Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Mathematics Problem of the Week (239)
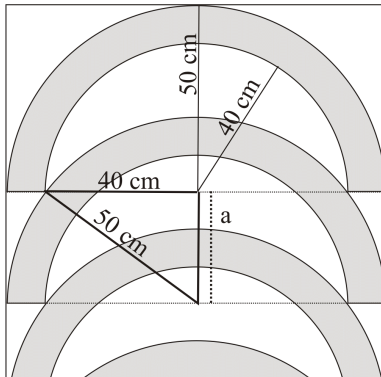
This week's winner is:
Alex Au Ieong

Also submitting correct solutions to problem 239 were:

Maggie (Ming Kit) Lam, Matt Potma, Faisal Al-Qutub, and David Luna

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Problem 239 solution:

By Pythagoras's Theorem $40^2 + a^2 = 50^2 \implies a = \sqrt{50^2 - 40^2} = 30$

The length of the plywood is 50cm (for the first one) plus 5a. Thus it must be $50 + 5 \cdot 30 = 50 + 150 = 200 \,\text{cm}$, 2m long.