



# The 109 Times

"We are not small potatoes."

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## Thank you....

### 4th Q Flagbearers:

- 1st: Luke Callanen
- 2nd: Chloe Petcher
- 3rd: Eric Xie
- 5th: Alex Gan
- 6th: Austen Kimmett

### Datemasters:

- 1st: Arya Goswami
- 2nd: Maria Ayvazyan

## Longfellow Quiz Bowl Wins MSNCT ; B Team Finishes Fifth

By Brian Chang

As the time ran down on Round 23 of the 2022 MSNCT between Longfellow A and Chenery (MA), Longfellow Quiz Bowl got ready to celebrate, and celebrate they did. After eleven years of being the very good team that couldn't win it all,

Longfellow A, this year entirely composed of 109 citizens, sprinted around the grand ballroom in joyous rapture. Longfellow has finally reached the pinnacle of middle school quiz bowl.

An NAQT official handed a score veri-

fication card to Mr. Huang to sign.

"I think you've been waiting a long time to sign this," he said. A long time indeed. LMS quiz bowlers know the history. Losing in an advantaged final in 2012. Losing on the last question in the fi-

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## Galbraith Makes Yard Disappear

By Courtney Shah

As quickly as Dr. Strange can make one disappear through a portal, Drake Galbraith made a yard disappear, disappointing kids all over the world.

Galbraith set the width of a yard with a 16000 area to zero, thereby erasing the entire yard.

"Imagine a kid going out to play in his backyard only to discover the yard is

gone! Mwuhahaha," declared Galbraith.

"I never knew Drake was so evil," said one fellow 2nd period citizen. "Kids need open spaces to play in for a healthy childhood."

Studies by the National Center for the Study of Yards (NCSY) have indeed shown that children who have large yards have a 43% chance of being happier than kids without yards.

## Khetarpl Fails to Take Over Class By Himself

By Andrew He

On May 12, Arnav Khetarpl could have made history by being the first person to invade a country successfully all by himself. Predictably, he didn't.

It all started when someone asked Mr. Huang if he was still going to invade 201, a long-held dream of some. He explained that since half of the Longfellow quiz bowl team was from 201, he couldn't invade where they live. Some citizens were disappointed, especially Khetarpl. Mr. Huang told him that if he was so eager, he could go ahead and try to invade himself. Khetarpl promptly went into the hallway in an attempt to do exactly that. He came back within two minutes, admitting that his mission failed.

"It didn't work," he said. "

"I'm not surprised," said one fellow citizen. "It's really hard to take over a country all by yourself. It's especially difficult if you don't look at all intimidating."

## Sotos Nearly Runs Over Mr. Huang

By Tyler Rhode

On 5/12, James Sotos nearly ran over Mr. Huang. Just before 2nd period began, Mr. Huang was standing by the door when his life flashed before his eyes. James Sotos was trying to enter the room without slowing down at all, and there was a near head-on collision.

"I thought about Queen Stephanie and Prince Kieran and Princess Valentina," said Mr. Huang. "I knew they would be taken care of, so my heart was at peace."

The police still have no explanation why Sotos was walking so fast. It is possible he was afraid of being late to class, but video of the entrance area shows that Sotos still had over a minute before class was to begin.

"I've known James for a long time," said Jake Bell. "This seems so out of character for him."

The 109 Times has so far received no comment from Sotos.

## Kotamaraju Finally Understands Something

By Jackei Kelly

On May 25, Atul Kotamaraju was overjoyed. The reason? According to him, he finally understood something.

The class was working on trigonometry. Kotamaraju had to find the tan (2 Arctan 5), something daunting for him...until today. After completing the problem, he asked Seongwoo Ju for the real answer, which was  $(4\text{rad}2)/9$ . Kotamaraju was correct, and he immediately went into hysterics.

"I finally understand some-

thing!" he screamed as tears seemed to flow from his eyes. Fellow 3rd period citizens were genuinely happy for him.

"I'm definitely happy for him," one fellow citizen said. "Because most time of the time, he tries really hard."

"I would want someone like Atul over someone who does nothing any day," said Mr. Huang.

"I'm glad I had the experience in 3rd period," said Kotamaraju. "It will help me later in life."

## Raptis Falls Into Tie With Li and Hou for Skill Drill Cup

By Margaret Shelton

Based on her consistency throughout the year, all the predictors thought Delaney Raptis had the Skill Drills Cup all wrapped up when the 4th quarter started, but then, the unthinkable happened.

On the last day of the year, Raptis missed #4 while Yeeyung Li of 1st period and Sophia Hou of 5th each scored a perfect 5 to put him themselves a tie with Raptis for first place with 18 perfects out of 21 for the year, the first time since 2015 that the Skill Drills Cup has ended in a tie.

Michelle Lin was tied with Li going into the last week, but Lin was also tripped up by #4 on the last day and had to settle for 2nd place with 17 perfects.

Number four was a seemingly harmless question involving powers of  $(x-y)$  over  $(y-x)$ , but the question tripped up numerous citizens going for a perfect for the last

week. One of those was Michelle Lin, who would have made it a four way tie had she answered  $y-x$  on #4. Being in 5th period (Algebra 2 Trig), Hou had to deal with a different set of questions and navigated them with ease.

Xiwen (Joyce) Gong (6th pd), the front-runner for the first two quarters until faltering in the 3rd quarter, finished strong in 4th quarter to finish in 3rd place with 16 perfects. Kathryn Wu was 4th with 15.

Due to the evil block schedule, Skill Drills for the Masses and Kill Drills were cancelled. Organizers were also worried if the schedule could even fit 20 weeks of Skill Drills, but Mr. Huang fought to squeeze more Skill Drill days in the last few weeks in the midst of final exam preparations.

As of now, K109 plans to continue the modified Skill Drill format as long as block scheduling sticks around.

## Perfect SDs through SD #21 (Final)

18: Yeeyung Li, Delaney Raptis, Sophia Hou  
 17: Michelle Lin  
 16: Xiwen Gong, Seongwoo Ju  
 15: Kathryn Wu, Eric Xie, Maximilain Lee  
 13: Ruby Trent  
 12: Justin Liu, Jiwon Ryu  
 11: Daniel Vladimiroff, Ryan Qi  
 10: Zain Marshall, Luke Swigart, Dheethya Balaji, Sophia Ren, Andrew Chen, Daniel Choi  
 9: Evan Choi, Jean Yoo, Indira Melvin, Kyle Li  
 8: Elaine Zhang, Ryan Kang,  
 7: Yanling Lin, Siyoon Kim, Sydney Maitland, Jihun Hwang, Yongwon Lee, Aarushi Kanigicherla, Joshua Lee, Clement Ding, Daniel Kim, Jeffrey Yin  
 6: Rosie Liu, Yimin Hou  
 5: Catherine Grinbergs, Nayeon Kim, Amiti Ganguly, Lianhan Li, Joshua Zhou,  
 4: Samhita Som, Aimee Liu, Kalan Warusa, Andrew Nguyen  
 3: Tyler Jeong, Yunah Choi, Drake GIlbraith, Sophia Wallace, Charlotte Chien, Austen Kimmett, Daisy Lin, Helen Qin, Jack Russo, Nahyeon Ryoo, Delilah Tanner, Jiayu Chen, Sophia Guo  
 2: Richard Deng, Sam Emory, Arya Goswami, Lucas Jeong, Jennifer Neigel, Ryan Riggins, Maria Ayvazyan, Elisabeth Beach, Allison Cheng, Norris Chowdhury, Sonia Qiao, Yael Lan  
 1: Luke Callanen, Jack Franz, Kushal Jivan, Jooha Kim, Yanis-Adam Mehel, Emmanuel Onyejekwe, Zachary Cramer, Carter Deevy, Wonwoo Do, Colin Heinitz, Ester Lilaj, Max Liu, Jack Park, Holly Raheb, Shayonti Zaman, Aidan Burke, Vilne Urbaityte, Atul Kotamaraju, Joshua Massery, Kevin Ren, Annie Yang

## Ask Arvid

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

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**Dear Arvid:**

**Do the Queen of 109, the Prince, and the Princess ever visit?**

**Dear Starry-Eyed:**

**On occasion, yes. They have attended Trivia Night. Prince Kieran sometimes attends math class for fun. Both were crowned in 109. Queen Stephanie was crowned in the Lecture Hall.**

**Dear Arvid:**

**How do you make the perfect pancake?**

**Dear Little Chef:**

**There are many things to consider. Ratio of milk to flour. Amount of salt. Temperature of the kitchen. Temperature of the pan. The most important thing is how much love you put into the mixing and flipping.**

**Dear Arvid:**

**Why did I never get a perfect Skill Drill?**

**Dear None:**

**At least you kept trying, or at least I hope you kept trying. That is the important thing.**

*(Continued from page 1)*

nals in 2016. Losing in the finals again in 2021. Numerous quiz bowl legends like Jonathan Leidenheimer, Tajin Rogers, Justin Young, and Deven Hagen as well as respected captains like Kate Salamido, William Wang, and Rachel Trainer have come through Longfellow, but none were able to win the big trophy until this year's Longfellow A composed of captain Aarushi Kanigicherla, Anthony Zhao, Edward Burros, and Sarah Trainer did it.

"This was the hardest working team I've ever had," said Mr. Huang. "I've had teams that probably should have won it all, but this one, based on determination alone, really deserved it."

Longfellow B composed of captain Eddie Lin, Alan Tang, Sohpia Guo, and Sam Cohen tied for 5th, a monumental feat for a B team. At the conclusion of the finals, they ran out to celebrate with their friends and sparring partners, the A team.

"That B team is amazing," said Mr. Huang. "A team wouldn't be as good as

they are without B team pushing them in practices."

Mr. Huang says that this year's A team is the best he's ever had. Aarushi Kanigicherla is the younger sister of Vishal Kanigicherla, former Longfellow QBer and captain of TJ A last year. Her calm demeanor and focus made her the obvious choice to be captain. Anthony Zhao was the only member to have attended MSNCT last year under captain Deven Hagen. Zhao, a history specialist, led Longfellow in power percentage with an impressive 70%. Edward Burros, a history bee veteran, transferred to Longfellow this year, and it's fortunate that he did, since he powered the second to last tossup to shut the door on Chenery. Like Kanigicherla, Sarah Trainer also comes from a quiz bowling family. Her sister Rachel Trainer captained Longfellow A to 5th place in 2018. Sarah was the jack-of-all-trades charged with filling in the gaps in fine arts, science, literature, and philately.

"We may never have another team like this one," said Mr. Huang.