

The Living Room Times

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

Tuesday, October 11, 1994

Gossip galore at Kellogg's 'Welcome Back Social'

It was business as usual Friday afternoon at Martin Kellogg's first afterschool social of the year. The 'Welcome Back Social' for seventh and eighth graders features food, music, dancing, and—of course—gossip, gossip, gossip!

Brendan Loy was there with his 'BLL News' tape recorder, as usual, reporting on all the latest rumors. "BLL News," he said as everyone lined up to hand in their tickets, "we are ready for our complete, exclusive, live coverage of this social, the 'Welcome Back Social'."

"Do you have anything to say about this dance... uh, excuse me... social?" Brendan asked Student Council President Tim Stevens.

"I haven't seen it yet, so I don't really know," Tim replied. "And don't ever use 'dance' again, because it implies romance. And if you do, I'll have to kill you."

"And if you ever say that word, I'll have to impeach you," Brendan replied jokingly. "I used to follow Bryan Rudolph around [with my tape recorder] pestering him, but he's not here, so I'll just pester you."

"Thank you. I'm honored."

"Yeah. You are the official BLL News Pestered One."

The gossip started early, with Brendan interviewing Kim Pina.

"Kim! Kim!" Brendan called. "Tell us, are you the First Lady of

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LATE SHOW
TOP TEN

TOP TEN WAYS TO TELL THE SHOW YOU'RE WATCHING WON'T BE A HIT

Letterman,
Wednesday,
September 21, 1994

10. THE ACTORS ARE HOLDING EACH OTHERS' CUE CARDS
9. LAUGH TRACK CONSISTS OF A GUY WITH A WET HACKING COUGH
8. YOU START THINKING MAYBE I'LL GO LISTEN TO THAT NEW ROGER CLINTON CD
7. TITLE CONTAINS THE WORDS "THE" AND "MOMMIES"
6. ACTORS FREQUENTLY BREAK CHARACTER AND SCREAM "GOOD LORD DOES THIS SUCK!"
5. THE BIGGEST LAUGH OF THE NIGHT INVOLVES A DEAD CHICKEN IN UNDERPANTS
4. BIG PURPLE DINOSAUR KEEPS BITING CHILDREN
3. SKINNY GAP-TOOTHED HOST READS LAME TOP TEN LIST
2. SHOW'S PREMISE: MAN WITH BIONIC ASS
1. IT'S ON FOX

Quotes about the Welcome Back Social

“I think it’s going great!” —Student Council Advisor Mrs. Siano

“I think it was an absolute bomb. I’m just kidding....It was surprisingly successful.”

—Student Council President Tim Stevens

“It’s going well. We had a pretty good turnout for the first dance of the year.”

—Student Council Treasurer Dan Seremet

“I think this was a successful social, but we can make it much more successful in the future.”

—Student Council Secretary Claudio Gualtieri

“I think the Halloween one will be better....I think this social was very successful.”

—Student Council Historian Kristen Vasil

“It was better than last year.” —Kristen Fisher

“I didn’t win anything!!!” —Kristyn Fontanella

“No comment at this time.” —Jen Persaud

“It was pretty good. A little bit not as good as I hoped it would be, but...” —Jason Saccente

“This dance sucked!” —Sean Waterman

“I think it was a lovely social. I wish more eighth graders would get involved.” —Mr. Liebler

“It was a lot of fun.” —Mrs. Gonzalez

“It was *awesome!!!* Especially dancing with Tim, the prez.” —Jaimie Kwassman

“It was great.” —Mrs. Butler

Welcome Back Social features dancing, music, food, gossip

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the school?”

“Yes I am!” responded Kim enthusiastically.

“Kim claims she is the First Lady of the school,” Brendan reported to his tape recorder.

“These are lies!” said Tim when he heard this. “These people are trying... it’s like Gennifer Flowers! It’s all lies!”

As the social/dance got underway, many hungry people started getting anxious for the food to be ready. Mrs. Siano, the Student Council Advisor, left in the beginning of the dance to get soda and cups, saying she’d be back in ten minutes. She told Tim and the other student council officers to keep students out of the cafeteria while she was gone. Only Tim, Claudio Gualtieri, Dan Seremet, and a few other officers who were helping set up the food table were allowed inside.

Brendan and others, however, were hungry and anxious to get in. Brendan, waiting outside the door of the cafeteria, announced to his tape recorder that he was “being held outside the gates of the food area at the moment.”

Doors to the cafeteria were opened briefly to let

someone in, and Brendan snuck in himself. He immediately started trying to interview various officers to figure out what was going on.

“Get the press out of here!” ordered Tim.

“Goodbye, Brendan!” said Dan Seremet.

“Get him out of here!” Tim repeated.

“And BLL News has been forced out of the area!” reported Brendan as he was pushed back out into the hallway.

As Brendan was being forced out, several other students managed to get inside as well.

“Everybody out! Everybody out!” Tim yelled, enforcing Mrs. Siano’s orders.

“President Stevens is now calling everyone out of the cafeteria,” reported Brendan, “where we continue to wait for Mrs. Siano to return with the cups.”

Brendan eventually gave up on trying to get inside the cafeteria, and returned to reporting on the gossip.

“He is going to ask out Jessica Olsen,” said Veronique Fort. She was talking about David Downes.

“I didn’t know that,” replied David.

“Veronique Fort is trying to get David Downes to ask

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Student Council sponsors 'Welcome Back Social' at Kellogg

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Jessica Olsen out," summarized Brendan.

"David loves Jessica and he's just afraid to admit it!" said Kim Pina.

"Yes, yes, yes!" yelled Veronique.

Kim came back a few minutes later with more information about the David and Jessica situation.

"I have more gossip," Kim declared. "It's a lie. He does not like Jessica. He likes me!!!"

David's response was simple: "Uh..."

Some students were more concerned with the music than they were with the food or the gossip. Kieth Druckenmiller commented on the song 'Whoomp! There it is!' which was playing in the gym.

"You hear the music?" asked Kieth. "It sucks! They've gotta play some good music. Because Whoomp This Sucks is a bad song."

And now, back to the food situation... Mrs. Siano finally arrived back from her outing—it took more than ten minutes—and the cafeteria doors were finally opened.

"Apparently, the food area is finally open!" Brendan yelled. "Everyone is rushing toward the food area!"

Once the cafeteria was open, many of the kids at the dance went in there. Kieth Druckenmiller had another comment, this time about the food.

"And now the cook tip of the week," he said. "Instead of ice cubes for soda, substitute cookies. It's real good, alright? The cookies are really extra-soggy, alright? So, if you have stale cookies, it works the best. That's another cook tip from Kieth."

Many of the students were in the cafeteria, eating and drinking, and there was little going on in the gym, until the ever-popular song "YMCA" was played. A lot of kids ran into the gym and danced, jumping up and down and forming the letters Y M C A with their arms.

After that song was over, "Whoomp! There it is!" was played again—for the second time in a half hour.

"I am David Downes," said David. "And I am a God. Whoomp, there it is. It's fun to stay at the YMCA."

"This is pretty stupid," said Sean Waterman. "They don't have any good songs in this [dance]. I wish they would get some cool songs."

Back in the cafeteria, problems were arising before the dance was even half over.

"We're running out of drinks early, and it's not even 3:30 yet," said Dan Seremet, standing behind the food and drink table in the cafeteria. "We're almost all out of drinks."

"Then what happens [when you run out]?" asked Brendan.

"Then, they don't drink."

When asked why the student council was short on drinks, Dan replied, "Well, Mrs. Siano was shopping and she didn't buy enough because she was short on time and money. Next time, we will definitely have more drinks."

Claudio Gualtieri, who was also working behind the food and drink table, denied that the amount of drinks wasn't enough. And indeed, in the end, the drinks lasted

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WHAT'S THE WEATHER?

Forecast as of 6:55 PM, Sunday, October 9, 1994

.TUESDAY... SUNNY AND COOL. HIGHS 45 TO 55.

.WEDNESDAY... FAIR. LOWS IN THE 30S AND LOWER 40S. HIGHS NEAR 60.

.THURSDAY... FAIR. LOWS 35 TO 45. HIGHS IN THE MID 60S.



Student Council President dances with Band President at Welcome Back Social

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until the end of the dance without running out.

“President Stevens,” asked Brendan, “we are now almost an hour into this social. Do you have anything to say so far?”

“Um, it’s good,” replied Tim, “but it can be improved, I think greatly. We need more student opinions about it.”

“We also need more student music.”

“Yes, we need to send out the message to everyone....We’ll rent it from them. Anyone who is interested. Bring in a tape or CD [on the day of a dance] and we’ll rent it from you for the day.”

By the time the dance was half done, despite all the rumors, no couples had actually gotten out onto the dance floor and slow-danced. But the word was out that Jaimie Kwassman wanted to dance with Tim Stevens.

“Are you going to dance with her?” Brendan asked.

“I don’t know yet,” Tim replied.

“He doesn’t know yet,” reported Brendan, repeating Tim’s statement. “So far, this is out biggest story of the day. Tim Stevens may dance with Jaimie Kwassman.”

Tim heard, as he sat around thinking about what to do, that Jaimie had dedicated a song to him and her.

“I guess I don’t have much of a choice now,” he mumbled.

Jaimie walked over, and someone asked if she wanted to kiss Tim.

“I’m not going to kiss him!” she answered. “We’re only friends!” She then added, “I’m going to dance with the President [of the student council] because I’m the President of the band.”

Tim got a little break from Jaimie chasing him around when he entered the limbo contest and she didn’t. But when he was eliminated, and sat up in the bleachers near where she was, she started bugging him again.

“I have a headache,” Tim complained.

“Tim now has a headache,” repeated Brendan, “probably because Jaimie keeps yelling at him.”

As the waiting went on for the President to dance, various contests continued. After the limbo contest, which was won by a seventh grader, were the warm-up shots for the free-throw shooting contest.

Kristyn Fontanella got Brendan’s BLL News tape recorder during the free-throw warm-up, and she started doing the play-by-play announcement of the shots.

“Okay, well, here goes David,” she started. “He shoots, and... it rolls off. Too bad, David.”

David screamed as he walked by.

“That was his comment,” continued Kristyn. “Okay. Who’s shooting? Sean just shot and missed. Oh, well. Who’s shooting? Todd is shooting. Uh... swish. *IT WENT IN!!!* The crowd goes wild.”

She tried unsuccessfully to get a comment from Todd, and then continued announcing. “Here goes Lauren. Here goes Lauren. Uh... *IT GOES IN! WOOOOO!!!!!!!* Lauren! Good job! Here comes Tara... up... *WOOOOO!!! IT GOES SWISH!!!* What’s your comment?”

“Yay,” responded Tara.

Kristyn then gave up her play-by-play announcing.

“Brendan, here’s your tape recorder!” she said, and gave it back to him.

After the warm-up shots concluded, the actual free-throw contest itself started a few minutes later. When Tim Stevens missed a shot, Brendan interviewed him.

“Tim Stevens, you’ve just missed a shot in the free throw contest! What are you going to do now?” asked Brendan, hoping Tim would say ‘I’m going to Disney World’.

Instead, Tim joked, “I’m very depressed; I’m going to throw myself off the highest building I can find.”

“Would that highest building be in Disney World, by any chance?”

“Probably.”

Brendan and BLL News didn’t hang around for the end of the free-throw contest though, because it was time to get back to following the ongoing gossip saga of Tim and Jaimie.

Tim and Jaimie, as well as Brendan and others interested in the gossip, stood in the hallway as Jaimie tried to convince Tim to dance with her. Tim finally, reluctantly agreed, but Jaimie had to practically drag him into the gym and onto the dance floor to get him to dance with her.

“The President is now going to be dancing with Jaimie Kwassman!” announced Brendan as they walked into the gym. “The first couple to dance of the night. It is 3:53 PM.”

The song they danced to was Peabo Bryson and Regina Belle’s version of “A Whole New World” from Disney’s “Aladdin.”

“And it is official,” said Brendan, “at 3:53 and 36

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'Welcome Back Social' at Kellogg a success

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seconds. Tim Stevens and Jaimie Kwassman are now dancing, with Jessica Olsen holding on to Jaimie Kwassman's shoulder. I have no idea what this entails."

Student Council Historian Kristen Vasil, who had been taking pictures of various events throughout the dance, rushed over with her camera to get a shot of the President slow-dancing with Jaimie.

Tim seemed very embarrassed about the whole thing, especially having his picture taken.

As the song ended, and Tim—somewhat eagerly—walked away, Brendan interviewed him once again.

"You've just danced with Jaimie Kwassman. Do you have any comments? What are you going to do now?"

"I'm going to kill you."

The end of the Tim and Jaimie story was almost immediately followed by the continuation of another story, this time the David Downes/Jessica Olsen saga. Jessica was trying one last time to get David to dance with her.

"I've gotta leave in, like, two seconds!" said Jessica to David.

"What time is it?" David asked.

"3:56," Brendan interrupted.

"Dance," said someone to David. Several others echoed, "Dance. Dance."

David, though, was either too embarrassed, or too shy, or simply didn't want to dance, and Jessica, who had to leave early, left before she and David ever got a chance to dance.

Next on the list of things to do at the social was the giving away of door prizes. Winners were Sean Harper, Margaret Majewski, Tara Boisvert, and a seventh grader whose name was not mentioned, but whom Mrs.

Siano said wins a prize at almost every dance. And, the winner of the full-paid \$30 ticket for the end-of-the-year trip to Mountain View was Jen Persaud.

With less than a half hour to go, the dance started to wind down. After the line dances "Electric Slide" and "Achy Breaky Heart", as well as "The Twist" and the wildly popular "Funky Chicken", there were only a few songs before the final slow song. But even in the final minutes of the social, there was still plenty of time for gossip.

Brendan interviewed Kim Pina with about fifteen minutes left in the dance. Kim, who (as you will remember from the beginning of this article) had earlier claimed to be the First Lady of the school, was hoping to follow in Jaimie's footsteps and dance with Tim.

"Are you hoping President Stevens is going to ask you to dance?" Brendan asked.

"He'd better," Kim answered bluntly.

Brendan told Tim what Kim had said, and tried to convince him to ask her to dance. Tim, however, did not.

At 4:43, the last song of the dance—and the last chance for slow dancing—started. The song was "Hard to Say Goodbye" by Boys II Men.

Three couples danced to the final song. Paul Labowski and Margaret Majewski danced, as did Tim Giles and Danielle Faulkner. There was also one seventh grade couple who danced briefly.

"That concludes BLL News's live, exclusive coverage," said Brendan as students began to leave the building to go home, "of the Back to School Social, the first dance of the Martin Kellogg schoolyear. That's all for now here on BLL News."