# The 109 Times

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# Kingdom of 109 Defeats 111 Zoo in Challenge 24

### by Don Haskins

In one of the most anticipated match-ups in Longfellow history, the Kingdom of 109 defeated 111 Zoo in a single elimination Challenge 24 tournament on December 12.

What started out as a friendly challenge between Mr. Johnson of 111 and Mr. Huang of 109 turned into an extremely hostile duel between two nations as they continuously berated each other for weeks leading up to the match. Verbal abuse flew back and forth, and 109 accused 111 of vandalizing 109 property.

"I'm glad we finally had the tournament because who knows what might have happened next," said Mr. Huang.

In the library, both nations gathered. 111 brought energy to the room, and 109 brought stoic confidence as well as their famous flag. Tieland also sent several representatives to support both sides. 109 made a statement by winning the first three first round matches. Then 111 broke through, winning the 4<sup>th</sup> match. After the 8 first round matches were done, 109 had won 5 of them.

Meanwhile, the raucous crowd began to throw accusations of cheating back and forth. 109 was accused of using ineligible players and passing information to teams ahead of time. 111 was accused of shifting their roster after the tournament began. Tempers got hot, and several times, Mr. Huang threatened to halt the tournament.

After the next round, four teams remained, and three of them were from 109. Madelyn Paquette and Brian Swett, both from 5<sup>th</sup> period, were particularly impressive.

In the semifinals, the last 111 team nearly beat 109's #1 team including Paquette, but 109 prevailed in that match 3-2. 111 was now gone. Since the last two remaining teams were both from 109, it was decided to hold the final match on 109 soil in the near future. Paquette's team later defeated Swett's team, and Paquette also defeated Swett in a later one-onone duel.

No one can deny that the excitement generated by Challenge 24 could bring much even more publicity to the Longfellow math community, but is it worth the risk of all out war between two neighboring friendly nations? We have a year to think about it.

# 109ers Establish Colony at McLean High School

### by John Cabot

Former citizen of 109 Andy Fisher and friend of 109, Michael Del Toral, have established a colony at the far away lands of McLean High School.

Details are still hard to come by, but the two pioneers braved the wilderness and found allies overseas. Land was given to them, but it is still unknown to public how fertile the land is.

Fisher and Del Toral have received official permission from Mr. Huang to grow the colony. They are to draft a charter and submit it to him for ratification. So far, the only detail of the charter released to the public is that slavery will not be allowed.

"That is something we do not do," said Mr. Huang.

Due to Del Toral's enthusiasm, Mr. Huang has made him an honorary citizen of 109.

Legendary Monster Disturbs Floor

by Cass Elliot

"From beneath you it bubbles." Local soda companies have latched on to the myth of the underground monster of 109.

Legend has it that a terrible monster dwells below 109. For many years, it lay dormant, but soothsayers always said its time would come. Seismic disturbances that have kicked up floor tiles and secreted water have people wondering. Is this simply tectonic plates moving, or is it the creature below?

"I think it's cool," said one citizen of 5<sup>th</sup> period. "I've always wanted to pet a monster." That citizen may want to think twice before doing that. The legend also describes the monster as an eater of fingers and noses.

# Huang Promises Smiles

by Benjamin Spock

The Challenge 24 win over 111 Zoo must have put Mr. Huang in a drunken stupor because he made a promise to his citizens that, if history has taught us anything, he cannot keep.

The day after the historic victory, he promised he would smile for each class each day for the rest of the year. Crowds erupted with pleasure at the announcement, but some have doubts.

"He can't do it. I know him," claimed a former citizen. "His current citizens are just naïve."

Mr. Huang started out with well planned smiles that all could see, but he has now moved on to quick localized smiles that the unsuspecting person may miss if not attentive.

# Door Project Underway

by Georgia O'Keefe

After months of planning, the door project is finally underway. Master artist Kaylin Stigall and her trusty sidekick Julia Henderson have put the finishing touches on the sketching phase of the LOTR-inspired door design.

The columns and vines will eventually be filled in with color of the artist's choosing. The Kingdom is currently scrapping together funds for paint.

Once the mural is finished, work will begin on the doorway facing the hallway so that the glory of 109 may be visible to all foreigners.

## Ask Arvid

## Dear Arvid,

If I can prove that negative numbers don't exist, will I ever have to use them again?

#### Dear Sneaky,

I should really call you inept because it sounds like you just don't know how to compute with negative numbers. However, your question is a fair one. If you can prove they don't exist, you may not have to use them anymore.

(The following text was a phone call Arvid received)

#### Dear Arvid,

I have heard that poor math performance will adversely affect the rest of my life. Is that true?

Arvid: Scaredy Cat, it is. SC: But it can't. Arvid: It is. SC: No! Arvid: Yes. SC: No! Arvid: Yes! SC: No! Arvid: No! SC: Yes! Arvid: No, it isn't! SC: Yes, it is! Arvid: Poor math will not adversely affect your life. SC: Yes, it will! Wow, you convinced me! How did you do that? **Arvid:** The answer lies somewhere in your brain.

# Morell Gives Huang Family Car

by Lee Iacocca

What started as an innocent Christmas gift wish has become a reality.

When Mr. Huang informed Luke Morell that that he would like a new car for Christmas, he never thought it would come true...but it has.

Morell asked his mother, but her mother said no. The next day, Morell informed Mr. Huang of his mother's decision.

"Do you still want the family car?" asked Morell.

"I thought you told me she said I can't have it."

"She did say that, but that doesn't mean you can't have it." Lo and behold, a few days later, Morell entered the kingdom with the family car, a beautiful black sedan. With a humble smile,

Mr. Huang accepted it.

# Skill Drills

7<sup>th</sup> grade 7: Maggie Engler 6: Madelyn Paquette, Seongmin Lee 5: Arlan Jaska, Peter Price 4: Paul Li 3: Naveed Mostaghimi, Polina Tamarina, Max Kanwal 2: Jihun Kim, Alec Brenner, Jay Choo, Namita Kansal, Isabella Liu. Luke Morell 1: Saman Asdjodi, Kartik Gupta, Alysha Singh, Anne Springsteen, Yordan Ugarte, Kevin Tan, Dina Ajalli, James Bollinger, Rachel Dyment, Tyler Kim, Cyrus Malekpour, Jiwon Yang 8<sup>th</sup> grade

6: Dana Kazerooni, Brien Comey, Christina Woo 5: Tamara Giorgadze, Christy Mever 4: Erin Howard, Colin Rapson, Dusty Schuman, Chris Vignali 3: Ariana Nguyen 2: Julia Henderson, Alex McCleary, Charlotte Parkhurst, Lexi Shoaibi, Hannah Welch, Colleen Widmaier, Danny Yang, Samantha Downey, Scott Lafoon, Trent McDaniel 1: Tae Kim, Danielle Wertz, Thomas Wilkes, Maggie Kannan

## Quick News

- Done rhymes with dumb
- EACH attempt at guess and check leads to death of ten brain cells
- The price of 109 stickers raised to 25 cents
- Lexi shoaibi doesn't understand concept of borrowing
- Tamara giorgadze hates skill drills