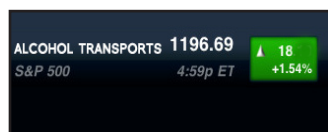




HEADLINES



Obama Announces 2012 Presidential Campaign With Promises of "Same"



Alcohol Transports Up 18 Points in 2011

Billboard Momentarily Causes Students to Reconsider Helmet-Wearing Decision

Recently, Stanford Parking and Transportation officials have put up a flashing road sign on Santa Teresa St. that reads, "Helmets save brains. Bikers obey stop signs." The billboard is causing many students to momentarily reconsider their helmet-wearing decision, which briefly causes them internal angst. Since only 35% of the Stanford student community wears helmets (and most of them are graduate engineering students), many students oppose the sign.

"It just makes me feel like a bad person for about 3 seconds. Every time I bike by that sign, I feel bad for not wearing a helmet, but then that feeling just disappears. I just don't need to be reminded that I am inadequate," says freshman

Molly Huddle. "As I bike by the sign I wonder: Should I wear a helmet? Will I look less cool? What will my mom say?" But then I just

"Should I wear a helmet?
Will I look less cool?
What will my mom say?"

forget about it once I pass by," she continues.

Students are arguing that there are other factors that can save brains such as an abnormally thick skull or amazing flying ability. "My decision to not wear a helmet is a



The flashing road signs on the Stanford campus. Students were warned to wear helmets to save their brains, and also that there were Zombies ahead.

personal choice based on vanity and looks," said Molly. "I don't need society to remind me that I am risking my brains!" (Collison)

Hopeless Bachelor Forwards Chain E-Mail To 20 People, Still Single

Local officials report that area bachelor Robert Babson, who recently moved from his parent's basement to his own apartment, is still single despite his courageous and heroic attempt to woo the love of his life.

At around 9:36pm last Monday, Babson received the fateful chain e-mail that had the potential to change his fortunes. Investigator claim that the message contained pictures of adorable cats in boxes of beer, a unique concoction that was described as a "Lolcat" in the ensuing police report. The e-mail also promised that if Babson forwarded the message to at least 20 people in his contact list within the ensuing 15 minutes, he would undoubtedly win the heart of his secret crush.

Babson is dejected in light of the failure of this seemingly infallible strategy, and fears that he will never be successful in love. "I hit the send button by 9:43pm," Babson tearfully told reporters, "I was clearly within my 15 minute time window." Investigators also told the press that Babson's sent folder indicated that he had forwarded the e-mail to 23 people in



The cat picture that was supposed to woo Babson's soul mate.

his contact list, though three of the addresses were invalid.

"This just goes to show the harsh, cruel, wicked reality of the modern world," sobbed Babson in a recent telephone interview, "If a man cannot win over the lady of his dreams by electronically sharing pictures of cats wearing human clothes with all his friends and relatives, I might as well just accept my fate and be resigned to dying alone." (Hoffer)

UNITED STATES LAUNCHES THUMB WAR ON LIBYA

In an unprecedented display of raw Presidential power, Barack Obama has single-handedly embroiled himself in a heated thumb war with Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi. What initially appeared to be just another cursory diplomatic handshake took a violent turn when Obama clenched his fingers into his counterpart's palm and muttered, "Bring it, Muammar."

The media is ripping Obama apart for starting the Thumb War without Congress saying, "1-2-3-4. I declare a thumb war." Other humanitarian groups are concerned that Obama is using the tactic of wrapping his index finger around Gaddafi's thumb, a clear violation of Article VII, Paragraph 4 of the Geneva Convention.

Additionally, there is an ongoing investigation to support the claim that Joe Biden repeatedly gave Libyans noogies and refused to stop even after they yelled "mercy."

Polls show very low approval ratings for the President. Over 85% of voters do not support the thumb war, and instead think the President would have accomplished more by just flipping off Gaddafi instead. (Galant, Kofman)

THE FLIPSIDE PUZZLE CHALLENGE IS NOW ONLINE!

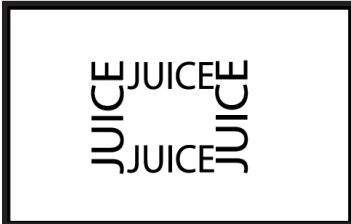
Go to stanfordflipside.com to submit your answers to the puzzle challenge. The first solver will win a Flipside shot glass!

Last week's winner: David Liu

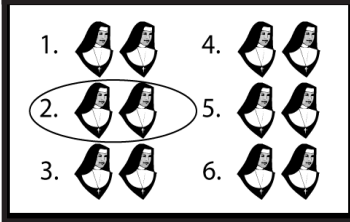
QUOTE: "I totally think the war in Liberia is unethical, and Obama should just get us out of there."

REBUS PUZZLES

Can you guess the common word or phrase portrayed below?



old	7:15	sake
old	12:32	
old	9:45	
old	11:02	
old	3:19	
old	6:51	



last week's answers: ROUNDHOUSE KICKS, EXTENUATE, SOMER-SAULTS, PIONEERING

NUMBERS

\$38.5 billion

The amount that the US budget will be cut for the remaining part of this fiscal year. The government has agreed that it will allocate the rest of its budget based on a Special Fees like process, where programs like Medicare have to go get signatures from 15% of the national population if they want to even be considered for a vote. Most people, however, are just trying to figure out how much money \$38.5 billion is, and where they would go on vacation if they had it.

It's Monday!

www.stanfordflipside.com

CRYPTOGRAM CHALLENGE

This is a simple substitution code. Each letter is replaced by a different letter. Try to decode the message or quote below. HINT P = N

LAM AOQRP YRFM ARU ARZ EXPK MNIMYBMPFM RPZ R TBPM LYRZBLBXP BP UOYS-
BSBPK RZSMYUBLC. JOL GM PXG TRFM R LRUV TXY GABFA GM ARSM EBLLEM MN-
IMYBMPFM: LAM LRUV XT UOYSBSBPK IYXUIMYBLC. -RERP KYMKK

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER: IT'S SPRING FEVER. THAT IS WHAT THE NAME OF IT IS. AND WHEN YOU'VE GOT IT, YOU WANT - OH, YOU DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT IT IS YOU DO WANT, BUT IT JUST FAIRLY MAKES YOUR HEART ACHE, YOU WANT IT SO! -MARK TWAIN

FLIPSIDE TSHIRT

Each week we will feature the design of a limited edition t-shirt for \$5. Stanford Flipside on the back. To order a shirt, fill out the form at stanfordflipside.com/shirts.



The Stanford Flipside is a weekly satirical newsletter. Our stories are fictional, but we make jokes about real issues. Our goal is not to offend you, but to make you laugh and to reframe our world to point out the absurdities. Anyone is free to join the Flipside, and we would love to have you! We meet Tuesdays at 4pm to brainstorm. Contact flipside@stanford.edu for more information.

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four ordinary jumbles, and use the letters in circles to answer the final question.



EHFIT
□ ○ ○ ○ □

HYDAS
○ ○ ○ □ □

NRUERN
□ □ □ ○ ○ □

CADHET
○ □ □ □ □ ○



LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS: RAVEN, IGLOO, CONFER, PITIES what they called the metal coil's flu symptom SPRING FEVER

Editorial Board: Jeremy Keeshin, Zach Galant, Adam Adler, Laney Kuenzel, Eric Karpas, Brendan Weinstein, Stephanie Weber, Brendan O'Byrne