Erdős anecdotes, the following might be of interest. In 1978 there was a Symposium on Combinatorial Mathematics & Optimal Design at Colorado State University. (A highlight of the meeting was the announcement of a sex change by the main organizer.) Erdős and I had separate dorm rooms that shared a bathroom. The bathroom had one door to each room, which could be locked on either side. One night I took a shower and locked the door to Erdős' room, but after the shower I forgot to unlock the door. Around 3:00 that night I heard a loud banging on the wall and Erdős yelling that I should unlock the door. This I did extremely apologetically. The next night again I was awoken to Erdős' banging on my wall and yelling for me to unlock the door. I couldn't believe that I could be so stupid as to make the same mistake twice, and I was sure that I was extra careful to leave Erdős' door unlocked. In fact, when I went into the bathroom to check, it turned out that the door was indeed unlocked. Erdős had locked the door on *his* side and hadn't noticed! This time the shoe was on the other foot, and I accepted his groveling apologies. Enclosed is a copy of a message I received from him the next day.

Best regards,



Richard Stanley