

# The 109 Times

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“We are not small potatoes.”

January 2011

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## It’s Official, Moving Day 2/11

By Yaser Al-Kitab

On January 21, Lead Orc Jim, Mrs. Kihm, and nations of the hallway including 109 met for an hour to hammer out details of the relocation to the Villas.

Jim, hired by the PTB to renovate Longfellow, informed all involved that 109, 112, 114 and others would move out on Feb. 11 around 5pm. Nations and their leaders are to prepare accordingly.

“109 is greatly saddened that this day is finally decided. We will take our last few weeks to celebrate 109 and leave our homeland as a dignified people,” read a statement from

the 109 office.

During the meeting, Mr. Huang looked at Jim with suspicion. About a week earlier, Jim and his orcs encroached on 109 territory, building an unauthorized wall in its southwest corner during winter break. 109 and the PTB were outraged.

“I am supposed to be informed about these things, and I wasn’t,” said Mrs. Kihm. All three parties met and Jim agreed to take the wall down after a few days.

While 109 celebrated a battle won, Mr. Huang remained cautious.

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## Sher’s Sneezes Rattle 6th period

By Arthur Fonzarelli

On October 28 in 6th period, the silence during Skill Drills was interrupted by several tremors. No, there was no earthquake, low-flying airplane or bomb. The air filled with the loud bangs of “Justin Sher’s sneezes” (try saying that fast five times in a row).

“It was amazing,” said one citizen. “First of all, they were powerful. Plus, they just kept coming and coming and coming.”

Consecutive sneezes do have a

history in 109. In 2004, 3rd period experienced six in a row and in 2008, seven. Even though Sher did not reach either of those numbers, old-timers claim his were some of the most powerful in recent memory.

Ancient peoples believed that sneezing expelled evil spirits. Therefore, blessing someone immediately after became a normal custom. Now that science has advanced we now know that isn’t true. Reliable scien-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Calculators Claim Unfair Treatment

By Karl Kassel

Texas Instruments and Casio calculators of every color and model took to the streets to complain about unfair treatment by Mr. Huang and 109.

“He leaves us in a closet to rot!” they exclaimed while holding signs pointing to Mr. Huang’s supposed techno-racism. Some

protestors even showed pictures of human hands tearing apart calculators and performed inhumane experiments on them.

“I have it on good authority,” said a particularly dusty TI-83, “that Mr. Huang is required by the Powers-That-Be to use us. “

While this is probably true,

Mr. Huang, who chooses to call calculators by the derogatory acronym IB, has shown over the years that he obeys PTB directives only when he wants to. He hasn’t used calculators in years. However, not until the calculator

*“He leaves us in a closet to rot!”*

population reached over 50 have they found the courage to speak out.

The calculators sought support from 109’s rulers and paper clips, but those two groups ignored them. This comes as no surprise since Mr. Huang uses them on a daily basis. Allying

with calculators could land them in the closet as well.

The ACLU has contacted Mr. Huang’s office, but Mr. Huang has yet to make a statement.

Several years ago, Mr. Huang did cut back on calculator, mechanical pencil, and erasable pen rights while giving privileges to abaci, white out, rulers and traditional pencils.

“We’re about traditional mathematics,” said one 109 citizen. “Mr. Huang will use what he thinks is appropriate. If that means hurting the feelings of a few button boxes, so what?”

## Power’s-That-Be Nervous Over Kim’s Dream

By Antonio Garibaldi

The Kingdom of 109 is not the only authority that seeks the advice of prophets. The Powers-That-Be have also recently sought advice from fortune tellers after learning of 4th period’s Elliot Kim’s disturbing dreams.

Kim’s dreams detail Mr. Huang’s overtaking all of Longfellow with violent passion. Sharp weapons figure prominently in Kim’s mind’s shocking images.

Mr. Huang calls these dreams simply mind tricks that bear no semblance to reality, but the Powers-That-Be, always careful to protect their position, have wondered if this supposedly ran-

dom nocturnal script might turn into reality in the near future.

The PTB’s Psy-Ops Division has been putting in overtime analyzing Kim’s brain, and PTB representatives have searched 109 for sharp objects that could be used to take over Longfellow.

All they have found are scissors, tools that are allowed under PTB guidelines.

“I think what you have here is a paranoid authority. They are always worried 109 will take

over, but I have always treated them with respect,” said Mr. Huang. “Sure, we could take over the school in about 20 minutes no problem, but we have absolutely no plans to do that.”

An official statement from the 109 office went on further to question the mental stability of Mr. Kim.

“Dreams from an individual who ties people to chairs should not be taken seriously. Serious concern from the PTB should be met with laughter and pity.”

*“Dreams from an individual who ties people to chairs should not be taken seriously.”*

*(Continued from page 1)*

tific experiments show that sneezes are desperate people's psychosomatic way of getting attention.

"Every sneeze is a lonely child's cry for help," says Dr. L.H. Oswald. "We must pay heed to them. If not treated, they will search for more destructive ways to get attention."

To address sneezers' issues, 109 has established Sneezers Anonymous where citizens can get help without fear of publicity.

Meanwhile, building inspectors have checked 109 and concluded that none of the light fixtures are in danger of falling and that the foundation is strong enough to hold even during an earthquake that measures 4.5 on the Richter scale.

Let's hope everyone's self-esteem does not dip too far.

*(Continued from page 1)*

"We still have to move. That is a fact. I am thankful for Mrs. Kihm for backing us up this time. However, I now question the real purpose of this relocation. Is it really to beautify Longfellow? That certainly would benefit all, but if she is simply going to let bands of orcs establish settlements on our land, forget it. We will not move."

The only reason Mr. Huang agreed to relocate was the PTB's firm belief that the renovation was in the best interests of Longfellow.

"As a prince of Longfellow, its well-being comes first, but I am watching the PTB carefully. If they have ulterior motives, then they are no longer our friends. It will be time to gather the army again."

The only other time 109 gathered an army was to free Tieland from the clutches of Mr. Calamito and the now rehabilitated Officer Morris. Will the army be summoned again?

## Fitzgerald's "Divide and Conquer" Method Sweeping Nation

By Andrew Wiles, Jr.

A new fad is sweeping the nation, and people are calling it "The Fitz".

In November, Matt Fitzgerald of 4th period managed to find the sum a particularly mystifying sequence of fractions:

$$1/7 + 2/7^2 + 1/7^3 + 2/7^4 + \dots$$

The sequence was neither arithmetic nor geometric, and therefore the sum of it could not be found by traditional formulas. Fourth period was stumped—well almost all of 4th period.

Fitzgerald calmly went to the board and wrote two new sequences. One contained every other term in the sequence starting with the first one, and the

other contained every other term starting with the second one.

Both sequences were geometric! Therefore, all Fitzgerald had to do was find the sum of each one and then add those two sums together. Fourth period was amazed at this creativity.

Once news spread of this slick technique, dubbed "Divide and Conquer", citizens started to divide and conquer all over the place. Instead of adding 2 and 2, they added 1, 1, 1, and 1. They ate their peas one at a time and proudly proclaimed that they still ate all their vegetables. They made half of their bed in the morning and the other half when they got home. They did their homework on the bus *and* at lunch instead of only during lunch. Doing things piecemeal became a way of making life

more fun and bearable, and all because of a math technique.

Fitzgerald's technique has spread beyond the borders of 109. Rap group MBWA's (Mama's Boyz with Attitude) hit "Doin' the Fitz" is moving up the charts:

"He gotta math  
Attack  
Ya gotta split  
Not down the middle  
No, it like a little trick  
O' numbers  
Every other you take  
You won't be missing me  
When I circle  
The sum of two other bits  
It's a blitz  
At the Ritz  
No cherry pits  
Or origami kits  
We be doin' the Fitz—fool"

## 5th Boys Debate Over Who is Most Blind

By Annie Sullivan

On 12/10, the front of 109 almost turned bloody as Jake “Granny Eyes” Barnett and Min Jae “Expert at Braille” Kwon started arguing and almost came to fisticuffs. The issue? Who was more blind.

5th period is now quite used to seeing Barnett and Kwon as well as other optically-challenged boys rush to the front of the class to copy down 144 pt. letters and numbers from the chalkboard or projector screen.

“It’s so regular that I don’t even notice anymore,” said one exasperated girl.

However, the debate over

who just is the most blind is starting to take on a life of its own.

Barnett claims he is the most blind because he is slightly closer to the screen than Kwon and needs to approach it 90% of the time. Though he has heretofore provided no concrete evidence, Kwon says he is the most blind. It is still unclear what the prize is for being declared the most blind. Perhaps there isn’t one at all.

“I find nothing in the Constitution that encourages or authorizes me to award the blindest student with anything,” said Mr. Huang.

Kwon’s motivation to win such an award has come into question. On 1/25, he had a chance to remain neck and neck with Barnett, but chose to remain in his seat when skill drills was written on the chalkboard instead of projected onto a screen. He could easily have lied about the improved lighting conditions and come to the front with Barnett, but he didn’t.

It looks as though Barnett will win this debate. If he wins, he will have accomplished his task. Will he continue to do nothing about this eye problems? Only he knows.

## 109 Documentary in Full Swing

By Edward G. Robinson

Mango Productions is multitasking as editing is underway while filming is still taking place.

Approximately half of the scheduled interviewees have been interviewed, but Mango’s media lab has already begun editing the first few chapters of “Mangos and Large Potatoes: A History of the Kingdom of 109”. Unfortunately, with the Oscar nominations coming out January 25, the film will not have a shot at the Best Documentary prize.

“The most important goal is not awards, but putting out the best product possible,” said as-

sistant producer Ho Kim.

If all goes according to plan, the Kingdom will present a 2-minute trailer on Feb. 11, the day 109 moves out to Villa 52. The entire film is projected to be done in April. Mr. Huang is currently attempting to obtain permission from the Powers-That-Be to mass produce the film.

Filming has not gone without some bumps in the road. Producers decided to scrap the idea of a live talking head and go to voice-over narration instead. Moreover, Jonathan Leidenheimer, the original talking head, was let go in favor of Jonathan Matthews (7th pd. 2006-07).

Also, some key interview appointments seem to have fallen through. Greyson Lewis, the Divine Instrument, and Nikki Becher, master artist of the mango tree, both missed their interview appointments and will probably not appear live in the film.

First datemaster Meredith Doherty and the designer of the 109 flag Luke Cheng have completed their interviews and will appear. So will Maryam Kanna and Timothy Sheridan who both attempted to assassinate Mr. Huang. 109 is still attempting to locate Han Kim and Sam Sohn who tie for the record of most perfect skill drills with 18.

## Ask Arvid ...

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

**Dear Arvid:**

I get so distracted during Skill Drills. I sit in the front, and I have to continually pass back the homework while working. I think this causes me to make careless errors.

**Dear Multi-tasker:**

That's a fair conclusion. Perhaps you can wait until you are done, and then pass back all of the homework at once.

**Dear Arvid:**

Isn't Russia a continent?

**Dear Living in a Bubble:**

Get out more. Expand your world. No, Russia isn't a continent. Neither is China or Canada.

**Dear Arvid:**

Chalk doesn't like me. What do I do about it?

**Dear Insensitive:**

Maybe chalk doesn't like you because you don't like chalk. Did you ever think of that? Chalk has feelings too. Next time try being nice to the chalk. Don't press so hard. Don't disrespect it by handling it like a flower either. It is chalk. It is proud. And one, day, there won't be any chalk anymore, so treasure it.

**Dear Arvid:**

I have trouble counting dots. How can I improve?

**Dear You:**

When counting dots, make sure your pencil is placed on the dot. You will know when it is right on the dot when the dot disappears underneath the tip of your pencil. Then take a deep breath and say "one." Then draw an X on the dot. Repeat this procedure, but say "two". Continue this procedure, saying all the natural numbers in order. The natural numbers can be found on a number line in basic math books alongside the connect-the-dot books.

**Dear Arvid:**

Who do you think will win the Super Bowl?

**Dear Fan:**

The Cowboys.....one day.

## Farewell Party on Feb. 11

By Helen Hart

Lead orc Jim has rescheduled the date of 109's relocation to February 11, and in response, Mr. Huang is inviting all 109 citizens, past and present, to say farewell to our home.

The date of relocation has been rescheduled several times, causing Mr. Huang to delay setting the date, but after a meeting with Orc Jim and Mrs. Kihm on Jan. 21, Mr. Huang felt confident that the orcs would go

“Saying good-bye to our home for seven years will be difficult.”

through with the move on Feb. 11.

The preparation of the villas will begin at 3pm. Moving 109 and its neighbors including Mr. Gorgia, Mr. Williams and Mrs. Burnett will not begin until 5pm at the earliest. Thus, starting at 3pm, 109 will host a party that will last until the orcs arrive to carry 109's possessions to the villas.

Citizens will be treated to food

drink as well as one last chance to spend time in their home. Mango Productions will show a special preview of the upcoming documentary "Mangos and Large Potatoes: A History of the Kingdom of 109". Mr. Huang will also address everyone.

"It will be a bittersweet day. I look forward to seeing all the past citizens, and the new citizens will get to meet the old ones. Saying good-bye to our home for seven years will be difficult."

## Homework Bell Finally Rings ...But Not for 6th Period

By Dick Van Patten

Thirty eyes were fixed on Mr. Huang and the bell on his desk while he checked homework in 6th period. The day before, Jennie Richardson figured out why the bell was there. He was going to ring it when everybody in 6th period did their homework completely on the same day. That day finally came...for 4th period.

On that fateful day, 4th period snatched 6th period's dream of being the first class to have 100% homework completion on a single day. While 4th period was ecstatic over the unexpected achievement, 6th period was dejected.

Citizens started pointing fin-

gers at suspected slackers but accomplished little.

Not doing homework has a long tradition in 109. Past masters of the craft included Jon Matthews, Chris Pauliukonis, Greg Hoggard, and Andrew Cole.

Some of those slackers still managed a passable level of understanding in Algebra, but they certainly lost points in Mr. Huang's heart.

Others take the "copy someone's homework" route.

"Oh yeah, it's pretty obvious who does that," said Mr. Huang. "Someone who has a perfect

homework score, and then fails a quiz certainly isn't really doing it.

I can even tell if all the right answers are in the notebook that he or she didn't really do it. It's a sixth sense I have. They don't lose HW points because I don't have proof, but when recom-

mendation time comes, I remember things like that."

Meanwhile, 4th period has already heard the homework bell ring a second time, and 6th period is still waiting to hear that blessed bell for the first time.

"They will hear it before the end," said Mr. Huang.

*"... when recommendation time comes, I remember things like that."*

Thank you,  
2nd quarter officers!

Datemaster

Julianna Kang

Flagbearers

1st: Noah Flaxman

2nd: Saroja Erabelli

4th: Ava Lakmazaheri

5th: Meghan O'Reilly

6th: Junyoung Hwang

109 merchandise for sale

109 t-shirts - \$10

109 stickers - 25 cents

*"We are not small potatoes"*

Proceeds go to LMS charities

## Kim, Sridharan Tied

By Keith Olberman

Despite Mira Sridharan's consistency, Randall Kim made a strong move during second quarter to pull into a tie for first place in this year's SD race. Sophie Zhao and Peter Kim follow close behind while Ava Lakmazaheri and Julianna Stratton remain darkhorses.

After 1st quarter, it seemed this year would be a simple duel between Sridharan and Zhao. While Zhao faltered, Kim surprised everyone with five perfects in the second quarter to Sridharan's four.

Stratton had four, showing that she should also be considered a front-runner this year. Steven Pyon, Hyeon Su Lee, Julianna Kang, and Peter Kim all had three, keeping them within striking distance.

The leaders are a bit off the pace of the all-time record of 18 set by Han Kim in 2005 and Sam Sohn in 2006. However, history shows that citizens improve on skill drills over the course of the year. The record is still within reach. Could this be the year when that hallowed record is finally broken?

## SD Standings (through SD #14)

**8:** Randall Kim, Mira Sridharan

**7:** Sophie Zhao

**6:** Peter Kim

**5:** Ava Lakmazaheri, Steven Pyon, Dana Ryu, Julianna Stratton

**4:** Matt Evanko, Christine Li, Hyeon Su Lee

**3:** Julianna Kang, Yerim Park

**2:** Lyric Yu, Anthara Gnanakumar, Erin Atak, Rojeen Kamali, Ashley Kim, Shelley Collins, Sherry Wang, Nadim Najjar, Shirali Nigam, Angela Wang, Junyoung Hwang, Tai Kao-Sowa, Autumn Brenner, Justin Sher

**1:** Jeewoo Kim, Noah Flaxman, Abraham Haji, Andrew Makris, Marc McDonald, Shivani Saboo, Lavanya Shukla, JJ Foster, Rachel Ho, Daniel Ducic, Katherine Carris, Karen Shedlock, Gillian Wright, Cliff Yang, Julius Fan, Sarah Frey

## Jaramillo Wins Latest Sticker for Dedicated Inefficiency

By Buckminster Fuller

When Paula Jaramillo drew locker #1000, little did she know that she was on the verge of 109 fame and fortune.

That indeed became reality when Paula Jaramillo of 4th period solved the Locker Problem by one of the longest, tiring, inefficient methods possible, thereby receiving a star sticker from Mr. Huang.

The Locker Problem involves opening and closing a myriad of lockers numbered 1 to 1000 and finally noticing which ones are open after a group of 1000 students come and open and close some of them and leave others alone. The short cut involved noticing that only the locker numbers with an odd number of factors (the perfect squares) would be open. Jaramillo chose to draw every single locker and then cross out the appropriate lockers for each of the 1000 stu-

dents.

There was a mixed response in 4th period to Jaramillo's receiving the award. Some praised her diligence and resilience in drawing all 1000 lockers and then meticulously crossing out the correct ones, but others just shook their head at the sheer madness of the attempt.

"Do you know how many levels of Starcraft I could achieve in the time she took to do that?" exclaimed one incredulous student born in Seoul.

Jaramillo joins Nadia Mushtaq and Jessica Kim as winners of elusive dedicated inefficiency stickers. The 109 Board of Awards has decided that at the end of the year, a new award will be awarded to the student who exhibited the most inefficient inefficiency. Since this will be the inaugural awarding of this award, the award will thereafter be named after the winner.

# The Recipe Corner

Provided by Boys Excelling at Cooking and Sewing (BECS)

## *Spaghetti with Tomato Sauce*

1. Fill sauce pan with water.
2. Put pan on stove and turn on high (If you don't know how to turn it on, get your mom or older sister to do it)
3. When water starts to boil, put spaghetti in water (If it doesn't fit, with your manly strength, rip the spaghetti in half)
4. When spaghetti is soft enough, drain the water.
5. Pour spaghetti on a plate.
6. Open a jar of spaghetti sauce, the cheapest one you can find, and pour sauce on the spaghetti. The heat from the spaghetti will warm up the sauce.
7. Enjoy!

## *Ice Cream Galore*

1. Take three of your favorite ice cream flavors out of the freezer (If you're low on ice cream, beg your mom to go buy some more)
2. Get a big spoon.
3. Get three scoops of each flavor in a bowl.
4. Pour some Hershey's chocolate on it.
5. Spray some whipped cream on it
6. Sprinkle nuts or M&Ms as desired.
7. Forget the cherry. Too girly-looking.
8. Enjoy....and repeat as desired.

\*If you have a dog or cat, let them lick the spoon and bowl after you're done

## ***Farewell to 109***

**February 11  
3-5 pm  
The Kingdom of 109**

\*Food and drink

\*Picture-taking

\*109 citizens

\*Sneak preview of  
"Mangos and Large Potatoes"

## ***Mangos and Large Potatoes: A History of the Kingdom of 109***

- News footage
- Interviews of citizens and allies, past and present
- Exciting soundtrack

**Coming this spring!!!**