

# The 109 Times

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“We are not small potatoes.”

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## Mr. Huang to Wed Princess Stephanie

By Joan Rivers

The Kingdom of 109 will finally have a queen when Mr. Huang weds Princess Stephanie of Putnam County this fall.

After the wedding, the princess will become queen consort of the king at the 109 coronation ceremony which will take place at a later date. Queen Consort Stephanie will not have official authority in 109 affairs, but intimate sources say the king will seek her counsel often.

Although Mr. Huang is allowed to name anyone as heir to the throne, the marriage now fuels the anticipation of the throne staying within the family.

“I believe in putting the best person on the throne, whether that be a man, woman, of my blood or not of

my blood,” said Mr. Huang. “This is not a marriage of convenience to produce a blood heir. This is not a marriage arranged by nobles or advisers for political advantage. This is a marriage for love.”

That last statement flies in the face of the common understanding that Mr. Huang is a robot.

“I don’t get it. Robots don’t have hearts. They can’t love. Why would they want to marry?” said one confused 109 citizen.

“Maybe she’s a robot too,” mused another citizen.

The wedding will not be open to the public, but the separate coronation ceremony will be open to all 109 citizens. Announcements to follow.

## Parastaran Opts for Lower Date Box

By Gary Coleman

The election of short date masters has long been a problem in the kingdom. Most short date masters use a chair to reach the date box. Arman Parastaran came to two roads diverging in the wood and chose one.

Parastaran did not touch Alex Marwaha’s writing in the regular box. Instead, he received permission to draw a lower date box a full two feet below the standard one.

Satisfied, he then proceeded to write his trademark misspellings of the days of the week each day.

As a consequence of Parastaran’s choice of a lower box, April 12 became frozen in time in the upper box. 109 rules prevent anyone but the date master, even Mr. Huang, from erasing past date box content.

“I took the road less traveled by,” said Parastaran. “And it has made all the difference.

# Tissue Box Goes Missing

By Bob Woodward

The Office of the King is currently investigating the disappearance of a tissue box obtained through trade with the Hughey School of Wordcraft and Imagery.

On May 21, Mr. Huang gave Carson Flickinger a horse-butt magnet to trade to Ms. Hughey for a box of tissues. Mr. Huang waited two days, but the tissue box never showed. He started asking questions.

Flickinger claimed to have made the trade and then passed the box to Izzy Tice who then passed it to Josh Leong who finally passed it to Olivia Lu from 5th period.

He claimed Annie Lu witnessed the passing of the box to Tice. Tice at first said she gave the box directly to Lu, but Flickinger said it went to Leong before it went to Lu.

When questioned, Lu had no knowledge of receiving a box of tissues from anyone.

Nobody has been arrested yet. Whoever has the box of tissues could be charged with grand theft tissue under the provision of Article 2.7.3 of Longfellow’s International Trade Compact. The Kingdom of 109 would have the right to arrest the alleged thief since theft occurred after the trade with HSWI.

# Marwaha Prefers Ms. Haley

By Norman Bates

The period of SOL’s mandated by the PTB of the PTB, disrupts the Kingdom of 109 as much as it disrupts other nations. However, the disruption this year led to the revelation of the true feelings of a 109 citizen.

On May 14, Mr. Huang informed 1st period that Ms. Haley would substitute for him while he proctored the Alg. 2 SOL. A PTB representative came to tell Mr. Huang they had made a mistake. Ms. Haley would not be coming.

“Wait, why not?” whined Alex Marwaha. First period gasped. Mr. Huang shot lightning bolts from his eyes.

“No, I didn’t mean it that way, “ said Marwaha screaming in pain. But the damage was already done.

# Zechman Reveals Size of Heart

By Pierre Trudeau

On June 4, a wrinkle in normal procedure led to Sean Zechman revealing the size of his heart.

Mr. Huang collected homework that day. Everyone had to do five warm-up problems on the board. Since spirals had been turned in, this had to be done on loose-leaf paper. Adam Yee had none.

Sean Zechman came to his aid. At least, that’s what everyone thought. Zechman ripped off a tiny 1/2 by 1 inch square-ish piece of paper for Yee to use for the entire skill drill.

“I couldn’t believe it,” said Yee. “What was I supposed to do with it? It wasn’t even big enough to blow my nose on!”

Psychological data shows that the size of one’s heart varies directly with the size of paper that you give to others. An 8.5 by 11 inch piece of paper corresponds to the normal size of a human heart. This means that the size of Zechman’s heart is

just 1/62 the size of a normal human heart.

“All is not lost,” says psychologist Aaron Sorkin. “Studies also show that one can grow one’s heart

through acts of mercy and forgiveness. Mr. Zechman’s heart can grow.”

“But it’s not the size of the heart that matters,” said Nick Carter of the Backstreet Boys. “It’s the shape of the

heart that matters. If Sean looks back on the things he has done and plays his part, he can show us the true shape of his heart.”

**“It wasn’t even big enough to blow my nose on!”**

**Adam Yee**

## Jung Holds Off Kang, Wins Skill Drill Cup

By Willis Reed

With seven skill drills up for grabs 4th quarter, a number of citizens were poised to make a move on leader Harry Jung. Royce Kang grabbed hold of that opportunity but fell one perfect SD short.

Kang scored four perfects while Jung faltered with only one. Kang will be kicking himself for not getting a perfect on SD for the Masses.

Katherine Cheng led 4th quarter with five perfects and left fans wondering why she didn't score more earlier in the year.

Minyoung Hwang also made a run, scoring 3/3 perfects to start the quarter. He

was two perfects back with two weeks to go but tragically earned 95s on each.

Chloe Andresol, who after a monster 3rd quarter trailed Jung by only one, scored two perfects and finished tied with Hwang.

Thus, Jung's promising start to the year ended with a whimper, and record holder Deniz Atak (19) breathed a sigh of relief.

However, critics call the SD system unfair because the number of skill drills per year is not fixed. This year had 28 whereas Atak's year had 30.

"I can't control that," said Mr. Huang. "Our schedule is partly slave to the PTB."

## Hatanpaa Sneeze Hits 7.8 on the Schnozzer Scale

By Enzo Boschi

On May 2, desks, windows, citizens and birds of all kinds felt the shock and aftershocks of the latest Helena Hatanpaa sneeze which hit 7.8 on the Schnozzer Scale.

"I was writing the answer to a homework problem when it hit," said one 109 citizen. "My 358 ended looking like a 642!"

Hatanpaa has a history of loud sneezes.

"I moved her to the front for that reason," said Mr. Huang. "You can't stop her sneezing, but you can certainly contain their effects. It's

not just the noise. There's the spray factor too."

The Schnozzer Scale, invented by R.H. Schnozzer, uses a direct variation function that takes into account decibel level of the sneeze, level of quietness just before the sneeze, and bystander surprise factor. Bystander surprise factor instruments measure movement, heart rate and facial expressions of all people within a 20 foot radius of the sneezer.

Other loud sneezers this year include Austin Zhang of 6th period and Sophie Nichols of 4th.

## Skill Drill Standings (thru SD #28)

- 15: Harry Jung
- 14: Royce Kang
- 13: Chloe Andresol, Minyoung Hwang
- 12: Gyeongjae Kim
- 9: Katherine Cheng
- 8: Aditya Sarkar
- 7: Chris Jiang
- 6: Nina Chung, Adam Yee, Austin Zhang
- 5: Sneha Kripanandan, Joshua Kim, Jennifer Yang
- 4: Anneka Noe, Arman Parastaran, Arthur Browne, Brendan Tan-Fahed
- 3: Maggie Bujor, Joshua Havermale, Alex Howe, Jaden Lee, Nithin Vijayakumar
- 2: Linda Diaz, Anna Zhang, Ayush Pamecha, Jett Bissett, Rachel Zhang, Olivia Lu, Grace Lu, Noah Daniel, Erin Villaronga, Leela Abrishami, Sean Clancy, Kevin Juneau, Shriansh Singh
- 1: Jack Clark, Carson Flickinger, Cliff Lin, Alex Marwaha, Izzy Tice, Kai Amelung, Owen Barnett, Jill Gollob, Giacomo Mecagni, Elizabeth Zhou, Ryan Hanusik, Alex Hart, Shreya Ramesh, Ethan Wu, James Gao, Teddy Daniel, Adam Eldridge, Daniel Meakam, Jake Parker, Natalie Zhang, Alexa Fernin, Sam Sporn

### Thank you 4Q officers!

### Flagbearers

- 1st: Noah Daniel
- 3rd: Alvand Moini
- 4th: Katherine Cheng
- 5th: Ryan Hanusik
- 6th: Nithin Vijayakumar
- LT: Oskar Wells

Ambassador Teddy Daniel  
Deputy Ambassador Noah Daniel

## Ask Arvid

Dear Arvid:

Why doesn't N stand for negative numbers?

Dear Anonymous Citizen:

First of all, Chloe, as we learned way back in the first week, N already stands for the natural numbers. Second of all, the negatives are already called integers. Third of all, dogs have four legs.

Dear Arvid:

Is there a 504 plan for not being able to add integers?

Dear Anonymous Citizen #2:

Yes, Sam, there is. I see it right here on the list right under the one for not being to bring a pencil to class.

## Study Finds Lack of Good Writing

By George Will

A study by the POEM, the Professional Organization of English Majors, has determined that the level of writing ability, even among professional journalists has dropped to an all-time low.

One consequence of this drop is the higher incidence of newspaper articles about nothing.

"It's clear to us that lots of newspapers are really reaching for stories," said Dr. Wendy Turnbull. "We found that some publications knowingly write stories that really aren't news or in some cases make up stories that aren't even true. It's a travesty. They're just trying to fill up space."

For sale

Space fillers

We fill your space for low, low prices

\$0.75 per square inch

## Kripanandan Gets Desk Skirt

By Gary Hart

Per 109 tradition, Mr. Huang shuffles seating at the beginning of each quarter. Not everyone gets to sit in the front row. Sneha Kripanandan moved to the front row for 4th quarter, and that move has cost the government scores of minutes of work and dozens of pennies in taxpayer money.

Unbeknownst to Mr. Huang, Kripanandan has a fear of frontal empty spaces when sitting down. When there are no objects immediately in front of her such as another desk, she pictures insects and lizards crawling up her leg. This fear renders her paralyzed.

"We've seen this before," said Dr. Balzer of the Center for the Study of Weird People. "We've seen it in people with head trauma but never in a perfectly normal person like Ms. Kripanandan."

At first, Mr. Huang remedied the situation by putting a stack of boxes in front of Kripanandan's desk. Later, a more efficient solution was reached in the form of a permanent skirt for the desk. While still allowing for air circulation, the skirt provides the illusion that Kripanandan is safe from little critters when in reality, ants, cockroaches, beetles, worms, lizards or stink bugs could crawl up her leg at any time.

"We aim to provide comfort for all types of citizens, even ones like her," said Mr. Huang.

## 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

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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