

The 109 Times

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"We are not small potatoes."

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109 thanks 1st Q FBs:

- 1st: Megan Grohowski
- 2nd: Wendy Yin
- 4th: Ian Ghasemian
- 5th: Jack Beckner
- 6th: Chris Ertman
- LT: Isha Kunnath

109 Prepares for Queen Stephanie

By Adele Foucher

Preparations are in full swing for the wedding of Mr. Huang, King of 109 and Princess Stephanie of Putnam County as well as the coronation of Stephanie. However, the nature of the coronation is still unknown.

According to revisions to the 109 Constitution, the wife of the king may choose to be a full queen or queen consort. The two positions have considerably different job descriptions.

The queen holds as much authority as the

king and succeeds the king on his passing or his abdication. The queen consort holds no authority. Mr. Huang and Princess Stephanie are still weighing both options.

"I don't expect Mr. Huang to share power," said one citizen now at TJ. "Sharing power is not his way."

The wedding will be held on November 3, and the coronation-luncheon, organized by expert party-planner Fatima Gunter-Rahman, will be at 12:30 pm on December 7. All citizens,

allies and friends of 109 are invited to the coronation and potluck luncheon.

At 12:25, a procession of 109 flags, flag-bearers, 109 artifacts, choir and the royal couple will process from 209 to the Lecture Hall where the people await.

At 12:30, Princess Stephanie will pledge her duties to representatives of all the seven periods and Lancer Time of 109. After that, Mr. Huang will crown her either Queen of 109 or Queen Consort.

Then the people will make merry.

Mr. Huang Smiles Early

By Vladimir Ceaucescu

On September 26, what started out as a simple system made up of Lucky Charms elements, eventually turned into a gift that made Mr. Huang smile a full eight months before he usually smiles for 109 citizens.

The night after creating her system, Uitz decided to make for Mr. Huang a crown encrusted with Lucky Charms jewels. When Mr. Huang was informed what the jew-

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Sun Not Behind Computer Virus

By Sean Parker

On September 18 and 19, a computer system virus crippled Longfellow. Life in the Kingdom of 109, largely off-grid, remained the same. However, Mr. Huang, accused Williams Sun of 2nd period of being the originator of the virus.

Whether the allegations are true or not, Sun's reputation probably led to the accusation. Sun immediately defended himself:

"I don't know how to program," said Sun. Mr. Huang countered by saying programming was not necessary to send a virus.

"I think Mr. Huang was wrong on that," said Scott Becker. "You actually do need to know how to program."

The 109 Investigative Council did not file any charges against Sun, so perhaps Mr. Huang has withdrawn his accusation.

"William deserves a formal apology," said one citizen who wished to remain anonymous. "You can't just tarnish someone's name like that."

Ardeishar Likes Sandpaper

By Henry Walpole

When Adam Ardeishar computed the product of two large numbers, little did he know the world would learn about his strange, meaningless activities.

On October 11, Ardeishar won a piece of sandpaper for computing fast using the difference of squares method. Immediately, he voiced his pleasure.

"This is awesome! You can take this and rub it against the wall outside the bathroom of your house." All of 4th period tried to make sense of this but to no avail.

The new revelation overshadowed Ian Ghasemian who actually won the first two prizes of the day, finding

products without even using difference of squares.

"I think Ian was more impressive because he didn't even know the trick, and he was faster than Adam," said one citizen. "But everyone just remembers Adam from that day because of the sandpaper thing. It's sad."

While he was at it, Ardeishar revealed other meaningless things he likes to do in his free time: making popping sounds with his finger and mouth, pressing the volume button on the remote when the TV is off, gargling milk while lying on a yoga mat, and performing any task all alone in a room and then proclaiming: "I did it first!"

109 Honors Friendliest Parents

By Vai Sikahima

On September 12, the Kingdom of 109 for the first time honored the friendliest parents from Back to School Night. The son or daughter of the family was given the All-Purpose Trophy for a full class period. Here is a list of the winners:

1st period: Lauren and Megan Grohowski
 4th period: Caroline Versaw
 5th period: Jack Beckner
 6th period: Naman Rai

Three-Way Tie in Race for the Cup

By Bill Shoemaker

In contrast with recent years in the race for the championship, the 2013-14 season is not a one-person runaway. Instead, we have a three-way tie, and a preview of an exciting year in the race for the Skill Drills Cup.

Representing three different periods, Siona Prasad (1st), Adam Ardeishar (4th) and Naman Rai (6th) have all shown enough skill and speed of a champion scoring five perfects out of the first seven weeks. Yujung Lee is in 2nd place with four. Richard Wang (1st), Bilen Essayas (6th) and Rachel Sohn (4th) are in 3rd place with three.

Prasad, Ardeishar and Rai are on pace for 20 perfects for the year. That would break Deniz Atak's record of 19. However, we all know perfects are harder to come by in the 4th quarter.

With that in mind, analysts do not feel Atak's record is under threat.

"In order to have a shot at the record, one has to average six perfects in the first three quarters to create that cushion before the pace slows down in the 4th quarter," says Mel Kiper of ESPN 3.14.

Deniz Atak agrees.

"My record is not in danger," said Atak over the phone. "I started out with like ten perfects in a row and still ended up with only 19. If I had kept up the original pace, I would have had at least 25, but nobody can sustain that pace throughout the whole year."

While the record may not be in danger, the coveted Skill Drills Cup of 2014 is up for grabs, and judging by early numbers, we could be in for a final week showdown.

Skill Drills Standings (after SD #7)

- 5: Siona Prasad, Adam Ardeishar, Naman Rai
- 4: Yujung Lee
- 3: Richard Wang, Bilen Essayas, Rachel Sohn
- 2: Lauren Grohowski, Joel Lee, Alex Ton, John Lee, Lora Zhou
- 1: Will Hammond, Andrew Kim, Grace Li, Alex Yang, Alice Fontaine, Yurim Kim, Peter Lee, Eric Lee, Lynn Nguyen, Praveen Vinayak, Thea Wang, Deniz Nemli, Jack Beckner, Shihao Cao, Stephanie Manning, Eric Sun, Isabella Swigart, Brian Collins, Sebastian Ibarra, Khang Le, Nicole Owens, Seungmin Shin, Andrew Swenson, Ethan Wood-Thomas, Joyce Yang

Potential Perfects Told to Not Mess Up

By Rinx Czura

On Friday October 25, several citizens were exhorted by their fellow citizens to get one more 5 on Friday to get a perfect Skill Drill. But did it help?

In 4th period, Adam Ardeishar was the only citizen going for perfect, and he got it. In 6th period, several citizens were going for perfect. Sebastian Ibarra, Rachel Sohn, and Naman Rai got perfects, but Khang Le and Bilen Essayas each missed one on Fri-

day. Lora Zhou, the only one in 5th period going for perfect let the pressure get to her.

"It was too much," she mumbled through tears. "Next time, I would rather not have it."

"I loved it," said Ardeishar. "I felt the power of all of 109 going through me. It was like magic. I felt like I could eat a flock of sheep all by myself."

Meanwhile, Zhou, Le and Essayas were left wondering what might have been.

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els were made of, he smiled.

5th period thought Mr. Huang ate Lucky Charms, but he doesn't.

"When he smiled, I thought we had this breakfast connection," said Uitz. "Oh well, he still smiled, and I made him do it!"

Mr. Huang also smirked when Omar al-Gailani presented his system of strangely-shaped fruit.

Citizens now wonder if the early smiles signify a trend of more frequent smiling. If so, what will this mean for 109?

Copy of *The Burgundy/Gold Letter* Found

By Rafael Palmeiro

Archeologists recently unearthed the only extant copy of the heretofore legendary novel *The Burgundy/Gold Letter* by Nigel Hawthorne.

Until this discovery, historians were not even sure this novel existed. In his diary, Nigel Hawthorne, second cousin 3/4 removed from Nathaniel Hawthorne, claimed that Nathaniel had stolen his idea at a family Christmas party and based *The Scarlet Letter* on it and destroyed Nigel's original manuscript.

While Nathaniel's novel centers on adultery, Nigel's centers on the village math student Melanie Anne Porter who is caught cheating on a test. The village decides to make her

sew a burgundy/gold (the colors of extravagance and mediocrity) letter C on all of her clothes.

"This discovery is an amazing find," said Tracy Prescott, president of the Recently Discovered Literature Society. "We need classic literature that teaches the core values of 109 like honesty and hard work."

Not all 109ers share her sentiment.

"This book is a piece of propaganda that teaches people to discriminate against cheaters," said one anonymous 109 citizen.

"We can peacefully debate the merits of this novel," said Mr. Huang. "However, I do not support banning this book."

Lin Reveals an Inner Darkness

By Jozef Konrad

All Erin Lin of 2nd period did was reveal his favorite book, and now everyone is on guard when he is around.

On October 7, David Park and Wendy Yin of 2nd period expressed that they did not enjoy *Lord of the Flies*. With a devastatingly evil grin, Eric Lin revealed that *Lord of the Flies* was his favorite book of all time.

Immediately, citizens accused him of being evil, darkness-filled and worst of all, a bad judge of literature.

"I don't understand how he can like that book," said one witness. "Now I have to take karate! Did you see that grin? What if Eric goes all Jack Merridew on me? I wear glasses. I need to be ready to defend myself."

Ask Arvid

Dear Arvid:

There is an annoying person behind me who gets mad if I don't pass back her homework immediately. What do I do about it?

Dear Nagged:

Every time she bothers you, turn around and give her the evil eye.

Dear Arvid:

There is this lazy bum column leader who won't pass back my homework immediately. What do I do about it?

Dear Nagger:

You wait. Patience breeds enlightenment.