

The 109 Times

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“We are not small potatoes.”

April 2013

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Mr. Huang Strikes Deal with 5th Period

By Patrick Beverly

Desperate for good grades, Ethan Wu made a proposal to Mr. Huang. Now 5th period has a job to do, but the job may be impossible to achieve.

On April 2, Wu asked Mr. Huang what grades he would give out if Ethan got Jeremy Lin to step foot in 109.

“Everybody gets an A,” he said. 5th period was amazed. Immediately, everyone started discussing how to make this happen. Knowing that Olivia Lu was a huge Oklahoma City Thunder fan, Wu decided

to try something else.

“What do we get if Kevin Durant comes here?” he asked.

“Everybody gets a C,” replied Mr. Huang. It’s no secret that the Thunder are not his favorite team, but everyone was surprised how much he undervalues Durant. Lu, whose admiration for Durant borders on obsession, was especially offended.

“What if we get Jeremy Lin’s dad?” asked Wu again.

Mr. Huang thought for a moment. “Everyone gets a B-prus.”

Flickinger Saves Daniel’s Pencil

By Donnie Yen

When Noah Daniel went to the board to explain the homework problem, no one knew his pencil was in danger. No one except Carson Flickinger, that is. What you are about to read happened in the span of 1.7 seconds.

Not being placed in the desk’s pencil holder, Daniel’s pencil started to roll back toward Daniel’s seat. Flickinger, who sits one column over and one seat back, spotted the rolling pencil.

Displaying cat-like reflexes in a blink of an eye, Flickinger rose and

pinned the pencil to the top of the desk with his outstretched hand.

“It was amazing,” said Alex Marwaha, who sits directly in front of Flickinger. “I couldn’t have done that.”

After class, throngs of 109 citizens surrounded Flickinger to ask him about his talent, now out in the open.

“Are you a secret agent?”

“Are you a ninja?”

“Are you The Amazing Spider-Man?”

“No,” he replied humbly. “I’m Carson Flickinger.”

Kihm Asks 109 to Defend Ancient Wall

By Fareed Zakaria

On March 7, 109, 5th Period got a surprise visit from 109 ally Mrs. Burnett and head of the PTB Mrs. Kihm. Mrs. Kihm brought an interesting request.

Mrs. Kihm told 109 of an incident that occurred at one of Longfellow's walls that keep barbarians out. Adjacent to the library, this wall, while not as massive as the Great Wall of China or Hadrian's Wall, does have several nice murals on it including the first few digits of pi.

Apparently, a warlord on the other side took issue with the mural of the first few digits of pi. The mural reads: "3.1415..." The barbarian warlord believes that it should read "3.14159..."

"He wasn't making a suggestion," said Mrs. Kihm. "He insisted on it, and there was fire in his eyes."

The fear in Mrs. Kihm's trembling voice was apparent; 109 had never seen the leader of the PTB so shaken. Mr. Huang, seeking the mathematically correct answer, immediately opened discussion. After several minutes of debate, a wide majority of the citizens believed the mural did not need to be changed. Adi Sarkar sided with the warlord.

"I want to do what is right, but I also have to deal with this warlord," Mrs. Kihm said. "He says he has missiles, and some of them can even reach 109."

Zhang Passes SD to Wrong Person

By Andre Bocelli

On April 3, rioting almost broke out between the 4th and 5th column, and a skill drill paper was the culprit.

Mr. Huang was collecting skill drills from the 5th column when Alexa Fermin noticed one paper missing, Austin Zhang's. She turned around to find out what was wrong. Zhang claimed that he passed it up, but Fermin said she never received it. Meanwhile, Mr. Huang waited.

Then Daniel Meakem of column 4 said he had it. Zhang must have passed his skill drill to a different column, but the odds of anyone doing that is quite low unless one is extremely sleepy (see Ethan Wu, 5th period).

Zhang immediately called Meakem a thief. Meakem denied it.

"I don't know how his paper got into our pile, but I did not steal it," said Meakem.

Mr. Huang Approves National Poem

By John Donne

In 2005, 109 created a national flag and motto. In 2008, Mr. Huang wrote a national anthem based on an anonymous writing. Now 109 has a national poem.

Using a pencil belonging to Sneha Kripanandan, Shreya Ramesh and James Gao authored a short, deep poem about treasuring the simplicity of life: "The Potato". On March 22, after much editing, Mr. Huang approved the poem as 109's national poem.

The inaugural recitation of

the poem was performed by Gao during Lancer Time.

The poem describes a potato sitting on the citizen's belly. Describing the potato like a pet cuddling with his master, the first line illustrates the oneness of

second line calls to mind the playful laughter of 109 citizens frolicking through the fields dotted with mango trees. The third line further emphasizes the oneness with nature in the jiggling motion shared by both the and the potato.

"The poem is a gem of modern literature," says Mr. Huang. "The author captured our spirit. The author cap-

nured 109."

The Potato

*A potato sits on my
jelly belly.
Each time I laugh,
my belly wiggles.
The potato jiggles
too.*

-The National Poem of 109

Jung Closes in on Atak's Record

By Kurt Rambis

After a 2nd quarter slump, Harry Jung has put himself back in the hunt for Deniz Atak's record of 19 perfect skill drills set last year.

Jung completed five perfects during the 3rd quarter including perfects on the last four SD's to amass 14 perfects for the year. Chloe Andresol (5th Pd.), who at one time was only one perfect behind Jung, fell off the pace in the last two weeks. Andresol and Royce Kang (1st Pd.) both tied Jung with five perfects for the quarter.

Tying or breaking Atak's

record will not be so easy as 4th quarter has the least number of skill drill weeks. Although the quarter technically has nine weeks, SOLs, end-of-the-year activities, and final exams usually reduce the number of total SD weeks in the 4th quarter to six or seven.

Fourth quarter still includes the dreaded Kill Drills week, a week of extremely difficult skill drills. However, 4th quarter also features Skill Drills for the Masses, a week of easy skill drills. Therefore, it is not a stretch to say Harry Jung has 15 already.

109ers Flaunt Best on Dress-up Day

By Edith Head

All eyes were on the All-Purpose Trophy during Valentine's Day week, as 109ers dressed their best, hoping to see the trophy resting on their desk for the entire period.

In 1st period, Jack Clark won for donning stylish pink socks.

"They were really cute. I don't even have a pair of pink socks," said one fellow citizen.

In 4th period, Ben Mitzelfeld, won for his Oxford shirt, sweater and striking blue shoes.

"They really went well together. He has good fash-

ion sense," said one admirer.

In 5th period, Ava Milstein won for her white oxford, black tie and signature bracelets.

"Oh, she is so non-traditional. I could never pull it off," said one observer.

"Her style is so ... interesting."

In 6th period, known for being a little loopy due to the lateness of the day, Cassidy Slavik won in a surprising decision. Slavik sported a homemade top hat with Spanish written on it.

"Her style is so ... interesting," said one observer. "No one would ever think of wearing that hat. I want one!"

Skill Drill Standings (thru SD #21)

- 14: Harry Jung
- 11: Chloe Andresol
- 10: Royce Kang
- 9: Minyoung Hwang, Gyeongjae Kim
- 6: Austin Zhang
- 5: Adam Yee
- 4: Nina Chung, Katherine Cheng, Adi Sarkar, Joshua Kim
- 3: Anneke Noe, Chris Jiang, Arthur Browne, Maggie Bujor, Jennifer Yang, Brendan Tan-Fahed
- 2: Linda Diaz, Josh Havermale, Alex Howe, Jaden Lee, Anna Zhang, Ayush Pamecha, Jett Bissett, Rachel Zhang, Olivia Lu, Grace Lu
- 1: Noah Daniel, Cliff Lin, Alex Marwaha, Arman Parastaran, Izzy Tice, Erin Villaronga, Kai Amelung, Giacomo Mecagni, Elizabeth, Zhou, Leela Abrishami, Ryan Hanusik, Alex Hart, Sneha Kripanandan, Shreya Ramesh, Ethan Wu, Sean Clancy, Teddy Daniel, Adam Eldridge, Kevin Juneau, Jake Parker, Shriansh Singh, Nithin Vijayakumar, Alexa Fermin

Twelve Citizens Lie

By Charles Colson

Be careful of the promises you make. Twelve 109 citizens learned that the hard way when they received their SD 21 papers back.

Seventeen citizens promised they would get a perfect that week. Only five of them, Adam Yee, Katherine Cheng, Arthur Browne, Adi Sarkar and Austin Zhang made good on their promise.

The "Lying 12" are Alex Marwaha, Carson Flickinger, Cliff Lin, Arman Parastaran, Minyoung Hwang, Leela Abrishami, Chloe Andresol, Sarah Bonforte, Cassidy Slavik, Sam Simon, Teddy Daniel and Nicole Liebeler.

Ask Arvid

Dear Arvid:

I don't like it when Mr. Huang puts other people's homework on my desk during skill drills.

Dear Personal Space:

Learn to love the homework. Make a special place for it—a special place where it can relax, where it can snuggle, where it can get some sun. Then, when SD is over, pass it back to its rightful owner.

Dear Arvid:

I am tired of our class always having the lowest average on VML, quizzes, and tests. What can I do about it?

Dear Big Fish in a Small Pond:

You could try encouraging your classmates or giving them a kick in the behind. Alternatively, you could just switch to 1st period.

Savory Insults Marwaha's Writing

By Calle Johannson

When people want a change, they sometimes find blunt ways to express this desire. On April 10, Christina Savory did just that when she saw Alex Marwaha's writing in the date box.

Marwaha has been a dutiful datemaster for 3rd quarter, but there have been murmurs about his penmanship. On this day, Savory decided enough was enough.

"Your 'Wednesday April 10, 2013' looks like 'Tuesday April 30, 1942'!" she exclaimed.

Marwaha was dumbfounded that anyone could interpret his writing as anything but the correct date.

Thank you,
3rd Q Flagbearers!

1st: Brad Kim
3rd: Neeraj Preesad
4th: Minyoung Hwang
5th: Katherine Lan
6th: Austin Zhang
LT: James Gao

Bonforte Brands Self a Loser

By Beck Hansen

As happens many times in life, slinging mud often results in one's own muddy face. That's exactly what happened to Sarah Bonforte on Feb. 26.

Bonforte was trying to intimidate and insult Nicole Liebler who sits directly behind, but something went horribly wrong. Bonforte's "L", formed by putting her index finger and thumb perpendicular to each other, faced her own forehead, not Liebler. Liebler immediately called her on it.

"She tried to call me a loser, but ended up labeling herself a loser. Only a big-time loser would do that," said Liebler.

Calls to the Center for Gesticular Insults (CGI) confirmed that Liebler was right.

"Even though the intention was outward, the hand sign must match the intent," said Dr. Paula Karsten. "The official interpretation of what Miss Bonforte did was calling herself a loser."

All is not lost for Bonforte though.

"We have well-run insult camps," said Dr. Karsten. "For a small price, people like Miss Bonforte can come learn how to properly match their hand gestures with their intentions. She doesn't have to go through life insulting herself."

Ask Arvid ...

Where all your fear and doubt comes out whether you want them to or not

Dear Arvid:

I make mistakes on skill drills and tests, but Mr. Huang never puts my mistakes on the Never Again list. I feel left out.

Dear Forgotten:

You aren't making the right mistakes. You have to do something wrong that Mr. Huang has told you a hundred times to not do. Plus, it has to be something that flies in the face of common sense. Then you will get the recognition you deserve.

Dear Arvid:

I can't seem to win any of the elections for flagbearer? What am I doing wrong?

Dear William Jennings Bryan:

Middle schoolers go for people who are nice, respectful and funny. You need at least two of these traits. If you only have one of them, bribery also works.

Dear Arvid:

I want to perform music on the last day of the quarter, but I'm afraid that Mr. Huang will say no.

Dear Rising Star:

I have it on good authority that Mr. Huang will say yes. In fact, in my opinion, he hates singing and playing guitar. He wishes to end that tradition, but he can't because it's...tradition.

Dear Arvid:

Whenever I go up to explain problems

at the board, people laugh.

Dear Tyke:

Don't worry about that. They may laugh, but they actually like your explanations. You are generally accurate and entertaining.

Dear Arvid:

I can't seem to sit down in class. I have this uncontrollable urge to walk around.

Dear Ants in Your Pants:

Let's see, we could you duct tape, staples, crazy glue or nails. Which do you prefer? None of them? You could just control yourself then.

“Never Again!”

Brought to you by the proud citizens of 109

$$X + 18 = X - 18$$

$$5 \times 5 = 10$$

$$X + X = X$$

$$(X)(X) = 2X$$

LCD of 9 and 16 is 3

$$16/8 = 8$$

$$8 \times 4 = 34$$

“But 4 doesn't go into 100!”

$$20 \times 2 = 50$$

“Is ‘o’ before ‘u’?”

McMahon/O'Donnell Expedition Discovers Electric Pencil Sharpener

By Jedidiah Smith

Bolstered by funds from t-shirt sales and the recent purchase of a large tract of land in the southwestern part of 209, the McMahon-O'Donnell Expedition, sent by Mr. Huang to scout out the new territory, discovered an electric pencil sharpener.

The newly discovered machine will help speed up the process of sharpening.

"This is an amazing find," said O'Donnell. "However, a quicker sharpening of pencils does not necessarily prevent the breaking of pencils during writing. Someone needs to find a remedy for that."

That someone could be Sacajawea, the gypsy who helped O'Donnell and McMahon find the sharpener. The people of the mountains and hills say that she has secrets of pencil use that could be very useful to O'Donnell

and others who do not know their own strength when writing.

"She wore cool moccasins and things in her hair," said McMahon, giggling.

"You could tell she had a lot of wisdom," McMahon said giggling.

"I like traveling," giggling McMahon said.

"Now, if we could just find the tree that grows pencils, we'll be on easy street!" exclaimed O'Donnell.

Again, some say that Sacajawea knows the secret location of that fabled tree, but information from her will be hard to come by. Sacajawea distrusts travelers through her land. She only helped O'Donnell and McMahon because they were near death, not remembering to pack any food or water for their long journey. They both claim that the other was supposed to take care of the supplies.

Thank you,
3rd quarter officers!

Datemaster

Hannah Scanlon

Flagbearers

1st: Gabriela Gresenz

3rd: Emilio Sison

4th: Nate Lavoy

5th: Grace Lee

6th: Helen Ngov

Kingdom of 109
merchandise for sale

Old 109 t-shirts - \$5

109 DVDs - \$10

109 stickers - 50 cents

"We are not small potatoes"

Proceeds go to KM and K109

Jung Off to Fast Start

By Erin Andrews

What seemed like a run-away season for Deniz Atak has now become a bit more interesting. Mired in a slump, Atak has lately allowed his closest competition to keep pace with him, and cast doubt on whether he can actually break the 109 record of 18 perfect Skill Drills.

After record breaking opening streak of 10 perfect Skill Drills, Atak has only five perfects out of the last 12. Meanwhile, 3rd quarter was a resurgence for fellow 5th period citizens Krystal Chao and Tom Pulliam who scored 5/5 and 4/5 perfects.

Crystal Zhao of 6th period squandered a golden opportunity dugin Atak’s dryspell by also slumping to a meager two perfects. Antonio Chan matched Atak with three.

SOL testing and other disruptions traditionally wipe out some weeks of Skill Drills during 4th quarter, so Atak’s chances at getting closer to tying Han Kim, Seungin Sohn and Care Shoaibi’s record of 18 are dwindling quickly.

Could his dream year end in disappointment?

SD Standings (thru SD #22)

- 15: Deniz Atak**
- 11: Antonio Chan**
- 10: Crystal Zhao, Habib Karaky, William Kodama**
- 9: Shawn Choi**
- 8: Mayuko Takamura, Aaron Chung**
- 6: Krystal Chao, Jinwook Hwang, Grace Lee, Peter Kim, Renne Zhang**
- 5: Tom Pulliam, Emma Fan, Hannah Scanlon, Tim Wu, Will Baxley**
- 4: Alex Simons, Aazrin Mir, Shannon Chu, Emily Stranne, Michelle Lim**
- 3: Selina Cheng, Manny Panzardi, Nathalie Thomas, Veronica Kim**
- 2: Caitlin Dozier, Ayse Bal, Josh Mosier, Brian Zheng, Johan Ketkar, Isabelle Wyerman**
- 1: Helen Ngov, Gabi Gresenz, Varun Talwar, Nate Lavoy, Evan Yang, Hannah Champness, Siri Fredriksen, Mary McMahon, Kyle Watkins, John Zele, Juho Lee, Immalla Chen, Jessica Boyer, Gaby McDonald, Yonghwan Kwon, Dylan Myrick**

Huang Meets with U.S. President and Presidential Candidates

By Skip Bayless

In a 2-hour closed-door meeting devoid of media, Mr. Huang met with presidential candidates Mitt Romney, Newt Gingrich and Ron Paul. After a 30-minute break, he met with President Barack Obama. No statement was given on what was discussed, but needless to say, this was highly unusual.

The Kingdom of 109 has always stood strong for monarchical rights—the sustainability and justification of monarchical rule despite being outnumbered by democratic governments. Could this meeting lead to an official declaration of regime change? Will Mr. Huang abdicate the throne and call for national elections?

However, it is not a secret that Mr. Huang and close associates do from time to time ex-

plore the merits of a more representative government. Usually, this exploration takes the form of letters written to and from other world leaders within and outside Longfellow. This is the first time Mr. Huang has met face to face with any leader outside of the realm of Longfellow.

Adding more suspicion that a change is coming are the strange alterations to 109 traditions. Mr. Huang delayed music day for two weeks. The 3rd issue of the 109 Times is over three weeks late. The sense is that the office of the king has grown tired of maintaining 109 traditions.

The weak economy isn’t helping. T-shirt and sticker sales are way down this year. Bartering activity is near zero.

Yogumbyo has been seen storming out of Mr. Huang’s office on several occasions. He is not happy with his pay or living conditions.

The Recipe Corner

Provided by Boys Excelling at Cooking and Sewing (BECS)



An Apple

1. Spit on the apple and rub it with your sleeve to make sure it's clean
2. Eat the apple
3. Walk to the end of the room opposite from the trashcan
4. Toss the core into the trashcan
5. Yell: "Money!" if you make it
6. Pick the core up and shoot again if you miss

109ers, congratulations on completing 3rd quarter!

You are not small potatoes!

Eat mangos

Be like Haitao.

Mr. Huang