



The 109 Times

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Thank you....

1st Q Flagbearers:

- 1st: Sadie Andrew
- 2nd: Gavin Grant
- 3rd: Addie Harris
- 4th: Robbie Barnett
- 7th: Tanmay Neema

DM: Tavian Melvin

Attorney General:

K109 Eliminates Office of Ambassador

By Jareen Dasarp

In a stunning move, Mr. Huang chose to eliminate the office of Ambassador of 109.

"In order to streamline government, we decided the duties of Ambassador could be taken on by another office," said Jim

Jeffcoat, spokesperson for Mr. Huang's office.

Past ambassadors have been instrumental in building relationships with other

nations including the Matharchy of 200 and the Queendom of 168. In some cases, the ambassador worked tirelessly for the entire year, culminating in the treaty signing in June.

"I don't see how you can eliminate such an important position," said former ambassador Eva Grau who was instrumental in the K109-M200 alli-

ance. "Not only is it a lot of work, but there is a legacy to the position."

"I'm sorry to have to say it, but I think it's a power grab," said Teddy Daniel, former ambassador who helped form the alliance between K109 and HSWI. "If you look at recent history, Mr. Huang took some steps toward democracy, but then the week-long sentence happened last year for his transgression. Of

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Not Small Potatoes Book Out by May

By Albert Campion

Mango Publishing, the new literary arm of Mango Productions, maker of *Mangos and Large Potatoes* the documentary film, has announced that a book chronicling the entire history of the Kingdom of 109 has been approved.

Initial reports do not reveal who the author will be, but Mango Publishing has indicated a target month of May for its initial release.

"The film was a great success,

but it only told the story of the first seven years of 109.," said Mango CEO Mike Hammer. "This book will fill in all the gaps and perhaps serve as the basis for a sequel to the first film."

"I'm so excited," said one citizen from 2013-14. "My year was the best, but it's not in Mangos and Large Potatoes. Now my generation will finally have a voice!"

Injured Remily Takes AMC

By Rowan Williams

Despite massive injuries to her face, Jaya Remily or 2nd Period still showed up for the 2019 AMC 8.

Reports are still vague, but Remily either fell on her own or was tripped in PE on November 12, causing two lacerations on the left side of her face. Such injuries would keep a normal 109 citizen at home., but Remily is apparently not normal.

"The AMC gods decided I had to come," said Remily, referring to the annual math contest held on 11/13.

"I wish I had dedication like that," said one fellow citizen.

Qualification for the AMC 10 depends on how well the population does on the AMC 8. Fewer high scores results in a lower bar to qualify. Since Remily was predicted to be one of the higher scores, her absence would have resulted on lower scores possibly squeaking through to the next round. Naturally, conspiracy theories have risen.

"I think it's obvious that something tried to get rid of her to bring the qualifying score down," said one friend. "I heard of others who said they were almost tripped in PE the day before the AMC. It's pretty obvious these incidents are connected."

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course some citizens are going to push for more reforms. He's trying to head them off at the pass. It's definitely a power grab, but to be honest, If I were king and I didn't want to lose power, I would do the same thing."

Who will take on the duties of ambassador is still a mystery. The duties of the Attorney General have grown exponentially in three years since its inception, so it's unlikely Mr. Huang will pile on international tasks for the AG. Flagbearers and Datemasters are elected by the citizens. The ambassador is appointed by the king. If a flagbearer or datemaster doubled as ambassador and then did some-

thing not to the king's liking, Mr. Huang would risk retribution if he for example decided to remove flagbearer/ambassador from office.

As is always true in K109, Mr. Huang could simply become the de facto ambassador himself, but one wonders what kind of picture that would project overseas with the more democratic-leaning nations. Even though 168 and 200 are also monarchies, the citizens there tend to live more relaxed lifestyles. Appointing himself ambassador might invite questions from those nations.

"Government got too big," said Mr. Huang. "Streamlining bureaucracy ensures that government will run smoothly."

Lee Hordes Mangas

By Cordelia Gray

On October 18, 109 authorities examined the desk of Claire Lee in 3rd period for having quite a tall stack of mangas from the Longfellow Library.

"While it is not against the law to be in possession of a large stack of books, it is highly unusual to have a stack of books two-feet tall on one's desk," said Detective Richard Monday, chief investigator for 109. "That's why we investigated."

After speaking with library officials, Monday determined that the books, while numerous, were obtained legally.

Lee was seen voraciously read-

ing one of the volumes after completing her Quiz #5.

"I don't think she can finish them by the end of weekend, much less the end of the day," said one fellow 109 citizen. "I mean, did you see how tall that stack was?"

"I heard that if you read enough mangas in a day, you will actually turn into one of the manga characters," said another, excitedly. "I read like five in 30 minutes once, and I swear my eyes got way too big for my face, and my hair got ultra-smooth and/or spiky! I felt my existence oozing onto the pages."

Hagen Jumps to Early Lead

By Jake Lassiter

After the first eight weeks of Skill Drills, Deven Hagen has jumped to an early lead in the race for the Skill Drills Cup. However, missing perfects on two weeks already ensures that Tanmay Neema's record of 24 out of 26 will not be broken this year.

Even though the difficulty level has not changed, perfects this year have been harder to come by than last year. 1st Period only has 12 total perfects, and 4th Period only has 10, with Leah Zhang having five of them. Arya Bharath (2nd Peri-

od) started out quick with four perfects in a row before stumbling to end the quarter with five.

Meanwhile, for the first time in many years, Algebra 2 also has a Skill Drills race with a much higher difficulty level than Algebra 1. Tanmay Neema, last year's Algebra 1 Cup champion and current record-holder for perfects in a year leads with a perfect 8 out of 8. He is followed by David Cao with 7 and four others with 6.

"For Algebra 2, the difficulty level will have to increase," said Mr. Huang. "It's too easy."

Rug Advocates Henick and Macomber Lose SCA Elections

By Tess Monaghan

Having a rug on your resume doesn't seem to be enough for Longfellow voters.

On October 31, Longfellow voted for their student council members. The candidates included 109 citizens Carmen Henick and Kyra Macomber, former citizens of 3rd Period who spearheaded the project that brought Ralph the Rug to 109.

Having led the fundraising campaign, Henick made that experience the centerpiece of her election speech on LITV. She hoped to get considerable sup-

port from 109 citizens as well as from people who are just really into rugs. It didn't work.

Macomber was hoping that her height would attract enough voters.

"When a tall person walks into a room, you look up, right?" said Macomber. "It's like when you look up at the beautiful sky. You feel like there is hope in the world. That's what I wanted to bring to Longfellow. I guess they didn't want me. I guess they didn't want hope. I'm not bitter."

Meanwhile, another 109 citizen, Alexandre Stephant, did get enough votes. He speaks French.

Skill Drills

Standings, Alg. 1 (after SD #8)

6: Deven Hagen
5: Arya Bharath, Leah Zhang
3: Chris Jia, Alan Zhu, Patrick Shi, Minsong Ha
2: Emily An, Birka Chen, Hudson Keeler, Eric Xie, Angela Chen, Chengobo Kan, Teju Charagundla, Youngji Sohn
1: Tara Bhatnager, Tavian Melvin, Joshua Massery, Daniel Choi, Courtney Kosco, Hannah Lee, Rachel Noh, Noam Nikolich, Kyle Li, So Matsumoto, Mercurio O'Dwyer, Jaiden Saran, David Sheng, Elliott Berry

Alg. 2 (after SD #8)

8: Tanmay Neema
7: David Cao
6: Angelina Richter, Catherine Jeon, Vayun Malik, William Zhang
5: Alina Chen, Serenna Semonsen
4: Taohan Liu
3: Seungwoo Ha, Jaeyoon Keum, Chris Lyu, Megan Zhang
2: Benji Cohen

Ask Arvid

Answers to Questions in an Ever-Confusing World

Dear Arvid:

When Mr. Huang assigns homework, I assume that he isn't going to do a homework check, but he always does one when I don't do homework. I get so disappointed. What can I do to avoid the disappointment?

Dear Mr. Incomplete:

One way to avoid this disappointment is to not do *any* of the homework ever. Then you will be mentally prepared to get a zero on the homework check and you won't be disappointed at all. However, there is also another solution to your dilemma. Think hard.

Dear Arvid:

When I do homework, I only do every third problem, hoping that if there is a homework check, Mr. Huang will check the ones I did. I'm usually wrong. Can you help?

Dear Ms. Clever:

That's pretty clever...not. You do know he could just *choose* to check two of the problems you obviously didn't do to send you a message, don't you? He knows.

Dear Arvid:

I spent like 20 minutes on an extra credit question on a test. I didn't have enough time for the regular questions. Help!

Dear Avider:

Extra credit questions are like chocolates. You never know what's inside until you bite into it. It might take 5 minutes or it might take 30 minutes. Meanwhile, on the rest of the test, there are regular questions of the

type you have seen before waiting to be answered.

Dear Arvid:

Would it be to my advantage if the concept of time were abolished?

Dear Avider #2:

Well, you would never be late, but you would also never be early or on time because none of those three entities would exist. There would also be no sequence of events, so nothing would be before or after anything else. Also, there may be nothing now. In other words, nothingness may rule the universe, and like Thanos (whose name means death), you and everyone else may just fade to dust. If you had the power to abolish time, you might also be responsible for the end of the universe. Then again, would there really be an end to anything if there were no time?

Dear Arvid:

What do I do if someone calls me a small potato?

Dear Victim:

If it isn't a citizen of 109, there is nothing you can do about except call that person a small potato back (it's not a crime to call a non-citizen a small potato). If it is a citizen, then you may report it to Mr. Huang, the AG Ryan McKenzie or a flagbearer. Make sure you give the names of two witnesses. Then let the justice system follow its course. If you are truly a victim, the perpetrator will receive appropriate consequences.