

## Scandal Rocks Homecoming!

Anybody notice an obvious discrepancy in the nominations for Homecoming attendants? I sure did. Those of you who were actually paying attention on that fated day a few weeks ago may have noticed that the Student Council seems to be having trouble counting to five; while there were five guys and five girls for the freshmen, sophomore, and junior classes on the ballots, there were only four senior guys and four senior girls.

So why should you care, right? Because \*sniff sniff\* I smell foul play. Who were the mysterious fifth place seniors who got axed out of existence? In all fairness, they should have been included on the ballots, as well.

When asking a few Student Council members about this, I was given a semi-legitimate reason: Apparently there was a tie for the fifth place senior guy. Rather than consult the two of them and find a solution, or even just flip a coin, Student Council just cut both of them (along with the fifth place senior girl) from the ballot. Not only did this eliminate the problem of the tie, but it made for one less car that the Student Council had to acquire for the parade! How convenient...

Personally, this author thinks that it would have been

more fair to have included all of the fifth place nominees, just like all of the other grades. Another excuse was that having six senior guys would mean that an additional car would have to be used for the parade and homecoming game in order to carry around the extra "half-couple." This is a pretty weak argument, however, as I am not convinced that it would be all that impossible to squeeze a third person into one of the cars. I've seen a two dozen college students fit inside of a Volkswagen; it's entirely possible to seat three seniors in the back of a convertible.

In all honesty, it wouldn't have been that big of a deal to have included one extra person on the ballots in order to be fair to everybody. However, also in all honesty, it's not really the two guys that got cheated. Did Student Council ever think about the poor fifth place girl who got completely ripped off? My heart goes out to you, fifth-place girl... wherever you are...

π Frank D. Roosevelt π

*<Editor's Note: Two articles tied for our final slot in this issue. Aren't you glad we picked one of them instead of leaving half of a page blank?>*

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## Consumer Report

What you are doing will end the world. Capitalism will destroy us all. If we are smart, we will go straight to its roots and kill the evil beast before it grows any larger.

Ever wonder what happens with those AOL Time Warner companies? Well, after a while, they buy all their suppliers and competition. And no, buying suppliers, manufacturers, and distributors is not a "monopoly." Once they control these, the companies can set the prices for everything and they can't lose.

It becomes a cycle of selling supplies to manufacturers who in turn sell the finished good to the public. They can mass produce using their own services and goods and then sell it to the public at their controlled price.

Then, when all the buying is finished and the government

is a puppet at the hands of the economy, there will be no way of controlling these companies. A few will run the country, which is when we go from democratic capitalism to oligarchy. From oligarchy, the central few will establish what is good for the whole and evolve into a socialist state. They will decide what is good for the whole and turn to communism.

At this point, all will be lost. We will all be alike at the hands of Nike, Abercrombie and Fitch, McDonalds, Pepsi and Britney Spears. Our society will crumble, and all that will remain will be Twinkies and cockroaches.

If we really want to look out for our future, we must forget the forests and the animals and focus on stopping reliance on capitalistic, omni-consumer goods. It's plain and simple. Nike=death. A&F=suffering. Britney Spears=poverty.

π Vassili Zaitsev π

## The Thermal Problems in Niwot High School

As this author is sure all FRICH readers are aware, Niwot High School suffers from a serious problem of thermal regulation. This problem has been a source of debate in both the South Paw and the FRICH, which is both detrimental to learning and a waste of precious school funds. But rather than simply state the problem, let's try to work it out.

While this author was personally pondering this problem, a simple mistake that could cause all of this came to mind: The furnace is set at a higher temperature than the air conditioning. At first thought, this does not seem to be a problem, but with further insight, one realizes that when both systems are on, they will be fighting. As the school has had renovations, the ducting and individual climate control systems heat and cool the school differently, which is why some sections are an oven while others a freezer. Now, in winter it can be assumed that building maintenance will shut off the power to the air conditioning and conversely shut off the boilers in summer. This would cause extreme temperature fluctuations in spring and fall around the building.

Another problem could be simple lack of common sense on the part of the contractor who built the school. Mr. Ellison's office has it's own, small heater that is plainly visible in the instrument room. It has been observed that while the ducting enters his office, the thermostat wires head in the opposite direction, terminating somewhere on the other side of a cinderblock wall! This means that the temperature in Mr. Ellison's office is regulated at some other part of the building, independently of the temperature in his office. If this is true in one instance, it is logically sound that it is true in others, which would also explain the temperature problems.

A third explanation could be faulty equipment. This author remembers sitting in a frigid Algebra 2 classroom, with Mr. Beyer giving the explanation that the pilot in the furnace puts itself out when it attempts to heat the school. This is unacceptable. The machinery for that section of the building is flawed, and does not operate properly. Now, I will not suggest an overhaul due to the sheer cost of the matter, but simpler methods can be taken such as replacing and/or

relocating the pilot in the furnace so that it ignites the fuel rather than being extinguished by it. (Here, the author must apologize for his ignorance as he admits that the district may have already fixed this specific problem.) Now if a mechanical flaw can exist in one part of the system, it could exist in another. The thermostats in this school run off vacuum, not electrical current. Mechanical flaws in this system, such as vacuum leaks, could cause the system to malfunction and not regulate the temperature properly.

What can be done about this? Push for inspections of the heating systems. Push for these problems to be solved. Remember, these problems are costing the school district money, and the prospect of lost money always gets the ball rolling.

$\pi$  Nikoli Nikolievich  $\pi$

### Simpsons live in the Matrix

In all 13 seasons of "The Simpsons," the state that they live in has never been mentioned. There have been many hints for and against certain areas during the episodes, but the only thing that is known for sure is that they live on 742 Evergreen Terrace in a small town called Springfield. In all of the older episodes, it was implied that the Simpsons live in the United States, and, even in more recent times, this inference has never been questioned. There once was a map of the United States in the Simpsons' home with all of the states that they had been kicked out of. This map was shown in the episode in which Homer Simpson was diagnosed with insomnia, which led to a family vacation to Florida (referred to as "America's wang" by Homer). No country borders were crossed during the trip.

When Bart wanted to know what direction the toilets flushed in the southern hemisphere he called a little boy in Australia. The little boy accepted the collect call from Bart and checked his and his neighbor's toilets. When the Australian boy's father saw a \$900 phone bill he exclaimed, "You accepted a collect call from an American?" In the end, Bart discovered that

*See Simpsons, page 3*

## Not Just for the Money

We all complain about almost everything about school: the homework, the rules, the assemblies, and the teachers that hate us. My question is this: Why do we always look at those teachers like they're out to get us? Why do we never look at them as individual people with families, likes and dislikes, and no real reason to punish the kids they teach? Look at it this way: Teaching is not a high paying job. How many people would spend a college career getting a teaching certificate just to get back at their own "horrible" high school teachers by torturing the next generation, who never did anything to them? That makes it seem like the people teaching our classes are probably teaching them because they like teaching.

*Simpsons, from page 2*

the toilets in Australia flush the same way they do here.

The newer episodes have caused some confusion, though. In the episode in which Marge went away with her high school lover, a rich guy, Homer and Lenny traveled to New Springfield. In New Springfield, they worked day and night pumping oil. New Springfield just seemed to pop up out of nowhere and did not fit into the world previously known to the Simpsons. This interesting new land, which borders Springfield, is completely different from anything near the well-known city before.

Is Springfield a computer generated world controlled by AI? Everybody and everything is constantly changing. Springfield has been a small utopian community as well as a big metropolitan city even though the number of people is always constant. It's just that everyone does everything. This town has been in the middle of a large landmass as well as on a large coastline. The surroundings and attitude of life in Springfield is the same as that of Longmont or Niwot. Do the Simpsons live in the Matrix or is Matt Groening out to confuse the world?

π The Gnawing Gargoyle π

And yet, how can they? It must get around to our educators' ears that various people hate them. Maybe they're just trying to help us in life. I mean, I've liked every one of my teachers so far in my high school career as a person, even if I think they could improve their teaching style a little bit. They're all nice people or at least make an effort to be, yet we make fun of them ruthlessly, draw cruel caricatures, make rude plays on their names, and basically act intolerable to these people who give up much more of their time to us than we do to them. For instance, the first day in my English class this year, the teacher asked, "How many of you read the summer reading assignment?" A few hands went up. "How many are half way through? A quarter?" And then confessed that he himself was a member of the latest group, having discovered that we had a summer reading assignment only six days before. If I had found out six days before I was supposed to be finished that I had something to read, I would be lucky to have finished with chapter one, much less be a quarter of the way through.

Also, Consider this. We go to school in the morning, get home about mid-afternoon, do our homework, and have the rest of the day to ourselves. Or rather, that's how it is in theory. In reality, we go to school sometimes, preferring to ditch other times. We go home, lounge around on the couch watching television, and do our homework in class the next morning, whereas our teachers get to school much earlier than we ever do (every day, barring accident or sickness), spend a day teaching variations on the same topic and dealing with our intolerableness, stay quite a bit later than we ever do (unless we happen to be in sports) grading thirty of those papers that took us a half an hour to do plus thirty others from their other classes, and then make sure that everything will run smoothly the next day.

If they do all this for us, and somehow stay more or less civil toward us, why do we never appreciate them? Can't we all, just once, tell one teacher "thank you"?

π Louisa Prince π

## Young Love

Red and pink. Hershey's kisses. A dozen roses. Cut-out hearts and cute, fuzzy animals. Those are all the things we think of when we see loving couples, right? Well, I think some students at Niwot are taking it a little too far. Every morning, I have to walk by the girls' restroom and the Niwot store to go to class. And every morning, I see poor, young freshmen dodging the bodies of young lovers to get to their lockers. You can also see the freshman boys lining the opposing wall with popcorn and Junior Mints and watching the show. I often wonder if the couples need help because of the lack of oxygen. Am I asking people to be unaffectionate and/or make Niwot a convent? No, of course not (although it would be funny to see the teachers dressed as nuns), but nothing illegal; no indecent exposure or X-rated shows in high schools. You know, the basics. I mean, really, even teachers know the PDA rule was dismissed years ago (unofficially, of course), with the rule banning dunce caps, midriff baring tops, and school caning. You can see more in a high school hallway than in an R rated movie titled "The Adventures of Cinnamon - the Hooker." Even more astonishing is that Niwot is one of the more mild schools. For example, a source that wishes to remain anonymous swore that in the required freshman health class at LHS, the teacher passed out condoms and bananas so the students could "practice." I tell you, I'll never be able to eat fruit again.

We, the student body, need to suppress this uncontrolled behavior and help our fellow students feel a little pride and have a sense of class.

*Proposal #1* - Wrap everyone in force field bubbles so that only papers may reach the student. Can you imagine the hallways with everyone in bouncy, forcefield bubbles? It'd be the stuff dreams are made of. Instead of walking like a dorky homo sapien, use your state-of-the-art bubble to bounce and roll all the way down the stairs, and then perhaps a few steps to roll yourself into the appropriate classroom. Or even better, we could devise a device similar to what they have at the bank: a narrow tube connecting all the classrooms together. Simply roll into the vacuum-powered apparatus to jet to your class. Now you can leave your cattle prod at home!

*Proposal #2* - We could reinstate the 100% effective birth control used in the Dark Ages - chastity belts! Except, just to protect the guys from <censored>, the guys would have to wear them, too. What a great deal - \$19.99 for this Everlast® steel chastity belt! And if you call now, we'll throw in the padlock, no key, and chafe-free lining for FREE!

*Proposal #3* - Magnetically charge all the students to a northern polarization. Now, they'll be literally repelled by the opposite (and same!) sex. The only problem I can see are the potential run-ins with keys, jewelry, and braces. That could get ugly real fast...

Just a parting request to my fellow Niwot students: respect yourselves and others enough to keep it clean. Even if it's not for the sake of classy behavior, do it to not make other students uncomfortable.

π Katie Woodencloak π

### Disclaimer

You do not have to like anything here. You definitely do not have to agree with anything here. And you really definitely didn't have to read something if you found it offensive. THEREFORE, if you were offended and want to a) sue or b) get us all expelled or arrested, then we here at FRICH would like you to remember that we didn't make you do anything. Choice, man. It's all about freedom. Fight the Commies! Free Tibet! Keep on Truckin'! Oh yeah.

But seriously, keep in mind that FRICH is published to be informational. We, the editors, have nothing against Matt Groening, free love, or Student Council. Speaking of which, we should probably mention that the author of "Scandal Rocks Homecoming" wishes for it to be known that he does not mean to insult Student Council as they are forced to make many difficult decisions. He only wishes that they would let us, the students they represent, know what's going on.

Also, here is a short list of who *especially* should write:

- Teachers (Apparently, insulting you in #17 didn't anger anybody enough to cause the writing an article).
- People with original opinions. Come on, don't be boring!
- Those who have edited, proofread, rewritten, and made their work generally good.
- Anybody who can write gut-bustingly funny stuff.
- Anybody who is willing to try and write even mildly gut-bustingly funny stuff.
- Persons who have valid, supported complaints about something specific.

Thank you for reading the oh-so-important disclaimer. And remember, when the going gets tough,

**PLEASE DON'T SUE!**

P.S.: For you Freshmen, FRICH is pronounced in such a way that it rhymes with itch, ditch, stitch, and <censored>.