998-57-349 **Mark Brittenham*** (`mbritten@math.unl.edu`), Department of Mathematics, Oldfather 810, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0323. *Depths of Seifert surfaces.* Preliminary report.

The depth of a knot gives a measure of how far the knot is from being fibered. It is defined as the minimum of the depths of all of the knot's minimal genus Seifert surfaces; this depth measures how far the complement of the surface is from being a product. We will discuss some of the results known about depth, and discuss progress in finding knots which have pairs of Seifert surfaces of differing depths. (Received March 02, 2004)