

## Referendum A: Senior Couches

After a long day on the daily grind of school, a senior wants nothing more but to rest, refill their energy reserves, and possibly enjoy some finger foods. Now we could all just drive home and glide into bed, but I propose that seniors could save gas and be eco-friendly (which is all the rage from what I've heard) by merely bringing in some couches to the senior pit as was the norm when the seniors frequented that area when I was just a freshman. A couch is much more than a piece of covered furniture to sit on; it could help the senior class bond just as the ginormous senior class picture is intended to do.

A picture may be worth a thousand words, but a couch is worth the safety of underclassmen. A tired, hungry, irritable senior is equivalent to an angry, female, that-time-of-the-month badger. Both seem peaceful until you approach them too closely; then, things can get messy. So for the safety of those who are our future, let us have some couches.

Would it even be that much of a problem to let us big men on campus (or women, couches don't discriminate) have a couple of seating areas to rest our weary legs weakened from dodging tiny kids in the hall during passing period? So maybe the real solution to increasing the safety of underclassmen is not to let the seniors have couches, but make the freshmen and sophomores stay outside to have class; after all, it is survival of the fittest. That's not too bad of an idea for a reality show...although I think CBS already did that with Kid Nation.

But the issue is not about making millions exploiting children fighting each other off to get inside to the lunchroom, it's whether or not the seniors should get couches in the pit. We seniors have proven ourselves time and time again to be not only the most talented, but also the class that needs the most rest because of the severity of our schedules. A typical day for a senior consists of finding front row parking, AP or IB classes, maybe a time release or two, and finding change for lunch. It would be almost cruel and unusual to not allow seniors to have some comfy seating, so alleviate the potential lawsuits—let our couches in.

The administrators up in the office wouldn't even have to worry about moving the couches in or out or upkeep. We love the cleaning staff, so we would make sure it was not an area that they would dread cleaning. Allowing us old hands to move in old furniture could bring in some added allure to the school. Freshmen will hope nothing more than to mature and one day drag their couches into the pit...well, in addition to achieving their full potential.

So Niwot, the choice is yours. Just like the election, an ultimatum has been set, but it doesn't really have anything to do with economics or droning on about energy plans in Alaska. We can band together to lobby for couches in the pit... or underclassmen, better start wearing pads and helmets to school.

π Socratez π

*Once again, FRICH neither supports, nor opposes this view, or the somewhat petty threats made in this article. But we would like a couch.*

## Large Hadron Collider Deemed “Dangerous”

As some of you techies and science nuts may have heard, the 8.2 billion dollar, 17 mile long particle accelerator with massive, mind-blowing electromagnets will be operational soon. A particle accelerator (for those of you who don't know) is a machine of large proportions that accelerates protons (those little things inside atoms) and smashes them together with speeds near that of light. It's like Star-Trek, but much cooler and not a crappy '60s television series.

The purpose of this acceleration process is to try to recreate the situation that was present during the Big Bang and possibly discover the “Higgs boson,” the reason an atom would have enough mass (and hence gravitational force) to keep itself together. Think this is playing with fire? No. It's playing with the <censored> stuff that everything is made of. “Don't play with fire, you might get burned” becomes “Don't smash subatomic particles together because they might seriously <censored> your <censored> up.” You could even go as far as to say the people involved with this have a god complex.

The real danger with this is that while this contraption can unlock the secrets of the universe, it also has the potential to create the mother of everything astronomical we know of: a black hole. That's right, a *black hole*. I'm talking condense all things in the immediate area (about 500,000 miles depending on the size) into a singularity smaller than the size of a finger nail. Think we can get away? Nope! Black holes have such a strong gravitational pull that not even light can escape. Usually, black holes form when a star runs out of “go-juice” and collapses in on itself. But smashing two subatomic particles together can also create enough energy to create one.

Of course, the chances of this are ridiculously small. I believe it's something about 1 in 4 bil-

## 10 Reasons Not To Vote

10. Really, you don't know just how much your vote doesn't count.
9. Politics is for nerds.
8. The more you take an interest in not voting the more the candidates will cater to your every need to get you to vote for them.
7. You have to explain to your friends why you think that killing fetuses is OK or how you can condone a religious war in the 21st century.
6. You could do so many better things with that time, like...well whatever you want.
5. The South Paw supports voting.
4. Have you seen Joe Biden and John McCain? Have you seen how old they are? I mean, like *really* looked?
3. If you vote, then children will die. This is your only warning.
2. When's the last time you voted? Never? No reason to start now.
1. A pack of mentally deranged hippos could run the country better than our government.

π Machiavelli π

lion trillion billion (and that's a realistic number for this scenario). But it is funny to think that the last thing anyone might say is, “That looks mostly stable.” Keep living your life, but get ready to suddenly disappear from this universe in a fraction of a second; as for the question of how you would prepare for that, I have no clue. Oh, and if you've ever read Douglas Adams, be a nice person and give us heads up if all the dolphins are gone.

π Katow-Jo π

# All My Base Are Belong To You?

All your base are belong to us. Does that make sense? I don't think it does. And neither do thousands of nerds and internet users everywhere. This common grammatical mistake gained much popularity a long, long time ago (about 5 years ago). Apparently people in Europe were trying to read Japanese and translated a line in a video game's opening cut scene to read:

**CATS:** All your base are belong to us.

Who is this CATS? And why do all my base belong to him? Nobody knows because that is all anybody knows about the game. It apparently was not a very good game even though a lot of work went into the translation of it. There are a lot of implications of all our base belonging to CATS. For starters, childhood games such as Home Free and Capture the Flag will no longer exist. Let's say you are playing home free; you go and hide and the seeker comes looking for you. He finds you, so you start running towards home base and when you get there, just beating out the seeker, some security guard comes up and holds a gun to your head threatening to charge you with trespassing. You soon learn this guy works for CATS! Now, I don't know about you, but this does not sound like much fun. Without being able to use the base, it would turn into a boring old game of hide and go seek. And who seriously wants to play hide and go seek? This also applies to any other games that have "bases" such as, but not limited to Capture the Flag, some strange versions of Tag, Halo on Blood Gulch (which sucks because all the good things are in the bases), etc.

CATS' domination of all our base also affects militaries around the world. Militaries would not be able to have any buildings because all military building complexes are called "bases" which now belong to CATS. CATS would have the most firepower on earth because he has all of it.

I know what many of you are thinking. You are thinking, "Why not just call it a headquarters, or a military installation, or what not?" Well I have news for you, my friend. These are just different names and calling it something different does not change what it is. For example, I could call my cat a dog as much as I want, but it is still a cat. CATS could easily argue that although it is called a headquarters, it is still a base and he has ownership.

There is, however, a glimmer of hope in this black hole and that is that hopefully, CATS does not take over our governments because they only care about what it is called. They allow massage parlors that give happy endings, but whore houses are illegal. Our corrupt government is the only way to save us from CATS' wrath and we must do something now, or else everything we know will be turned upside-down in A.D. 2101.

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*See all this empty space? This article is lonely because it's alone. We apparently can't fill four pages of text without your help, so please help us out.*

## Letter from the Editor

We apologize for the inelegance and informality of our last issue. As it turns out, the majority of our team was on hiatus during the writing of that issue...and quite frankly, it wasn't our best material. For those of you new to FRICH—whether you thought it wasn't worth your while or you were too blind to see the 400 copies floating around on the first day of school—we have some news for you: we are trying to revive what was lost a few years ago because we enjoyed it (and too bad if you didn't). For everyone else, we are here to continue the tradition of providing humorous views on issues that would not normally be published in The South Paw. And for those of you who don't know what the South Paw is...well, wait a few more days and you will get your first dose of South Paw goodness.

We believe that a newspaper should not be limited to humor, but have correct spelling, grammar, and a good layout also. As The South Paw historically (at least, since many of our writers have seen it, so three years worth) has fallen short on these points, we have taken it upon ourselves to compensate for that. We understand that many of you will not like this, as it won't be humorous to your kind and for others...well, we don't *really* expect you to have the cognitive capacity to understand what the pretty characters on the page say (and yes, this includes you, wall-sitters).

Being an open forum, we will publish almost anything, so if you have something to say, please email it to us. If it doesn't get published in the issue itself, we will make sure to include it in our e-issue. The only exception is if it is too racy for the internet, or it makes no sense whatsoever. Just know that we will scour your paper for grammatical mistakes, correct them, and potentially censor some of your choice words. If you feel that we inaptly censored some words, or just feel that some words were integral to your article, carp about it by writing to us in the form of another article and we'll see what we can do. When submitting articles, all we ask for is that you use a pseudonym and don't single out one person to bash on.

Because this is merely a high school newspaper with about \$500 to spare, we have a limited number of copies (about 400) to give out in the school. Yes, we understand that this will cover about 30% of the school.

In an attempt to make it fair to everyone who doesn't get a hard copy and is dying to read our newspaper, we've created a web site (<http://www.frichonline.com/>) where you can read the articles online. You can also download a digital version of the paper, so you can print it off! Nifty! This is also where you will be able to submit articles if you wish to do so.

We hope this will be a good year for FRICH, so please feel free to email any comments or articles to us at [submit@frichonline.com](mailto:submit@frichonline.com).

π Averonalus Tint π

*P.S.—FRICH is pronounced “f-rich”, but in one-syllable form, not “frick”. We thank you for your time.*

### Disclaimer:

Dear reader,

If you have found any of the material in this newspaper offensive in any way, we are truly sorry. Due to the open nature of this production, some people's feelings will be hurt in the process. This is not our goal here at FRICH. In fact, we try our hardest not to publish any horribly offensive articles, but due to the fact that we all have different notions of what is offensive or not...well, let's just say we're not perfect in our judgment.

If you would like to have your voice and/or opinion heard through our glorious ledger-sized goodness, please write us an article, a rebuttal, a list, or just about anything that you would like to see on our newspaper (or our web site). An article should be about 300-600 words (depending on how much you have to say) and a list can be any number of things above 10. Just remember the two rules: use a pseudonym, and don't single out one person to write about. That's it. Finally,

***PLEASE DON'T SUE!***