



# The 109 Times

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## Inside This Issue...

Ham Brings Socialized Pencil Coverage .....	2
Naik Retaliates for Picture "Ban" .....	2
Gorbaneva Appointed Attorney General.....	2
Rectangle Cult Surfaces .....	3
Kang Nears Ardeishar's Record.....	3
Zhang Pressures 109 Times.....	4
Skill Drills .....	3
Ask Arvid .....	4

## Thank you....

3rd Q Flagbearers:

1st: Kristina Knauss

2nd: Tejini H.

3rd: Hyunjae Chung

6th: Ellie Chen

7th: Nicholas Liu

DM: Peter Hinckley

Ambassador: Audrey

Czarnecki

Attorney General: Alys-  
sa Gorbaneva

## Cyber-attack Threatens Next FB Election

By Nicholas Hammond

At 12:15 pm, during 6th period, K109 suffered a crippling cyber-attack that disrupted communications for several minutes. A cryptic text was also sent to 6th Period citizen Jay Edwards.

Searching for the source, K109 authorities were led to the Martharchy of 200, led by new ally Ms. Godwin, where they ques-

tioned Jacob Daniels whose name appeared in the text heading.

However, 109 determined that he was not source of the break-in.

Instead, the source, whose name has not released, was neither a citizen of 109 nor 200.

He was questioned, warned and surprisingly released. K109 has not said whether they are following him, tapping his

phones or going through his trash.

"There is evidence that he may have been trying to influence the next Flagbearer election," said Captain Flint. "It is well-known that the male citizens in 6th period are frustrated at having so many female flagbearers."

If it was an inside job, authorities say that they may have to watch 6th period male citizens closely.

## Quiz Bowl Annexed as 109 Territory

By Robert Bradshaw

In a first for 109, Quiz Bowl was annexed as a 109 territory according to Article 7 of the Constitution on April 9, 2018.

The groundswell of support for annexation came from Benoy Sen of QB. His correspondence to Mr. Huang led to the Article 7's creation, the combined work of Mr. Huang and new Attorney General Alyssa Gorbaneva (7th pd).

However, on treaty day, just

before the treaty signing, Sen was absent and Rachel Trainer was elected Guardian of Quiz Bowl instead.

One point that almost halted the process was Article 7 itself that states territorial citizens have lesser status than normal 109 citizens.

"That concerned me at first," said Trainer. "But after re-reading the Constitution, I felt it wasn't significant enough to outweigh the benefits of joining 109."

## Ham Brings Socialized Pencil Coverage

By Alex Macklin

The entrepreneurial spirit has always been strong in 109ers, and that is certainly the case in Thomas Ham of 1st Period.

After getting tired of people like Jackson Baldrate asking to borrow a pencil on a daily basis, Ham decided to take matters into his own hands and make a name for himself to boot.

Along with Anteo Jafari, Ham started the Pencil Coverage Association (PCA), a company that charges a small fee for unlimited access to a stash of pencils and pens or the entire year.

That may sound too good to be true. How can anyone possibly have enough pencils to cover everybody for an entire year? The answer? Socialized pencil coverage.

The coverage fee is two pencils, one pen, and one mechanical pencil. For that, any day you need a writing utensil, you get one. Of course, not every citizen in 1st period opts into the plan, but Ham is betting that enough citizens pay the fee so that he has enough pencils to hand out on any given day.

In 2nd period, his associate Alessandrop Farrugio as tried to spread the word with limited success.

## Naik Retaliates for Picture "Ban"

By Frank Wild

On April 12, Rahil Naik was accused by 109 of placing his lunch in the aisle for the purpose of tripping Mr. Huang. He allegedly did this after being reminded that he would lose 17 brain cells if he took a picture of that day's homework.

"Mr. Naik denies placing the lunch there for that purpose," said Johnnie Cochran, Mr. Naik's attorney. "Plus, this has been blown way out of proportion. This was not an assassination attempt. If he had fallen, the king would have only received a minor bump on his forehead."

The 109 decree about the relationship between picture-taking

and brain cells, originally announced a few days before the incident, has caused some consternation among the Lazy Faction of 109ers (LF109).

"I asked him where he got his research from, and he wouldn't tell me," said Kabir Suri. "Still, I don't want to risk taking a picture of the HW just in case. What if I only have 17 brain cells to begin with and Mr. Huang is right? I'll be left with nothing!"

"Every year, the LF raises their voices when we proclaim the truth," said Mr. Huang. "They don't want to do this or that such as pick up a pencil, but I guess that's why they're called the LF."

## Gorbaneva Appointed Attorney General

By "Chippy" McNish

When Mr. Huang received a letter from Quiz Bowl asking to become part of 109, he knew he was put in a quandary. This request had never been made. K109 needed an Attorney General again, and so he called on Alyssa Gorbaneva.

Gorbaneva completed her term as the first-ever Attorney General last year, but with time running short, Mr. Huang asked her to serve again, and she accepted immediately and enthusiastically.

"It's fun," said Gorbaneva. "Plus, I have a certain amount

of power."

Her first task was writing Article 7 of the Constitution which finally addresses the acceptance of territories into the Kingdom. Then she had to write the document signed on April 10 that formalized QB's acceptance into the Kingdom as a territory.

"I can't think of a better person to be AG," said Mr. Huang. "She's a constructionist, so I know she will go by the book, and she pays attention to every detail. It's going to be hard to replace her."

## Kang Nears Ardeishar’s Record

By Lionel Greenstreet

The Kang machine rolls on. That’s what people have been saying about the incredible Skill Drill year that Michelle Kang is having.

With a perfect seven out of seven weeks in 3rd quarter, Kang now has 19 perfect weeks out of 20 and probably will tie Adam Ardeishar’s in Week 22. and break his record in Week 23.

The Office of Special Celebrations is now in planning stages of what to do when Kang breaks the record. It is rumored that Adam Ardeishar himself may make an appearance to

present Kang with the trophy.

Matching Kang in 3rd quarter was Max Wang, also with seven perfects.

“Sometimes I think what might have been if Michelle and I had not been here the same year,” said Wang, who has an outside chance at tying Ardeishar’s record, but to achieve that, he will have to be perfect the rest of the way.

Also impressing in this year’s race for the SD Cup is Hyunjae Chung (13) who has a comfortable lead in the 7th grade competition. Bethanie Hackett and Ramya Reddy each have ten perfects.

## Skill Drills Standings (after SD #20)

- 19: Michelle Kang
- 15: Max Wang
- 13: Hyunjae Chung, Ziyao Wei
- 10: Bethanie Hackett, Ramya Reddy
- 9: Tim Johanson
- 8: Kristina Knauss, Alina Chen
- 7: Ellie Chen, Shi-Woo Yoo, Ritika Rohatgi
- 6: Noah Chin, Brian Du
- 5: Logan Pinkston-Sayers, Laura Zhang, Vayun Malik, Kaiden Wu,
- 4: Seonghyun Park, Lianhao Li, Max Vitt, Aditi Shukla, Odessa Zhang
- 3: Elliott Lee, Antigone Stark, Jackson Baldrate, Rhea Chanda, Grace Guan, Ram Reddy, Eric Zhang, Yejun Lee, Elaine Liu, Vihaan Mathur, Rahil Naik
- 2: Winston Gan, Vivian Shen, Russell Karlin, Eujin Lee, Justin Murri, Victoria Wang, Keenan Powell
- 1: Thomas Ham, Peter Hinckley, Derek Li, Ameer Moutaouakil, Nathan Kulp, Nidhi Sathyanarayanan, Emma Yang, Cooper Carlson, Emma Cassasyre, Evie Johnston, Yewon Choi, Eli Rakowski, Daniel Yoon, Daniel Ahn, Alexander Bills, Sabrina Berry, Shin Matsu-moto, Audrey Czarnecki

## Rectangle Cult Surfaces

By Alfred Cheetham

No one in 109 ever attempted to use the back of a Skill Drill paper as a weapon until Jack Plaskow joined 109.

A suspicious-looking rectangle on the back of his SD paper led authorities to investigate after Mr. Huang felt an unfamiliar energy emanating from it.

“Our tests did reveal low-grade gamma rays emanating from the rectangle,” said Captain Flint. “However, Mr. Huang was unaffected.”

Some communities in neighboring barbarian lands sometimes resort to cult religious practices involving mind-

controlling geometric objects that can supposedly penetrate your soul if you stare at them long enough.

“I’ve had some experience with these objects,” said Mr. Huang. “But their Jedi mind tricks don’t work on me.”

The investigation now turns to how Plaskow obtained the rectangle. Did he know what he was dealing with? Does he come from one of these cult-infested neighboring lands? Captain Flint said that he is waiting on immigration (Plaskow joined 109 during 2nd quarter) to inform him exactly where Plaskow came from.

## Ask Arvid

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### Answers to Questions in an Ever-Changing World

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**Dear Arvid:**

**Is there a limit to how many times I can ask the same question over and over again during the course of the year?**

**Dear Again and Again:**

**Legally, there is no limit. However, there is a limit to people's patience.**

**Dear Arvid:**

**Is 40+36 actually 72?**

**Dear 7th Period Citizen:**

**Yes, To SOME people.**

**Dear Arvid:**

**At the coronation, is Mr. Huang going to make us bow down before Princess Valentina and kiss her feet?**

**Dear Subservient:**

**I don't believe he will since nobody had to do that for Prince Kieran three years ago, but I wouldn't put it past him.**

**Dear Arvid:**

**Why do boys care so much if we have a female flagbearer?**

**Dear Rolling Eyes:**

**I don't know. Boys care about so many strange things.**

## Zhang Pressures 109 Times to Allow Citizen Writers

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By Angela Cartwright

The 109 Times is a 109 institution that has gone through various changes in its layout and content over the years, but one thing that hasn't changed is its staff of writers. Perhaps that will change soon as well.

Laura Zhang and Alina Chen, two short 1st period citizens have been pressuring Mr. Huang to allow citizens write articles for the 109 Times. Since its inception, the 109 Times writing staff has never had a citizen even guest write for the newspaper. All writers are from outside 109, handpicked by Mr. Huang himself.

"Not having citizens write ensures objectivity in the writing," said Mr. Huang. "The writers from the outside just give the facts."

"That exactly the problem," said Laura Zhang, president of Short People Association of Writers Nagging (SPAWN). "The news source needs to have opinions."

Other citizens have taken the issue to another level.

"Mr. Huang won't allow citizen writers because he doesn't want opinions other than his own in the paper," said an anonymous citizen. "It is yet another example of his being nothing more than a totalitarian autocrat dressed up as a benevolent king."

"We only have one news source," said another. "That makes it even more important that we have guest writers. The people don't even realize how much brainwashing is going on!"