

The 109 Times

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Perfect Skill Drills

- 4: Sophie Zhao, Mira Sridharan
- 3: Peter Kim, Randall Kim,
- 2: Anthara Gnanakumar, Lyric Yu, Matt Evanko, Steven Pyon, Dana Ryu, Hyeon Su Lee
- 1: Rojeen Kamali, Jeewoo Kim, Ashley Kim, Shelley Collins, Ava Lakmazaheri, Christine Li, Marc McDonald, Shivani Saboo, Lavanya Shukla, Sherry Wang, Katherine Carris, Nadim Najjar, Shirali Nigam, Karen Shedlock, Gillian Wright, Cliff Yang, Angela Wang, Junyoung Hwang, Tai Kao-Sowa, Julianna Stratton, Autumn Brenner

Civil War Ends Quickly

By Saul Bellow

This year is probably the most critical time in the history of 109, and in this critical time, the citizens of 109 became slaves to their own pride and nearly destroyed each other.

It all started when newly elected datemas-ter, Sami Youaw, noticed that 2nd period had defaced 1st period's date box by changing the word "1st" in "1st period rocks" to "2nd", a definite breach of privilege under the lesser laws of 109. That same day, after discussion, 2nd period agreed to stop. However, later that day, someone again changed the phrase. 2nd period had a loose cannon in their midst. 1st period immediately called for

war.

"It would be historic!" said Julianna Kang. However, cooler heads prevailed. 1st period gave 2nd period until Friday, Sept. 24, to find the culprit or, according to the ultimatum signed by Youaw and 1st period flagbearer Ari Ghasemian, 1st period would declare war. 2nd period could not get the job done, and so on Friday, September 24, for the first time in the history of 109, it was brother against brother, sister against sister, citizen against citizen.

Soon after, 4th period, thirsting for violence, aligned with 2nd period. 5th period, trying to stay above the fray and think of the health of

the entire kingdom, begged for the war to stop.

"We cannot handle a catastrophe like this...let peace settle over the kingdom.," read the letter from Victoria Bergeron, 5th pd. flag-bearer. 6th period, known for their cool heads (sometimes re-sembling apathy), de-cided to remain neutral.

Mr. Huang could have stopped it all by executive decision, but he chose to let his citizens sort it out. "Mr. Huang is greatly sad-dened that his citizens would resort to fight each other especially in this time, when the Powers-That-Be are forcing us to relo-cate," (continued on p. 2)

Remembering All Citizens

By Theta Berra

For the first time in 109 history, a citizen will not add any art to the hallowed walls and ceiling. Instead, the king will do it.

In recognition of the countless citizens who

have contributed to 109, Mr. Huang is writing the name of every 109 citizen on its hallowed walls beginning with the 2003-04 classes. The first name on the wall was Zach Altman, the

leader of the Hokey Pokey Crew.

The kingdom hopes to have all the names, in-cluding the names of this year's students, on the wall by winter break.

Moving Day Moved Up

By Thurston Howell, IV

When the Powers-That-Be informed 109 they would have to pack up and move, hearts sank and fists clenched. Will the reaction be more emotional to the latest bad news?

The PTB have now moved moving day up to April 1, 2011, meaning this year's new citizens will not even have a full year of dwelling in 109 before having to march out to their new temporary reservation. No explanation was given by the PTB. They simply said that they "felt like" moving the date.

Now, 109's plans for a year-end gala including an invitation extended to all 109 citizens past and present will have to be adjusted.

"Yes, this is very frustrating,"

said Mr. Huang, "but we will handle this as we have always handled adversity."

The tentative schedule is for 109 to move on April 1 and April 2. All citizens will be invited to assist with lifting and carrying. Songs will be sung, and there will be no tears.

"We move, but we live on as we were before. It will hurt, of course, but in the end, place means nothing. We are 109 not because of four walls. We are 109 because of who we are and what we mean to each

other," said Mr. Huang.

Despite the intended peaceful nature of the move, security will be brought in to control potential violence stirred up by emotional 109 citizens.

"We have received several anonymous threats," said a spokesperson for the PTB, "but they turned out to be empty threats from individuals."

The office of the king has issued a statement urging all citizens to react with calm and civility throughout the year.

"We are not 109 because of four walls. We are 109 because of who we are and what we mean to each other."

McGettrick Wears Nice Sweater

By Charles Foster Kane

On October 13, the same day 33 Columbian miners were miraculously rescued, Amir McGettrick wore a stunning sweater to class.

Standing out among his t-shirt and shorts-clad peers, McGettrick sported a black, silver and white argyle-patterned sweater over a

long-sleeve white oxford. He even received a compliment from Mr. Huang.

He was especially visible while at the board attempting to simplify number 3 from the previous day's skill drill. About half of 6th period missed a fairly simple order of operations problem, failing

to perform multiplication before adding and subtraction. They should have written out their steps.

"I'm not sure I understood the explanation," said one frustrated 6th period citizen, "but I sure loved that nice sweater."

Civil War Ends Quickly

(Continued from page 1)

read the official statement from the king's office.

Then, on Sept. 26, the NAS (National Agency of Sneakiness) set up cameras and managed to obtain video of the "Traitor with the Eraser"

"We cannot handle a catastrophe like this."
Victoria Bergeron, 5th pd.

doing the deed. 2nd period informed 1st that the criminal had been caught. 1st period demanded the name of the guilty one, but 2nd period said they would deal with the SnEaky one in their own way. According to the king's of-

fice, 2nd period is not obliged to reveal the SnEaky one's name.

Without a single shot fired, the Six-Day War was not the most exciting conflict, and this greatly frustrated 4th period who may look for ways to ignite another conflict.

The monarchy chose to let the citizens work out their own differences this time, but next time, it may have to step in.

National Anthem Commemorates “The Battle”

By Lionel Mandrake

When 109 met the zombie army of Tieland in 2007 on The Field and freed the Tielanders from the clutches of Officer Morris, Mr. Calamito and the hypnotizing Disco Ball, little did they know that they were providing the inspiration for their own future national anthem.

This summer, renovation workers digging on the southern border of The Great Field discovered an ancient parchment containing a poem apparently written anonymously by a witness of The Battle:

“Not small potatoes,

Not small potatoes,
We are not small potatoes.”

Mr. Huang, recognizing the lyrical brilliance of the haiku-sized poem, decided to put the poem to music and create 109’s first-ever national anthem. Jay-Z’s up-tempo duet with Madonna has already blazed the airwaves, and some insiders say “We Are Not Small Potatoes” is a dark horse for Best Song at the 2011 Grammys. Country and rock artists are also writing their own ver-

sions. Whether the song wins or loses the Grammy, the power of the music will undoubtedly be felt in the hearts of 109 citizens forever.

“I get goosebumps every time I sing it to myself,” said one citizen.

It is still being decided at what occasions the new national anthem will be sung. Perhaps, it will be sung on the last day of each quarter when the new flag-bearer is chosen. The only sure thing is that the anthem will be a centerpiece during the historic move away from 109 in April 2011.

Ask Arvid

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

Dear Arvid:

I keep forgetting to turn in my homework.

Dear Daily Amnesia:

Ask a responsible student in your class to each day walk up to you before the bell rings and shout in your face: “Homework!”

Dear Arvid:

I keep forgetting my name, and Mr. Huang is going to take 2.5 points off homework if I don’t have my name on it.

Dear Who Am I:

There must be at least one person who knows your name. If you ever forget your name again, just stand up and yell: “Who Am I?!” Hopefully, the correct answer will present itself. If nobody in the room knows your name, then we have another more serious problem.

Dear Arvid:

I sit next to the blackboard, and I have this incredible urge to write on it each day. How can I stop? I don’t want detention.

Dear Jumpy Fingers:

You’re right, you don’t want detention. Those who get detention NEVER want to get it again. My advice is that whenever you get that urge, think of your most happy thought in the world, and then just dwell on that. If you start flying, or if a white stag shoots out of your pencil, we will have to think of a different remedy. We can’t have people flying and horses running wild in 109.

Dear Arvid:

I write really big. Does that mean I have a big brain?

Dear Phrenology:

No. However, the fact that you are asking the question might mean something else.

Dear Arvid:

I don’t like my desk. There is a metal bar hindering my movement. I am 12 and I need to squirm in my seat. I want to crawl underneath my desk. I need freedom! I have bruises on my legs, arms and head from hitting the metal when I turn to the right abruptly.

Dear Squirmy:

How in the heck do you get a bruise on your head from turning in your desk? You can’t be THAT short.

** Arvid is not a licensed therapist, psychologist or psychiatrist. His advice is neither well-thought nor recommended by mature-thinking individuals. However, he likes to help people, and he has a full head of hair and doesn’t have a mustache or a southern accent.*

Bad Eyesight Plagues 5th Pd. Boys

By Octavian Magoo

During 5th period, the eastern foothills resembles Tysons Corner Mall during a 70% off sale. With all the boy citizens crowding near the projector for a view of the Skill Drills problems, it's a wonder Mr. Huang doesn't trip on one and break his neck.

How can anyone blame them? They can't see. It is becoming a tradition. John Corvari, Cliff Yang, Minjae Kwon, Philip Carr and Jessie Cai

have to be inches away from the screen to see the large numbers and variables. During class, one

of them even accidentally called Mr. Huang "Mr. Stokes." Their eyesight is that bad.

"I heard one of them say they stabbed their own hand with a fork during dinner," said one citizen who wishes to remain

"I heard one of them say that during dinner, he stabbed his own hand with a fork."

anonymous. "He thought it was a chicken breast." If any of these "blind boys" arrives with a gash on his forehead, one can be sure a door, wall

or leaf rake was the culprit.

What is the solution?

"Diet can help in some cases,"

said Dr. H.P. Giddleston, a researcher at the Center for Myopic Studies. "Vitamin A and beta-carotene have been shown to maintain healthy eyes. Also, one can perform eye exercises by focusing on objects near and far."

"I think they are faking it," said one female citizen. "They can't do Skill Drills well, so they get together in the front to copy off each other."

The office of the king suspects no foul play. Instead, the king attributes myopia to eye degeneration due to reduced outdoor activity.

Move is Not Fulfillment of Prophecy

By Lynne Laroche

According to the Lady of the Cave in the East Canal, who no one has seen except Mr. Huang, the turtles which bore him to 109 will return one day to take Mr. Huang away forever.

For years, the fulfillment of this prophecy felt like decades or even centuries away, but the impending forced move from 109 by

the PTB has ignited talk of a possible fulfillment of prophecy this year. Will Mr. Huang leave 109 forever when it is finally time to move in April?

In a statement released by the office of the king: "The prophecy will not be fulfilled in April. Fulfillment requires the return of the turtles, but the turtles are not

coming."

Skeptics immediately countered by saying that it is impossible for the monarchy to know when the turtles will come or not come. One of the main points of the prophecy is that the arrival of the turtles will be unexpected. That is exactly why Rudolfo has to stay on watch at West Beach.

Stars Given for Inefficient Dedication

By General Pyrrhus

Nadia Mushtaq and Jessica Kim proudly show off their star stickers, symbols of their unending dedication to get the correct answer using any method, even if it takes hours.

Jessica Kim earned her treasured sticker by expanding a polynomial to an ungodly length be-

fore arriving at the answer two pages and a couple of hours later. Her fellow 2nd period citizens ridiculed her for not using clever substitution techniques able to reduce her work by 70%, but the proud Kim responded: "I don't see a sticker on YOUR paper."

Mushtaq solved a long calen-

dar problem by taking out a 12-month calendar and manually counting 2010 days from the source day to find the eventual day of the week. While, dividing by 7 would have been much quicker, 6th period did learn that any old calendar could be used for this method.

Sridharan, Zhao Early Favorites for Skill Drills Title

By Irv Cross

It is still early in the Skill Drills race this year, but bookies in Las Vegas are already feverishly placing bets on this year's Skill Drills champion.

Early betting shows Mira Sridharan and Sophie Zhao to be early favorites with Hyeon Su Lee a dark horse. Sridharan and Zhao have shown impressive care and consistency thus far, and only copying a problem down wrong prevented Lee from having three perfects instead of two. Randall Kim and Peter Kim, both of 1st period, also have three perfects, but scouts think Lee's speed and raw talent surpass theirs.

If Sridharan or Zhao do win the title this year, that would be the third year in a row that a female has won it. The last male to win was the legendary 6th grader Seungin Sohn in 05-06. He still holds the record with Han Kim (04-05) with 18 perfects.

The period title race is still close. 1st period has 14, 4th pd. 16, 5th pd. 12 and 6th pd. 6.

All-Time Perfect Skill Drill Records

Rank	Name	#	Year
1	Han Kim	18	2004-05
1	Seungin Sohn	18	2005-06
1	Care Shoaibi	18	2008-09
2	Andrew Kim	16	2005-06
3	Maggie Engler	15	2007-08
3	Christina Woo	15	2007-08
3	Carrie Murton	15	2008-09
4	Renjie You	14	2004-05
4	Nisha Swarup	14	2008-09

Mango Productions' First Project: 109 Documentary

By Edith Head

Branching out into uncharted territory, the kingdom of 109 has formed a media production company called Mango Productions.

Its first project will be a documentary of the history of 109. Its release is slated for May 2011, shortly following the Move.

The documentary will include footage of the Great Battle against Calamito and Morris, the search for Dr. Donut, and the destruction of the One Donut. Interviewees will include Abby Evans, the first flagbearer, Luke Cheng, the designer of the flag, and various mural artists.

Originally, the documentary was planned for release at the

Move, but the director now wants the Move to be part of the film. Older citizens are very excited.

"At least one good thing, this film, is coming out of the Move to balance out the bad things," said Hayley Wenk, former Heptumvirate member.

Older citizens from far and wide have been contacting 109 to be interviewed for the documentary.

"As a patriotic citizen AND winner of the big mouth award, I should be included," said Ahmed Skaljic (2008-09).

Producers are now looking for a guest host to perform the narration and conduct the interviews of the 109 citizens and Mr. Huang. Invitations have been sent out to Scott Pelleg of CBS, Anderson Cooper of CNN, actor Morgan Freeman and 109 citizen Jonathan Leidenheimer.

Pelleg and Cooper definitely have the experience, and Freeman has that mesmerizing voice, but Leidenheimer has the advantage of having experienced some of the landmark events in the history of 109. Many believe he has the inside track for the job.

"At least one good thing, this film, is coming out of The Move to balance out all the bad things."

***Hayley Wenk, 2008-09
Heptumvirate member***

Northwest Passage Discovered, Longfellow Not Linear After All

By Martin Chiang

Jungle safaris from several nations have blazed a new trail from central Longfellow to the Northwest Lands.

Discovery of this trail has debunked the myth that Longfellow is only a linear land, a belief that the religious establishment was not willing to let go of.

“This discovery is groundbreaking,” said Queequeg, an islander hired as a cook on one of the safaris. “Now we know for sure that Longfellow is circular. There *is* more than one way to get

to the other side and back. All of my ancestors were wrong.”

The new passage, extending from Science Hall to Gyms also opens exciting new opportunities for trade and communication. With Mr. Cheney gone and Tieland now defunct, 109 desperately needs a new ally in case a new enemy rises up to fill the evil void left by Mr. Calamito (aka Dr. Donut).

Along the Northwest Passage is the Library Oasis where weary travelers can mingle and enjoy a

newspaper, magazine or their favorite novel. It is also the new dwelling of Officer Morris, former accomplice to the evil Mr. Calamito but now trusted friend of 109.

109 scientists are also excited about studying new species of finches, turtles and iguanas in the previously untouched nooks and crannies of Longfellow.

“This new path is certainly exciting,” said Mr. Huang. “However, every new opportunity has benefits and possible dangers.”

109 Merchandise

Now On Sale!

Kingdom of 109 t-shirts \$10

Kingdom of 109 stickers 25 cents

Learn Your 109 Songs

<i>“Not Small Potatoes”</i> (The National Anthem)	<i>The 109 Fight Song</i> (sung to the tune of Stars and Stripes For- ever)	<i>The Mango Song</i> (sung to the tune of You Are My Sunshine)
Not small potatoes		
Not small potatoes		Oh tasty mango, oh tasty mango
We are not small potatoes	109, 109, 109	You make me happy
	109, 109, 109	When skies are grey
	109, 109, 109	Full of nutrition
	109, 1-0-9	Seed of fruition
	109, 109, 109	Please don't take my mango away
	109, 109, 109	
	109, 109, 109	
	109, 109, 109, Hey!	

Thank you to our 1st quarter flagbearers and datemaster

Flagbearers

1st period: Ari Ghasemian

2nd period: Tim Cha

4th period: Shivani Saboo

5th period: Victoria Bergeron

6th period: Justin Sher

Datemaster

Sami Youaw

alternate: Christian Caruso

The Recipe Corner

Provided by Boys Excelling at Cooking and Sewing (BECS)

Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich

1. Obtain two slices of bread. If moldy, tear off mold and throw away.
2. Find jar of peanut butter
3. Find jar of jelly, jam, marmalade or preserves
4. Scoop some peanut butter with knife and spread on one piece of bread
5. Wipe knife
6. Repeat with jelly, jam or preserves
7. Put bread together with peanut butter and jelly facing each other

Bowl of Cereal

1. Get a clean bowl
2. Open box of cereal
3. Get milk or soy milk
4. Check date on milk for spoilage. Also smell.
5. Pour cereal into bowl
6. Pour milk into bowl
7. Add pieces of fruit as desired
8. If milk leftover in bowl, slurp it up

Coming this spring!

*Mangos and Large Potatoes: The
Story of the Kingdom of 109*

**Narration by Jonathan Leidenheimer
Produced by Mango Productions**