

# The 109 Times

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“We are not small potatoes.”

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## K109 Settles into 209

By Pablo Casals

The Kingdom of 109’s long trek from 109 to 209 finally ended in August when the remnant of 109 started building shelter and planting mango trees in their new home.

Meanwhile, the PTB moved into the original 109, and in clear violation of their own promises, began to cut down mango trees and forcibly remove the Foss from their native lands. Mr. Huang is currently trying to obtain permission from the PTB to allow the Foss to settle in 209.

Although mango trees are not native to 209, 109 brought some native trees with them to plant in a

land that ecologists say will sustain enough trees to feed the people.

Many things have remained the same. Flagbearers and a datemaster have been elected. Armed with two new flags and the original flag on display, 109 seems more intent than ever on preserving its heritage.

“It’s natural for a culture to want to strengthen its identity when it has been oppressed,” said Mr. Huang. “After time, we may see this relocation as a blessing if the citizens of 109 dedicate themselves to knowing who they are and where they came from. Then, this nation certainly shall not perish from the earth.”

## PTB Gives The Seven Jewels to Protectors

By Eliza Dushku

What was thought to be legend is now apparently true. The Seven Jewels, created by the Sandi, encapsulating logic, geometry, arithmetic, rhetoric, music, grammar and science, have been passed on to seven anonymous protectors.

A spokesperson for the PTB, who have held the Seven Jewels since their creation, said: “In light of recent news from abroad and within Longfellow, we felt it was too dangerous to keep the Seven Jewels together. In the hands of seven anonymous protectors, we feel

that the forces of darkness will have a difficult time stealing them and twisting them.”

Even the seven themselves do not know who the other protectors are. Though the PTB would not say if math teachers were chosen to protect the geometry and arithmetic jewels, that is everyone’s guess.

Some residents feel it would make more sense for the people to know who the protectors are, but the PTB and Mr. Huang agree that anonymity is the way to go, especially if thieves arise from within Longfellow itself.

## K109 Signs Treaty with Hughey School

By Alexei Levski

On September 28, a small contingent of the Kingdom of 109, including native gypsies, traveled with Mr. Huang to the faraway Hughey School of Wordcraft and Imagery in Room 150 to sign a treaty of alliance.

The treaty, drafted by both Mr. Huang and Ms. Hughey, ensures that the two entities acknowledge each other's superiority in their respective fields. K109 and HSWI also pledge to work together to protect the Seven Jewels from the forces of darkness.

The last time K109 signed a treaty was with the Nation of Tieland just before its occupation by the evil Mr. Calamito

(presumed dead) and Officer Morris (now rehabilitated). The fact that K109 enters into treaties rarely and carefully speaks to the possibility of danger on the horizon.

***“There are signs that the forces of darkness are gathering within and outside Longfellow.”***

***- Mr. Huang***

“There are signs that the forces of darkness are gathering within and outside Longfellow,” said Mr. Huang. “So this treaty is definitely needed. In fact, there may be more to come.” Mr. Huang may be alluding to

the possibility of signing a treaty with a nation between K109 and HSWI to serve as an oasis when traveling the long road between the two new friendly entities.

In addition to the treaty-signing itself, the two heads of state exchanged gifts with Ms. Hughey receiving a 109 t-shirt and Mangos and Large Potatoes DVD and Mr. Huang receiving a turtle air-freshener.

“What are they saying? Do they think we smell? Who wants friends who think we smell?” cried one offended 109 citizen.

Former flagbearers now living in different lands were also in attendance.

## Gypsies Allowed to Pursue Citizenship

By James Forsyth

In a first for the Kingdom of 109, native gypsies in Lancer Time now have a path to citizenship if they wish.

109's newly formed Department of Naturalization devised a citizenship test focused on 109 history and government. The gypsies, people who roam the forests playing violins and dancing, are not required to take the test, but some have jumped at the chance. Sarah Forburger and Jason Stranne were the first to pass. Paul Doody finally passed on the third try.

Before the test became official, public opinion was split on

whether K109 should even allow gypsies to become citizens.

“They don't learn math in 109,” said one citizen.

“They don't spend as much

***“They are cannibals! I hear they eat their own young!”***

***- Right-wing 109 nationalists***

time in the community as we do,” said another.

“They are cannibals! I hear they eat their own young!” cried one group of right-wing nationalists. The 109 Times has yet to

deny or confirm this accusation.

“I think everybody wins,” said Mr. Huang. “The gypsies can be a valued addition to 109. They know the forest. They are experts at raising plums. I hear they are good fighters too in case we run into trouble. Plus, it's good for them because they receive protection just as any 109 citizen would. Look at what happened to the Foss when the PTB took 109.”

It is precisely that privilege of protection that concerns some 109 citizens who believe those privileges should only be accessible to full-fledged 109 citizens.

## Lower Date Box for Gresenz

By Danny DeVito

“I can’t reach it.” Those sad words pushed Mr. Huang to establish a lower date box for the first datemaster of the year, Gabriela Gresenz. 109 has never had two date boxes before.

“That’s why I never ran for datemaster last year,” said Ashley Kim, now in 3rd period.

With board space already crowded with homework, quiz average and announcement boxes, 109 may impose a freeze on any new date boxes.

“But what if we get a new datemaster next quarter who is even shorter than Gabriela?” asked one citizen, obviously sensitive to the plight of the vertically-challenged. “Equal opportunity means equal access.”

## 109 Unveils New Website

By Arthur Brisbane

This summer, K109 launched a new website with more detail about the history, traditions and citizens of 109.

As archeologists continue to discover new story lines in 109 history, more and more information about formerly unknown topics such as the Foss and the Seven Jewels are posted.

The former dark background was scrapped in favor of a brighter motif. The new website also more prominently features the master artists of 109 alongside their creations. The Skill Drills leaders are placed on the same page as other award winners.

The latest upload is the first-ever recording of the 109 national anthem “Not Small Potatoes” performed by the newly formed 109 Tabernacle Choir.

## Champness Ignites Clean Movement

By Melvin Udall

While the Kingdom of 109 is a nation of traditions, the fear of disease now threatens one of the oldest traditions of all.

When the Kingdom was established in 2003, one of the first unwritten traditions was the use of a test folder to hold quizzes and tests. Writing the current school year on it, Mr. Huang chose a plain manila folder, and he has written the school year on it ever since, including the current 2011-12 year.

However, Hannah Champness cast doubt on the folder’s sanitation when she refused to touch the folder because it was “gross.” Specifically, she noted the dark flimsy lower

left-hand corner, worn down by overuse and discolored from dirt, oil, and grime.

Since then, the Center for Disease Control, which has never had a director, recommended that a new manila folder be put in its place. The CDC also offered Champness the position of director, but she turned it down.

Still, Champness’ act has stirred up heretofore closely guarded emotions. Other citizens in the Clean Movement have now urged Mr. Huang to check the cleanliness of old textbooks and desks as well as that old folder.

“I want to live a long time, but if the Kingdom can’t keep me safe from germs, then I might just move somewhere else,” said one angry citizen.

## Gunderson/Anthony Lose Man-Points

By Randy Savage

Whether or not they knew how feminine the game was, Finn Gunderson and Anthony Capon of 5th period each lost five man points on Oct. 11.

Just before class began, they stood up and began playing a patty cake style Korean hand game that is typically played by Korean girls. Mr. Huang approached them with the sad news that they had each lost five man points.

“I hated doing it, but I had to tell them the truth.” said Mr. Huang. The loss of man points does not stem from 109 law. It is a natural loss in males that stems from unmale actions. The feeling of loss is so subtle that one may not even be aware that one has lost man points. That is why it is important for males to be told when they have lost them so they can take steps to replenish them.

Fortunately for Gunderson that day, he won an explanation challenge and regained those five man-points. Capon has yet to regain them.

## A Day in the Life of Yogumbyyo

By Erin Atak

On September 30, by popular vote, the 109 mascot was officially named Yogumbyyo. Here is a description of a typical day in the life of Yogumbyyo:

In the morning, he usually gets up at around 3:00 am (also known as the paranormal hour) to scare off the evil ghosts in the Kingdom of 109. Once the ghosts are scared, he places the 109 flag in the center of the kingdom and sings the 109 national anthem.

Once that is over, he comes home and eats a grilled mango sandwich for breakfast. The thing about Yogumbyyo is that if he eats anything fried, then his skin starts to turn

from blue to brown and his skin starts to sweat acid.

Once breakfast is complete, he strolls along the kingdom patrolling

***...if he eats anything fried, then his skin starts to turn from blue to brown and his skin starts to sweat acid.***

the streets to make sure that all is well. If he comes across any suspicious activity, he uses his red eye (which is a lie detector) and his one blue eye (which is his laser eye) to defeat the criminal. After his patrolling business is over, he gets

into a canoe and rows out into the middle of a lake (which is located near his home) and goes fishing for 2 hours. Whatever he catches, he grills and eats on the boat.

Once he is done fishing, he visits the citizens who are in need of financial aid and writes down suggestions the citizens have for improving the kingdom.

Yogumbyyo then delivers these notes to the king's palace and hops down to the center of the kingdom where he sings the national anthem and takes the flag down. He then hops home to his mansion burrow underground and watches Spongebob for 3 hours. After that, he falls asleep, and the cycle repeats.

## Unemployment Rate Steady at 0%

By Eugene V. Debs

For the 29th consecutive quarter, the unemployment rate remains at 0%. Other nations stand in awe.

"How do they do it?" asked President Barack Obama, sipping on a black forest berry iced tea.

"Comment font-ils le faire?" asked President Nicolas Sarkozy while lounging on the Riviera with a glass of wine in hand.

"Pos to kanoun?" asked a Greek protestor with malatov cocktail in hand.

"It's simple," said an economist at George Mason University. "They don't have any jobs. Eliminate jobs and you eliminate joblessness."

That doesn't explain how people make money.

"They don't have money either," he continued.

K109 has never instituted a currency although some pro-currency groups have tried.

"Currency ends up being a problem," said Mr. Huang. "It's value fluctuates. It causes inflation. Plus, we have everything we need from the earth...mangoes. Other nations just don't get it."

## Citizens Still Learning DOTW

By Jim Henson

"It's a problem that must be dealt with," said Calvin Butterball, head psychologist of 109 Department of Brains. Butterball was referring to the ongoing problem of knowing the days of the week.

Take Mary McMahon of 6th period, for example, who obviously thought Thursday comes after Tuesday when writing her Wednesday skill drill answers or Emma Fan of 5th period who has made the error at least twice.

Not everyone has the courage to come out and admit their problem. Lucky for them, there is a new hotline, 1-800-555-DOTW, where one can receive counseling from a gentle-voiced DOTW expert on the phone. No personal information will be exchanged.

"There is some evidence that vaccinations contribute to DOTW difficulty," said Mr. Butterball. "But until we find the true cause, we will have to lean on psychological treatment."

## Ask Arvid ...

Where all your fear and doubt comes out whether you want them to or not

### Dear Arvid:

I was flagbearer, but I never got to carry the flag outside. I'm sad about that.

I turn my homework in last so that I'm the first one to get it back. That way I have more time to enjoy looking at the check mark. Aren't I clever?

of each class and yell:  
"Homework, you!" I'm pretty sure that will work.

### Dear Arvid:

What happens if I cheat?

### Dear Most Blessed Flagbearer:

Do not worry about anything. The kingdom hears your cry and remembers your service. You are just as important as any flagbearer.

### Dear Easily Entertained:

Yes, you are quite clever. I hear Mr. Huang needs someone to count how many holes are in the ceiling tiles.

### Dear Lowest of the Low:

Best case scenario: you get a zero and a phone call at home.  
Worst case scenario: you get an unexpected visit from Mr. Huang's people.

### Dear Arvid:

Is  $191-3=188$ ?

### Dear Arvid:

I always forget to turn in my homework. What can I do about it?

### Dear Arvid:

Why aren't I good at math?

### Dear Subtractor:

You could line up 191 and 188, subtract and see? Remember to borrow carefully.

### Dear Forgetful:

I will give you the same advice I gave to someone long ago who had the same question. Appoint someone seated near you to be the slapper. The slapper will slap you at the beginning

### Dear Ben:

You are. You just don't know it yet.

## Citizens Suffer for Vandal and Vandalized Desk

By Leonard Nimoy

On October 19, all 109 citizens (except for gypsy citizens) participated in a day of suffering for the vandal and the desk that was vandalized two weeks before.

1st and 5th periods did their times tables, 4th and 6th counted backwards by threes from 200 and 3rd period listed all the primes less than 300 (though not one accurately listed all of them).

By suffering that day, the citizens of 109 participated in the suffering of the desk that

was vandalized. The desk, the 3rd desk on column 4, had several stickers put on it. The act of suffering, albeit small in comparison

*"Our suffering is a way of mourning for that person."*

to the vandalism, displayed the unity that the citizens have with the non-living things in 109.

The suffering also expressed the citizens' sorrow for the citizen

who vandalized the desk.

"He or she is obviously a troubled soul to do such a thing to a desk," said a citizen who wished to remain anonymous. "Our suffering is a way of mourning for that person."

The vandalism actually violated both of Mr. Huang's rules: 1) Respect every living thing. 2) Respect every non-living thing. The desk was obviously not respected but so were the people who sit in the desk and so were Mr. Huang's fingers.

## 6th Pd. Sets Record

By Greg Hoggard

For the first time in 109 history, an entire class forgot to turn in their homework.

On Sept. 14, skill drills had already started when Mr. Huang sat down to check homework. When he reached for the expected pile of papers in the HW crate, nothing was to be found. It was empty.

“So no one did their homework?” he asked. Notebooks flung open, papers rustled and gasps filled the darkened room. In seconds, the crate was filled to the brim with spirals.

The days will pass, but 6th period will forever be remembered as a trailblazer.

## 1st Period Petitions for More Color

By Jesse Louis Burns

Led by Datemaster Gabriela Gresenz, a 1st period coalition is pushing for more colors in the date box.

A Petition Against Marker Segregation is apparently circulating though not all citizens have signed it. Twenty-four out of 30 citizens of 1st period and dozens of foreigners signed it. There is some evidence of intimidation and bullying to obtain signatures. Mr. Huang allows blue, black and brown only. He did allow pink on breast cancer awareness day.

Gresenz, whose term in office ends on November 4, thanked Mr. Huang for allowing her to use pink one day, but to her and her supporters, that is not enough. The petition does not require anyone, including the king, to use other colors. It simply asks for the right to do so.

“We are doing this for the future datemasters of 109. All colors deserve the same rights,” she said.

“Three colors is enough,” Mr. Huang said. “I’m not worried. Anyway, I have a feeling the next datemaster won’t be interested in pink, green or purple.” No one is quite sure what he meant by that. By royal order, the king is not allowed to influence the campaigns for datemaster in any way.

Thank you,  
1st quarter officers!

Datemaster

Gabriela Gresenz

Flagbearers

1st: Emily Swett  
3rd: Tiger Zhang  
4th: Diana Zavela  
5th: Habib Karaky  
6th: Crystal Zhao

*Kingdom of 109*  
merchandise for sale

109 t-shirts - \$10  
109 DVDs - \$10  
109 stickers - 50 cents

*“We are not small potatoes”*

## Could This Be the Year?

By Erin Andrews

Each year, the beginning of the hunt for the coveted Skill Drills Cup is always accompanied by whispers of who might threaten the record of 18 perfect SDs held by Seungin Sohn, Han Kim and Care Shoaibi. This year, more than ever, those whispers have become loud chatter about the biggest threat in years.

Deniz Atak, brother of Narnian guide Erin Atak, has already broken the record for most consecutive perfects to start the season. He is one shy of tying the record for most consecutive

perfects in a season.

The 5th pd. star came into the year highly motivated to break the all-time record, and he often reminds people that he will in fact do it.

His closest competition so far, Antonio Chan, also from 5th, is one behind with five. William Kodama (4th), Mayuko Takamura (6th) and Crystal Zhao (6th) lie in 3rd place with four perfects.

The difficulty level of 2nd quarter SD's rise, so we will see if Atak, Chan and the others really mean business or if they are just pretenders.

## SD Standings (thru SD #6)

**6: Deniz Atak**

**5: Antonio Chan**

**4: William Kodama, Mayuko Takamura, Crystal Zhao**

**3: Aaron Chung, Alex Simons, Habib Karaky**

**2: Krystal Chao, Emma Fan, Nathalie Thomas, Grace Lee, Aazrin Mir, Caitlin Dozier, Shawn Choi, Isabelle Wyerman**

**1: Ymalla Chen, Hannah Scanlon, Varun Talwar, Tim Wu, Renee Zhang, Will Baxley, Shannon Chu, Dylan Myrick, Emily Stranne, Evan Yang, Hannah Champness, Avery Edson, Siri Fredriksen, Jinwook Hwang, Tom Polliam, Brian Zheng, Veronica Kim, Mary McMahan, John Zele, Michelle Lim**

## Lee Discovers Formula for Decagons

By Danica McKellar

Euclid, Pythagoras, Rene Descartes, Leonard Euler, Carl Frederich Gauss, Pierre de Fermat, Andrew Wiles, ... Hyeon Su Lee.

Lee added himself to the star-studded list of mathematicians when he derived a previously unknown formula. His task was to find the number of pairs of parallel diagonals of a regular decagon. Not only did Lee find the correct number of pairs, but he also found the general formula for the number of pairs of diagonals for ANY regular decagon in the universe.

Now, when Lee or anyone is confronted with counting pairs of diagonals in ANY regular decagon, all one has to do is plug the number of sides of that regular decagon into the formula:

$$\text{No. pairs of diagonals} = n(n-2) / 2$$

The most intriguing aspect of the formula is that since it only applies to regular decagons,  $n$  will always be 10. Hence, the numerator will always be 80 and the entire value will be 40. Thus, to save time, one can simply memorize 40. Having no variables, this formula becomes the shortest mathematical formula in the world.

Some have criticized the formula, claiming that it is too specific and thus not very useful. However, defenders of Lee say that specificity is evidence of how special the formula is. Who would want a formula that applies to various situations? How boring.

Others claim that Lee's formula isn't a formula at all since  $n$  always takes on the same value. Again, Lee's defenders cry: "That shows how consistent the formula is. Isn't that what you want in a formula-consistency? You know you can trust it. You know you can trust Hyeon Su."

# The Recipe Corner

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Provided by Boys Excelling at Cooking and Sewing (BECS)



## *Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich*

The peanut butter and jelly sandwich is an old American tradition from as far back as the 1930s. BECS' mission is to preserve the tradition of tasty American meals cooked by boys.

1. Preferably with permission, grab peanut butter, jelly and slices of bread from kitchen
2. Also get a knife. If it's dirty, rinse it.
3. Spread generous amounts of peanut butter on one slice of bread
4. Lick the knife
5. Spread generous amounts of jelly (or jam or preserves) on the other slice
6. Lick the knife again
7. Squish the two slices together (make sure the spreaded sides are facing each other)
8. Leave both jars open on the kitchen counter in case you want more later

109ers, congratulations on completing 1st quarter!

You are not small potatoes!

Eat mangos and be like Haitao.

Everything will be just fine.

Mr. Huang