

# The Living Room Times

"All the Noise that's fit to print."

Monday, December 12, 1994

## No more Letterman Top Ten lists, says Mrs. Brown



Despite its great popularity among Martin Kellogg students, Friday's *Living Room Times Top Ten Edition* got some negative attention as well, from Kellogg principal Amzie Brown.

Mrs. Brown got a copy of the special *Living Room Times* edition, which was being sold to students for 10¢ a copy on Friday. She had two objections to it.

One was that the newspaper was being sold on school grounds. The other involved the content of the edition, which included Top Ten lists written by students at

Kellogg, as well as those written by David Letterman.

Brendan Loy, chief editor of *The Living Room Times*, was called down to the office during the second eighth grade class of the day. At that point, Brendan had already sold about twenty or twenty-five copies of the newspaper, and given away about fifteen free copies to students who had helped write the newspaper by contributing Top Ten lists.

Mrs. Brown told Brendan that, first of all, he was not allowed to sell the newspapers on school grounds. Brendan said that he had looked through the student handbook several weeks earlier, and had found no rule specifically banning the sale of items in school. Mrs. Brown responded that the rule is a Board of Education policy, and is not in the student handbook. Brendan agreed to stop selling the newspapers.

Second, Mrs. Brown pointed out that some of the Top Ten lists in the newspaper were "dirty." Brendan said that the teachers mentioned in the MKMS Top Ten lists found the jokes humorous and were not offended. Mrs. Brown said that MKMS Top Ten lists are okay to be printed in the future, provided Brendan gets permission from anyone mentioned in the lists. She also said, however, that Brendan is not to print Top Ten lists from "The Late Show With David

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## Movie disrupted by stink bomb

The eighth grade went down to the auditorium Friday afternoon to watch "I Will Fight No More Forever," a movie about Chief Joseph and the Nez Perce Indian tribe of the Great Plains.

But the viewing of the movie didn't quite go as planned. In addition to the fact that some students were too busy reading *The Living Room Times* to watch the movie, there was also an overwhelming smell overspreading the auditorium, and eventually temporarily driving everyone out.

The smell, caused by some sort of stink bomb, started in the front part of the auditorium, on the side closer to the music wing. It then spread through the auditorium, out into the hallway, and throughout the building.

"It's just sulphur," said Mrs. Mann.

Eventually, the teachers shut off the movie and herded all the students out of the auditorium

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## LR Times Top Ten Edition causes many controversies

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Letterman” in the future, because some of the content of those lists is not appropriate for middle school.

Brendan said later that, although he wishes Mrs. Brown had not banned all Letterman Top Ten lists, he respects her decision as principal, and he will abide by her wishes.

After Brendan’s meeting with Mrs. Brown in the office, he stopped selling, distributing, and showing around the newspaper. Several people asked him if they could buy copies of the paper, but he said “I had a little chat with Mrs. Brown, and I have to stop selling them.”

At least one other major controversy was caused by the Top Ten edition. In Sean Vivier’s “Top Ten Reasons to buy this Top Ten Edition,” the number one reason was “Mrs. DuFault will give you ten free bonus points on the mid-term!” Mrs. DuFault read the list, and said she thought that parents might think that the statement was true.

**Mrs. DuFault never said she was going to give away free points on the mid-term. The statement that she would do so was strictly for humorous purposes.**

We, the editors, would like to apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

The Top Ten edition certainly got a lot of attention on Friday. In the morning, the eighth grade went down to the auditorium to watch the movie “I Will Fight No More Forever.” (please see *Movie disrupted by stink bomb*, page 1) But while everyone was supposed to be watching the movie, Brendan noticed about fifteen people who had bought, or been given a free copy of, the newspaper, holding it up to the light and trying to read it during the movie!

Later in the day, the edition stirred things up in Mr. Turner’s class. Reportedly, students in his class were actually doing some of the things mentioned in “Top Ten Ways to Annoy Mr. Turner.” Apparently, students were coughing whenever he said “okay” and saying “Mr. Hawkins just walked by” whenever he said a Spanish word, as suggested in the list. They even put a sign on his door, as suggested in #2, reading “Welcome to Taco Bell!”

Also, students were calling Mr. Turner some of the “Top Ten Nicknames other than ‘El Taco’ which could be used to describe teacher Ned Turner.” Carmine Rinaldi said they called him “Ned-head,” “Ted Turner,” and “The Grand Taco of Martin Kellogg,” among others.

Luckily, Mr. Turner apparently didn’t mind the teasing.

“Top Ten Signs You Are A Schnuck” also caused some trouble. Brendan kept hearing throughout the day that the ‘Schnucks’ were mad at him for writing the list about them. So, right before Specials, Brendan walked up to where the Schnucks were talking and asked “Are you mad at me?”

“Yes,” said Beth Milewski (Schnuckums).

“Yeah, we’re never going to speak to you again!” exclaimed Tara Boisvert (Schnucki). She then added, “Just kidding.”

## Stink Bomb in auditorium disrupts movie

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and back to their homerooms.

The teachers decided that they would try to find out who set off the stink bomb. They asked everyone to write down what they knew—or if they knew anything—about who did it—on a piece of yellow paper. If they could find out who did it, students would be allowed to go back to the auditorium and the movie would continue. Otherwise, they would go back to class and have a regular schedule.

“Now we have to have forty-minute Algebra, instead of twenty minutes,” Brendan Loy complained.

That wasn’t true however, as the teachers eventually did find someone to blame for the incident, and everyone got to go back to the smelly auditorium and finish watching the movie.

The teachers never officially announced who did it, or who was accused of doing it, but rumor has it that Brian Kilmartin was accused of the crime.

Brian said that everyone wrote down his name because he had some kind of little flashlight which everyone thought was a stink bomb. But, Brian said, he wasn’t really the culprit.

But whoever it was that set off the stink bomb, they certainly created an unexpected uproar Friday morning.

## WHAT'S THE WEATHER?

**MONDAY... MOSTLY SUNNY AND CONTINUED COLD. HIGH AROUND 30.**

**TUESDAY... DRY AND COLD. LOWS IN THE TEENS AND 20S. HIGHS IN THE 30S.**

**WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY... CONTINUED DRY AND COLD. LOWS IN THE TEENS AND 20S. HIGHS IN THE 30S.**

**Incident outside of boys bathroom**— There was some kind of an incident Thursday afternoon just before lunch, outside of the boys’ bathroom.

What happened is very unclear, but four boys were seen standing just outside the door to the boys’ room, and Mrs. Mann was talking to them. Brendan said he thought the boys were Nick Todoroff, Brian Kilmartin, Marc Stavros, and one other boy, but he wasn’t sure.

Apparently, one of the boys hit or pushed Mrs. Mann. Brendan, as he walked down the hallway, heard Mrs. Mann yelling “Don’t touch me!”

“I guess they were going to the bathroom to smoke or something, and then Mrs. Mann stopped them,” said Billy Gray. He then added, “I don’t know,” indicating that he isn’t really sure exactly what happened either.

“Mrs. Mann!” called Brendan, trying to get a comment from the teacher in the center of whatever it was that happened. “Mrs. Mann! What was that commotion at the boys’ room?”

“I’m not at liberty to say at the moment,” Mrs. Mann responded.

**Jack Frost nipping at your fire drill**— A fire drill during the first class of the day on Thursday morning caused a great deal of shivering and shaking as students walked out into the cold weather, with temperatures in the twenties and thirties.

“We have been very criticized about talking....Stay together. If you talk, you’ll be afterschool! We’re getting in a line, and we’re not going to talk,” announced Mr. V before his class left the room and went outside.

“Fire! Fire! Fire! Yes!” exclaimed Brian Kilmartin. It was only a fire drill, but it was a bad day for it, as the freezing cold weather caused everyone to—well, freeze—as they waited outside for the bell to ring, letting them back inside.

It was only about a two minute wait, but it seemed much longer, as everyone jumped up and down, shivered, and tried to stay warm.

“At 8:47 and 43 seconds, we’re back inside, nearly frozen,” reported Brendan Loy as he stepped inside.

**Blue 24, Yellow 17**— Friday was a busy day at Kellogg. In addition to the stink bomb and the controversy over *The Living Room Times*, there was a basketball championship game at flex.

The teams wore blue and yellow shirts. According to spectator Tom Greca, the blue team was the ‘Rookies’ and the yellow team was the ‘Raptors.’

Doing play-by-play announcement on the MKMS speaker system was Danny Costa. For *The Living Room Times*, play-by-play announcers were Brendan Loy and Sean Vivier.

Players on the blue team were Nino DiBiase, Chris Gemmell, Tim Jorel, and Carmine Rinaldi. The yellow team, which had one player on the bench at all times, featured Mark Almeida, Ian Drayton, Jeff Gustavson, Greg O’Donnell, Nick Todoroff, and Brian Zapatka.

Yellow jumped out to an 8-2 lead early, but Blue scored 14 consecutive points, part of an overall 21-4 run which put them up 23-12 with one minute to go.

Despite a 5 to 1 run by Yellow in the final minute, Blue hung on to win the game, 24-17.

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## Poetry from Jenn



### Rosy Edges

by Jenn May

“Did you laugh?” asked the child; quietly, softly.

“Yes,” said the father, “Yes, and so did she.”

He thought back on the days which memories were framed with rosy edges.

How they danced, sang, talked, loved.

“And when she found out about you,” he said, coming half back to now.

“She smiled and cried at the same time.”

“Did she love me?” asked the child; quietly, softly.

“Yes, yes she did.”

## Shopping Tip from Beth



When you plan to buy a specific item, always check the price of the item in all the stores that it may be in before you purchase it. Nothing is more depressing than finding out that you paid more money than you had to. This tip is especially important with CD’s and cassettes.

—LR Times shopping expert Beth Milewski

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

After Mr. Vincenzo told the class that buffalo weigh 1500 pounds, Ian Drayton said “That’s even bigger than me!”

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“Okay, now, Zapatka has the ball...” announced *Living Room Times* play-by-play announcer Sean Vivier. Just as he said that, the buzzer sounded. “...and the game’s over.”

“Blue has won,” added Brendan Loy, “24-17.”

“Tim!” called Brendan, seeking an interview with Tim Jorel of the Blue team. “Do you have any comments?”

“Uh, no,” Tim responded.

“This boy was player of the game!” declared Chris Manzione, pointing to Tim. “This boy was MVP!”

“Me and Dan [Costa] announced the game, and we just want to say, thanks to the players for a great game!” said Peter Pellegrini.

**Absent on her own birthday!**— Mrs. Toback was absent Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, leaving her classes with various substitutes.

Wednesday was Mrs. Toback’s birthday, so when she wasn’t there, rumors began to fly that she was playing hookey on her birthday, and that she would be back the next day.

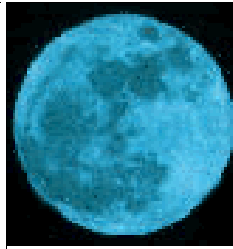
But she wasn’t back on Thursday, or on Friday. The two rumors going around as of Friday afternoon were that she has either the flu or strep throat.

**Brenden Roche says detention unfair**— Mr. V gave Brenden Roche a detention Wednesday for holding a paper in his hand so that Mr. V thought he was going to throw it.

Brenden claimed the detention was unfair, because Mr. V had seen Bryan Rudolph do the same thing the previous day, and he only gave Bryan community service, which is a lesser punishment than a detention.

“You’re one of the culprits, throwing things around the class,” said Mr. V to Brenden. “Don’t you come and tell me—’cause I’ve finally nailed you—that you don’t throw them. Don’t tell me you haven’t thrown things around the class, ’cause you have.”

“Have you seen me throw one thing?” asked Brenden. “No!



**“Blue Moon”**— Mrs. Agnew’s science classes got a taste of the 60’s Thursday when Mrs. Agnew played a tape of the song “Blue Moon” by the 60’s group called the Marcells.

The song had come up in class while discussing the Earth and its moon. Mrs. Agnew said she didn’t have a recording of the song, but Jenn May brought in a tape of it. So, while she passed back some corrected papers on Thursday, Mrs. Agnew played “Blue Moon” to her science classes.

The lyrics are not too complicated. In fact, the chorus of the song is “Bowm-be-be-bowm-be-bowm-be-bowm-bowm-be-be-bowm-be-be-bowm-be-dang-be-dang-bang-be-ding-be-dow-bing-blue-moon.”

“At the eighth grade dance, we’ve gotta play this song,” suggested Mrs. Agnew. “It’s sort of, like, a science classic.”



**Brain Ball!!!**— Mr. Vincenzo’s “SuperHawks” History class played a game of the popular V-sport known as ‘brain ball’ Thursday morning.

The side of the room closer to the hallway was the “Buffalo Chips.” The side closer to the windows was the “Bill Does.”

Despite two extra points which were illegally added to the Buffalo Chips’ score when Bryan Rudolph tricked scorekeeper Eric Faraday, the Bill Does still easily won the game. The final score was 76-63.



**Food fight in seventh grade**— According to foreign language teacher Mr. Turner, otherwise known as “El Taco,” there was a food fight Thursday in seventh grade.

“Were there any tacos involved?” asked Brendan when Mr. Turner told him there had been a food fight.

“I don’t think there were any tacos. I guess people were just throwing stuff, you know, it was was, like, one whole section of the grade. Grade seven.”