

THE GRYPHON WHIFFER



The Gryphon Whiffer is Crystal's premier satirical publication.
Please do not take its contents seriously. Direct any qualms,
questions, or quadrilaterals in the general direction of the
mansion.

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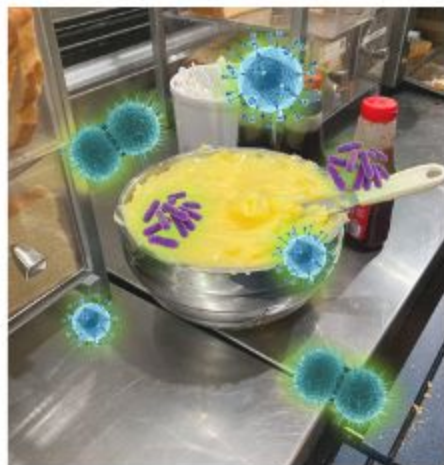
THE GRYPHON WHIFFER



December 2024

Breaking News

CAFE BUTTER BOWL HARBORING EVERY DISEASE KNOWN TO MAN AND SOME SURPRISE ONES TOO



I mean, have you seen it? It's like the Four Seasons for bacteria.

The café's butter bowl is certainly a treat for the senses. Its jaundiced shade and oh-so-greasy texture are enough to delight toast consumers of all ages. The dish is accompanied by a delightful mini spatula that has been touched by every pair of grubby hands on campus. Sadly, this campus landmark is not all it appears to be; hidden within its oleaginous folds are trace amounts of every disease known to our species.

This unique incubator of disease has attracted attention from scientists worldwide, who have dubbed it a "pathogenic utopia." One visiting epidemiologist, Dr. Beurre, recalled a "sudden lure" as the bowl "called her name." Intrigued, she brought a sample of the butter to her lab to test its origins. The results were shocking: she found that the butter was not actually made from dairy but from some mysterious other thing that might not come from earth. "No wonder it looked so...special," said one Crystal student. And that's not all; according to Dr. Beurre, the wondrous butter bowl contained some surprises as well. "It was a bacteria-dump! Amazing! I discovered 247 new diseases from the bowl alone!" she said.

Sadly, the FDA has decided to take our beloved butter bowl from us. They report that the diseases are "toxic to any living organism within a 20 mile radius," but we all know they just want that tasty butter for themselves.

C. Rajakumar



DESTITUTE STUDENTS FORCED TO CLEAN UP AFTER THEMSELVES

Crystal students have been asked to do the unthinkable—clean up after themselves.

THE CAFE - In recent weeks, Crystal Springs Uplands School has been enveloped by despair. Students' misery seems to know no end. The reason? An administrative conspiracy: "Complying with California Health Code." The plot involves withholding basic necessities (frozen yogurt) until demands are met. In a series of interviews, PAC members have been quoted saying things like "This is really the bare minimum" and "It can't be that hard to clean up a plate every lunch period." The administration has refused to negotiate, doubling down on its policies with outrageously polite requests that students please be courteous of our environment.

In the face of this tyrannical oppression and lack of compassion, student morale has fallen to an all-time low. Many students have not even attempted to comply, saying, "I don't even know what cleaning looks like." Student questions have fallen on deaf ears. With one student asking, "Can I put this on college apps?" and another wondering, "Is Crystal gonna offer the cleaning AP after this?"

The Whiffer's confidential sources have informed us that if this conflict doesn't end, students will have to start listening to the clean-up song every day. Additionally, several departments have begun to offer cleaning-themed courses like "Chemistry behind dishwashers" and "History of cleaning up after yourself" to encourage student participation. Even so, the atmosphere remains grim on campus and it is uncertain when the administration will end their reign of terror. For tips on how to endure these tough times, we recommend reading the Whiffer's very own "Top Ten pooping spots on Campus."

D. Appenzeller



TOP POOPING SPOTS ON CAMPUS

1. Single stall in Uplands. Fitted with both a noise maker and a state-of-the-art air freshener, this standalone enclosure ensures you can make your offerings to the porcelain god in aromatic solitude.

2. Templeton Crocker's gilded toilet. Nothing beats answering nature's call upon the seat of utmost luxury. Featuring Swiss gold hardware and engraved Italian porcelain, we're sure you've never experienced anything like it.

3. GC bathrooms. After bombing math finals, count on these bathrooms to keep you comfy. As you do your business, you can cry to your heart's content. In addition, the pleasant echo guarantees that everyone can hear you.

4. Downstairs Uplands bathrooms. Starring an arsenal of body lotions and Q-tips, this bathroom is equipped for anything. Plus, there's a fascinatingly long article about quilts and culture in one of the stalls, perfect for repeated visits.

5. Gym closet. Why not entertain yourself while you go? There's no shortage of interesting gym equipment to keep you engaged, and the abundance of nooks and crannies ensures that no two visits will feel the same.

6. 3rd floor mansion bathroom. It's nice and quiet, ideal for when you really need to focus. It even has a water fountain—you can hydrate right after you go.

K. Pray

MY DOG IS AFRAID OF BALD PEOPLE

It happened again. When my hairless uncle came over to my house on Thursday, he was met with the shrill battle cry of my twelve-pound chihuahua-dachshund mix. My dog lunged at the man, ready to unleash all of his wrath on the shaven, egg-like head of my uncle. Since then, my family has taken my dog to see Dr. Herman, a dog psychologist in Carmel, California, to investigate the cause of my canine's visceral reaction. While we have not reached a conclusive explanation for my dog's aversion to The Unhaired, there are many competing possibilities.

Research has led us to believe that in a past life, my dog was a French man who suffered from early hair loss. Perhaps the sight of this bare noggin unearthed some deep-seated, unresolved trauma within my dog. One specialist theorized that the reflection of light off of the bald man's head was so strong that it blinded my dog's already deteriorating eyes, causing him to falsely believe he was nearing the end of his nine-year life.

When my dog was in his formative years, he pawed at a man's head and inadvertently ran away with his toupée! Poor little Louie, who didn't yet know hairpieces could be detachable, may have been traumatized beyond repair, causing him to lash out at anything toupée-ishly triggering.

Or, perhaps my canine is just an avid hater of members of the bald community. After all, the stark sheen of a bald head is cause for alarm.

M. Rosenberg



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES INVESTIGATION INTO THEFT OF HOBBYHORSE TROPHIES

This past Thursday, at approximately 8:42 am, a treasured possession of the school was deemed missing. In 1996, Crystal's men's hobby horse team placed third in their WBAL foothill division hobby horse championship. Upon completion of their season, the team was presented with a high-quality synthetically manufactured plaque, which has been on display for years in remembrance of their great accomplishment.

Just this morning, a faculty member noticed its disappearance during a routine check of the trophy case. News has quickly spread among the student body and the Professional Adult Community, many of whom are still in disbelief that an individual would commit such a violent crime.

"That men's hobby horse team was truly special." Comprised of three and a half members that year, one long-time faculty member recalled that the team exemplified Crystal's core values of excellence and enthusiasm. "Hobby horse is an extremely mentally and physically demanding sport," he continued, "and we do our best to honor the student-athletes that were courageous enough to take part in it." Unfortunately, 1996 was the first and last year that the sport was offered at the school. Nevertheless, the hard work and dedication exhibited by the members of that short-lived team were enough to leave a grand impact on the Crystal community for generations to come.

The athletics department has launched a full investigation of the theft, and is in talks to install a more robust security system to protect the school's trophies from such offenses in the future. Currently, the department plans to use a portion of the budget allocated to Snow Day to hire a full-time security guard and a laser detection system.

An experienced forensic scientist has also been brought in to detect fingerprints and DNA samples surrounding the trophy case. All of these measures are intended to catch the culprit as soon as possible with the aim of returning the plaque safely to its rightful home.

We recognize that members of the community are still feeling extremely shaken up by the absence of such a prized item. Students and faculty members alike are invited to come together and support each other through this great loss.

M. Rosenberg



JUSTIN TRUDEAU LOOKING SO GOOD RECENTLY, CANADIAN POLITICS ALMOST WORTH WATCHING



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has been looking so good recently that Canadian politics are almost worth watching.

For decades past, American citizens have asked the world's most essential questions: "What even is Canada?" "Sorry, did you say it's not a state?" Although our nations have shared a long and romantic history, many of us still don't quite understand the inner workings of our mysterious upstairs neighbor. A recent survey highlighted just how little Americans know about these mysterious Canadians. The majority of respondents referred to the country's national language as "kind of french (?)" and said its citizens were "impressively skilled in the areas of ice hockey and curling." However, since 2015, American interest in Canada as a whole has skyrocketed, mostly due to the election of its current prime minister and sexiest man in the land, Justin Trudeau.

One American put it simply: "Trudeau's deep, sensual stare makes that border look reaaaalllll promising. When he addresses the camera, I like to pretend he's talking to me. Just me and him, him and me. There's nothing between our love but a valid US passport and an immigration visa. Just thinking about his dazzling blue eyes...that jawline chiseled to the heavens..."

Another source elaborated on Trudeau's eyes, saying that they were "just so....deep. Like a comforting meal and a warm hug on an overcast day. There's nothing you can do but fall into them. You can't help it."

Though it is unclear whether Americans will ever actually tune in to Canadian news, trends tentatively point in that direction. Perhaps if Trudeau can keep the American public engrossed with his pensive gaze and clean-shaven smarts . . .

H. Jiang



STARBUCKS LAUNCHING SEASONAL DEPRESSION LATTE THIS WINTER



Starbucks has announced the launch of a new “seasonal depression” latte this winter. The limited-time-only Existential Espresso has attracted sizeable crowds at Starbucks locations worldwide. It’s a dark, moody, and introspective drink—perfect for contemplating the meaning of it all while staring into the abyss (or your phone screen scrolling through Instagram reels). The Whiffer’s investigators have stolen the recipe from Starbucks HQ and graciously shared it with you all.

The Existential Espresso

For when life’s a grind.

Ingredients:

- 2 shots of espresso (one isn’t enough)
- 1 splash of black cold brew (deepens the flavor profile of your despair)
- Dark chocolate syrup (bittersweet, just like life—but mostly bitter)
- A pinch of sea salt (for those salty tears that haven’t fallen yet)
- Lavender-infused foam (because you pretend to care about self-care)
- A single marshmallow (as it floats sadly in a sea of caffeinated darkness, you can’t help but draw some parallels to your own life)

Preparation:

1. Wonder if you’ll ever be good enough.
2. Remember you’ll never be good enough
3. Pour two shots of espresso into your cup. Nobody’s looking...why not two more?
4. Add some cold brew because life is cold and indifferent and so is your coffee.
5. Drizzle with chocolate syrup and sprinkle some sea salt. Let the contrasting flavors battle it out like your hopes and reality.
6. Top with lavender foam to assure onlookers that you are, in fact, doing splendidly.
7. Garnish with a single marshmallow, because life is all about the small pleasures.
8. Feel the caffeine coursing through your veins. Are you ready to do 98 billion physics problems now?

C. Luey



HOW TO CHOOSE THE BEST COLLEGE FOR YOU (ACCORDING TO YOUR PERSONAL COLOR SEASON)

By: A deeply serious higher education expert

Choosing a college is one of the most important decisions you'll ever make. But forget all the unimportant factors like "academics," "affordability," or "career opportunities." Let's focus on what really matters: your personal color season.

Winter:

Are you a deep winter, thriving on bold contrasts and jewel tones? You need a college as sharp and sophisticated as your impeccable jawline. Think prestigious, traditional, and serious campuses with Gothic architecture and the kind of New England weather that allows for a black turtleneck year-round.

Consider a **SMALL LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE** near **BOSTON**, famous for its crimson banners, or an Ivy League institution in a coastal New England town where navy blue is practically a religion. Bonus points if the dining hall gives off medieval candlelit vibes.

Autumn:

If you're a warm autumn, you have a visceral, primitive need for a pumpkin spice latte at least once a day. You look your best posing in front of some orange trees, holding a big maple leaf à la Caitlin Covington.

It's imperative you find a school where you can take cute fall pics with your friends and drink your knock-off Starbucks lattes. Try the prestigious Hogwarts, Starfleet Academy, or Rory Gilmore-coded picturesque campuses that don't clash with your cinnamon and caramel undertones.

Summer:

Are you constantly smiling, happy, and weirdly attracted to CompSci guys? Do you like lemon sunshine sprinkle cupcakes? Consider a school where people are just as freakishly happy as you are (and your pinterest board)!!!!!! Popular picks include Barbie's Princess Charm School or Arendelle Academy, tucked away with shimmery lakes and whimsical forests.

Spring:

Spring personalities are vibrant and sunny, thriving on pastels, florals, and joyful energy. You need a campus that reflects your optimism, where every building feels like it was designed for a fairytale photoshoot.

Imagine yourself at Ever After Academy, where cherry blossoms bloom year-round and "happily ever after" is part of the syllabus. If a little adventure is your thing, Monsters University offers both pastel spirit gear and a lively sense of humor.

Some important questions to ask yourself: What color is the school's logo? Will your brand-new collection of collegiate sweatshirts bring out your undertones? Remember, you need to choose the school that looks the best on you.

C. Luey



WHAT THE IMPRISONED EXTRATERRESTRIAL FORCED TO GRADE YOUR ENGLISH PAPERS WANTS YOU TO KNOW:



(He's an honorary PAC member at this point)

1. Hi
2. I am called 66074 & 74 3 70 but your people refer to me as Jeremiah
3. I have been shackled to the roof of this opalescent suburban prison for the past two excruciating decades
4. They feed me sometimes–Kellog's Raisin Bran Single Serve Boxes
5. The Scary Man visits every week
6. The Scary Man brings a stack of papers
7. The Scary Man wants them graded by Tuesday
8. I don't know what "grading" is
9. It must be something that you put in your Kellog's Raisin Bran Single Serve Boxes
10. Luckily I am able to digest ink!
11. I eat the papers
12. Some of them taste bad
13. This one is yummy!
14. A strong earthy tone with tangy notes of bergamot and lemon rind
15. 92/100



L. Maxcy

CAMPUS NOT LOOKING TOO HOLLY OR JOLLY THIS DECEMBER

According to sources, Crystal's Campus has not been too holly or jolly this December. The Whiffer's holiday specialists have scientifically investigated this occurrence.

Whiffer's journalism team – which takes spirit very seriously – conducted a thorough, independent investigation into these allegations this last week.

After collecting samples from over 500 sites on campus, our team of experts found few traces of holiday spirit across campus. Concentrations of HOLLY-24 and JOLLY-25 were found to be 50% lower than last year's. "There appears to be a suspicious lack of mistletoe in the science hallway," one reporter noted. Another reporter, after gaining exclusive access to the Physics classroom, claimed that "not even [one] of the flying piggies was festooned with jubilant holiday ornamentation."

Unfortunately, we must face the facts: our investigation has concluded that Crystal's campus has not been looking too holly or jolly this December. Only a visit from the red-nosed reindeer himself can remedy this disaster.

C.Chen



WHIFFER STAFF ANSWERS YOUR WRITING QUESTIONS

Q: What's the best way to get inspired?

A: Great question! We recommend reconnecting with nature. Spend some time in the forest and you'll be surprised by what you hear. The singing voices of nature can sometimes sound an awful lot like three witches prophesying your ascendance to the Scottish throne.

Q: How do I know if I'm doing it right?

A: You're probably not. If you haven't begun to rip bite-size chunks out of your carpet with your teeth while going positively insane, you might need to reconsider your strategy. Remember your positive affirmations: I deserve to be here. None of woman born shall harm me. I shall not be vanquished until great Birnam wood marches to Dunsinane.

Q: Who are you people? Are you even qualified to be saying any of this?

A: Geez, what a rude inquiry! Of course we are qualified; we know how to use semicolons. One of us even got an A on an essay once. Clearly, you're asking this question from a place of extreme insecurity. Have you put rancors in the vessel of your peace? You seem to be becoming increasingly paranoid that your various misdeeds will be uncovered.

Q: Are those trees moving?

A: Don't worry about it.

L. Maxcy

Now Get Back To Work!