Core II Exam Graph Theory August 2005

Instructions: Solve any five from among the following seven problems. Submit only the five selected problems. You have 3 and 1/2 hours to complete this test. Good luck!

Note: Graphs are finite, undirected, and have no loops and no multiple edges.

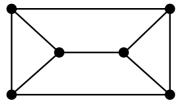
1. Use Brooks' Theorem to give a short proof of a special case of Vizing's Theorem: If $\Delta(G) = 3$, then $\chi'(G) \leq 4$.

2. Without invoking any major theorems on perfect graphs, prove that the complement of a path is perfect.

3. Prove that $\chi(G) + \chi(\overline{G}) \ge 2\sqrt{|G|}$.

4. Derive Hall's Marriage Theorem from Tutte's 1-Factor Theorem.

5. Find the smallest number k such that the Prism Graph, which is depicted below, admits a nowhere-zero k-flow. Give an example of such a k-flow.



The Prism Graph

6. Prove that every planar graph is a union of three forests.

7. Let G be a plane triangulation, and let n_i be the number of vertices of degree i in G. Prove that

$$\sum (6-i)n_i = 12.$$