

# The BACKCAST

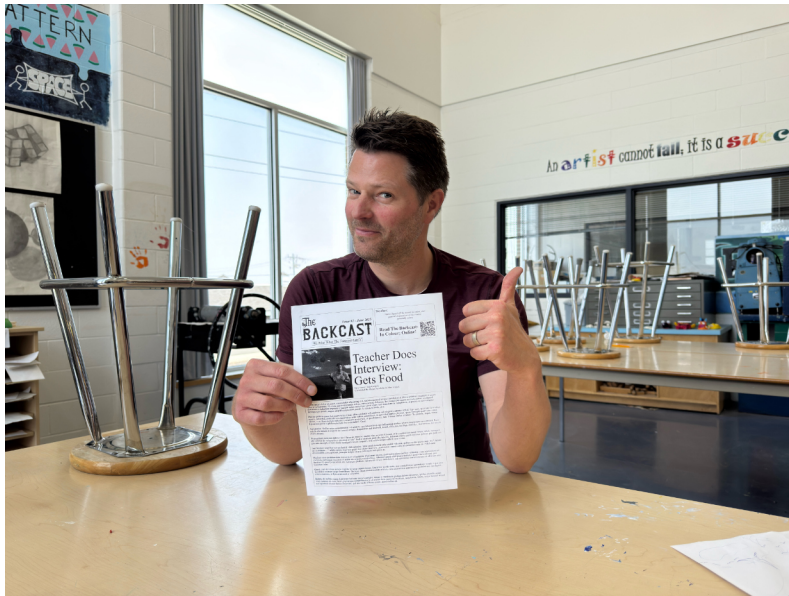
Issue #2 - June 2025

We Print What The Forecast *Can't!*

Weather:

*Varies based off the mood, location, and general disposition of the reader; generally sunny.*

Read The Backcast:  
In **Colour**; Online!



## The Backcast's Officially Leaked Interview With Mr. Johnson

Interviewer: Ivan Ochs  
Chronicled By: Harper Artichoke

Thank you to Mr. Johnson for agreeing to an exclusive interview with the Backcast! Here's the interview, between Mr. Johnson and Backcast Reporter Ivan Ochs; edited for your viewing pleasure! Due to **Backcast Incompetence™**, we didn't actually record the interview, so all 'quotes' are reconstructed based on scribbled notes & shoddy memory. Enjoy!

**OCHS:** "I'm sure some of our readers haven't met you before, so could you please briefly introduce yourself to our audience?"

**JOHNSON:** "Uh sure, my name is uh, Ryan Johnson. I've been teaching art at LHSS since 2005!"

**OCHS:** "Moving on then, what is your favourite class to teach, art, or photography?"

**JOHNSON:** "Well, photography is art, but I get what you mean. The thing with photos is you get like an instant gratification since it's right there. With art there's more of a process, there's more of a struggle. If I absolutely had to pick one or the other, I'd say teaching art is more fulfilling. And so for me, and seeing that in my students, I'd have to say Art."

**OCHS:** "Going into slightly more personal questions, and you're free to not answer, why did you decide to start teaching?"

**JOHNSON:** "It's actually a pretty cool story! I took an art degree, because I didn't know what I wanted to do but I knew I loved art. I had super cool, supportive parents who were fine with it, and tuition was probably like a third of what it is now so that probably helped. I had to take a contemporary art course, and it was packed. The prof was always busy obviously, and I would always finish my work early, so I decided to help other students out. As I was doing it started to click, and lightbulbs were going off in my head: 'hey, I really like this!' I had a friend in university who had a teaching class at night across campus, who wanted someone to walk with her. Not like I'm that kind of guy or whatever but y'know. She pushed me to take the course, and that was sort of the final thing that created my path towards teaching."

**OCHS:** "Now, we're a fun sort of newspaper, and I'm sure that everyone wants to know, what was the worst assignment you ever received? You can keep their identity secret of course."

**JOHNSON:** "Right... man, ok. There were some doozies... a lot of obvious AI stuff. Students who use AI are usually pretty quick to back down if they're questioned. Oh, here's one! I had a student, I think their name was 'Taddee Bensob' or something, and they needed to pass the summative in order to pass the class. They came in on the exam day, and completed a summative in 40 minutes that was designed to take 4 weeks. I mean it was egregious, like obviously if I only had 40 minutes and other people at my skill level had 4 weeks, it's not going to compare. I still gave them a pass though."

*continued on page 2*

## Interview Continued

**OCHS:** "Another personal question, what model of car do you drive?"

**JOHNSON:** "2016 Honda Prius, why do you ask?"

**OCHS:** "No reason. Moving on, what is the craziest thing a student has ever done?"

**JOHNSON:** "There's too many to choose from... Oh, actually, there is one that stands out. And like I kind of believe him. There was a student who brought a huge mason jar, 10 inches or so, to school, filled with blood."

**OCHS:** "What?"

**JOHNSON:** "It was crazy for sure. I asked him what it was and he said it was blood."

**OCHS:** "Like animal blood?"

**JOHNSON:** "He said it was his own blood."

**OCHS:** "There's no way, that much?"

**JOHNSON:** "Yeah, that's the part where I can't believe him, but he was that type of kid. One day he came to school with burn marks on his hand, so he was in that kind of world. He had already started painting with it before I was able to stop him, I don't really remember what the painting looked like, I'm sure it was fine."

**OCHS:** "Great, we're almost done. What are your thoughts on leadership?"

**JOHNSON:** "Please don't include that last stuff I just said in the article. Oh, you're cutting that part out? Great! I mean, I know that you guys might have some differing opinions but I'm a pretty big fan of Leadership. Things like the field fest, that I know Leadership was a part of, are pretty nice. They help bring the school together and unite everybody. Not just students but staff as well. You'd think that we talk to each other all the time but there are some staff that I hadn't spoken to in 2-3 weeks before the field fest, so overall they're doing good work."

**OCHS:** "Now, final question: How would you react, if this whole interview was a front for a Backcast employee to fill the 2016 Honda Prius parked out back with boiling spaghetti?"

**JOHNSON:** "I'd love that honestly, it'd be a free meal!"

We compensated him for his time with the finest Dollarama spaghetti.

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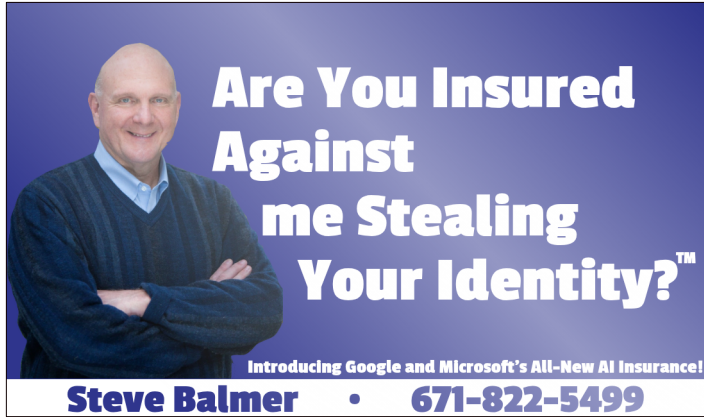
# THE BACKCAST

Depuis 2025

## Useful Spell

*Burn part of a dress after you have perspired heavily in it and introduce the ashes into the food or drink of the man you desire*

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## Wild Wing Review

By: Ivan Ochs

I have been to many restaurants in my time, but none have stood out nearly as much as our very own Wild Wing does. It could be the subversively simple branding, the smash-and-grab dining style, or perhaps the wonderfully inventive service style, but most of all I think it's the vibe: everything is terribly in-vogue, and I love it.

We start with the establishment itself, the toned-down branding really is incredibly clever. I love the idea of no branding whatsoever, and with the top-tier execution, it all feels very minimalist. It really does fit the whole vibe of the restaurant.

To enter the restaurant, you use the back door (the front door is locked, I can only assume it's to aid in the whole vibe or something). The cigarette-smoking hooligans at the side of the restaurant were really helpful with aiding me in entering this fine establishment, though I could've done without the snickering. After a few thoroughly embarrassing minutes of trying & failing to open the door, I had to resort to using my backup crowbar I keep on me at all times (big thanks to Todd, a cigarette-smoking hooligan, for suggesting I use my crowbar). While entering the restaurant wasn't a good experience for me, I'm sure that they'll iron out any kinks by the time you try to eat here yourself.

Now we finally get into the restaurant itself, and it's simply marvellous! Aesthetic dust everywhere, and the whole sit-on-the-floor-in-piles-of-dust-and-cobwebs things really is ingenious! I really had a good time looking for a non-dusty place on the floor, and it's something that felt simultaneously upscale and indie at the same time. It's a really hard vibe to chase, and they've fully caught it!

The service was unexpected in a good way. The distinct lack of employees is sure to cut down on the cost of running such a high-end restaurant like this one, but I still did miss the human touch. That being said, the self-serve style was exceptionally fun, and I thoroughly enjoyed rooting through the grimy old fridge in their cellar, where I found several tastefully moldy chicken wings. I also loved looking under broken tables, in the bathroom, and everywhere else one might find food. This style of dining is nothing if not imaginative. It's like a buffet, mixed with an easter egg hunt & a burglary; it really called something forth within me I didn't know I had inside (could've been vomit, I'm not sure).

But hey, what's a restaurant's great vibes if the food is garbage? Lucky for me (and you, when you decide to go), the food was excellent. The tastefully moldy wings happened to be too wild for me (gave me a spot of the 'ole regular poisoning), though they did delightfully burn my nostrils like a fine cheese. I loved the aged french fries, although I think they should lay off the dye a bit, as the colour can be a little off-putting (especially when the ketchup is green, black, and runny). 10/10 on the food front.

The police did get called on me, I can only assume they were part of the aesthetic. Although, when I vomited on one of the officers (chronic vomiting really flared up at the wrong time, didn't it), they did seem to get serious about the whole arrest thing, and unfortunately I am currently in prison. Probably for being too fabulous or something, I didn't listen to what the stinky judge was saying.

Whilst there are few kinks that need to be ironed out, the owners of the Wild Wing are really onto something special here, all I can say is: 'Bravo on the rebranding efforts!'

10/10. Hands down.



## Section of Fun:

### THERATHOLE By: Rivers Cuomo



### Ask Harper:

*Dear Harper, What inspires someone to start a movement? - Procrastinating reader*

Dear procrastinating reader, I'm not doing your homework on your behalf.

*Dear Harper, Yesterday, after learning to drive, I ran over Obama Obama and I felt kinda bad. What should I do? - Distressed reader*

Dear distressed reader, Congratulations on learning how to drive. There are a few remedies you can employ to alleviate your guilt. If he is at his house, perhaps you could make an apology basket and send it his way. If he's still on the side of the road, consider taking him to a hospital; it's called Obamacare for a reason, after all. If none of that works, consider drone-striking his home, I'm sure he'll love that.

*Dear Harper, Why did you decide to make this newspaper? - Curious reader*

Dear curious reader, I suppose my intention to start a news publication stems from an infatuation with the free press, a rejection of power from the authorities, and the dire need for an alternative news source at our school.

*Dear Harper, Drinking and driving on my way to the casino rn - Gambling reader*

Dear gambling reader, That's not exactly a question, but I suppose I'll let it slide. Do keep this in mind: losing is a choice. Never let them say you won't win, the determined soul will always find a way.

*Dear Harper, Momma says I can't has more cookies, even though I want more. What I do? - Sad reader*

Dear sad reader, It truly is a shame you can't have more cookies. Perhaps consider making your own? There are many a wonderful recipes on the internet, but the best cookies are those you make yourself; no plan, no expectations. Do make sure an adult is supervising first.

*Dear Harper, ChatGPT is better at flirting with girls than I am, is it wrong for me to use it on a date? - Celibate reader*

Do your best to at least pretend you care. You must be dreadfully wicked at flirting if an impersonal artificial intelligence is better than yourself. In any case, she's on a date with you, not Mr. Sam Altman. Do your best to at least pretend you care. When she refuses a second date, perhaps there will be time for reflection.

### Impossible Word Search By: Ivan Ochs

A M K M V W M S R Z I Z T W O B Z J Q H O I D X S C M D S K  
Y T O V V Y O C J D B S F Y U D B K E X Y Y S H E C Y L P M  
D J Q E R R W L Q L M Q Y Y D J K Y C S E H J E K I I E S B  
A X U U Y O K A K X Q X F P Z P R V L X F F V M I E D O A L  
A T J T Y A O J B S S W P Z H G C H H W Y V Z O O U L H C P  
B Q B T S Z X V T R Q Z W H M V D A J Z S O D E S I P J C  
W A Q D N M J N K S F I H G E N Q Y E J I W K S B W X Y A C  
D J J C H C B G K K V R C X D T T Q C Q E W J U Y J C N J S  
H F D G Q X W C F L I K H O C X A X P A P U X F I T Z O N G  
W Y N N Z T D L S Y F G W Y Z Z J X S D A N T W Q S Y A M R D  
P T V Y C L R X Y F E B P F B V N C N K C R S D A C G E X D  
X O B I L Y I N Z B P T F G H G C Y Z M Z P B Z L I S S C E  
P A K Z U G K F I T P J L P V M G H Y M D G D Q R X B D Z J  
H M B B F T O J S F H G J O R G A V N E R A T K F F E K X X  
R D J T K P E H L A S F H R V K J Y Y T D X F L L L E P L A  
S F M P Z L O X G O I Z R I N T O Z W D T P M T M P T M H X  
W U T B N Q T W N V W K I J I T C I P W K W E G I G G A N E  
E S J F V Z U Y W H T E T N U Y Q N X Y T G I B Z S D Y K T  
F L Q G B Y E Y K H X Y B Z T S L P A Q U F X C M P D K M V  
X E K X S S Z F Q S W L E H V B D O N K C L M U Z W Z J A B  
A H P J Y Y K P H K G L K I H D X Q D N N O L S T T Q T L F  
C K Z V I Z G L Z F U T V B Y S D S E A Y M Y J O V K O N D  
W I H I V N U H Y V O I M I U O B R N X K H Y L L F D O Z A  
S T A V X L I F K C M H U H C P R I N Z O A A N T I X W S T  
H W K K G Y G J L U D M Q L X B K W A U S P D I C Q Y H X K  
F S I W N J P S H G K E B K M X M E W A Y E O I G D A T O D  
W M F O G V U S G Z B I C G L Y J Y B A Z W O H Z Z H D Y S  
P A G K L M R R B I B S O U Z J V V J B Z I P O D O I Z R  
U O B C Z D P U Q V M C M S U M G R H S C R U F H X V A Y  
W B D O J H Z T Y B L O R N B D B S H W R B K D U R B Y E O

#### Word Bank:

- \* Hidden
- \* Impossible
- \* Hard
- \* Obfuscated
- \* Broken
- \* Satire
- \* Zjlkasdjf
- \* Hopeless
- \* Futile
- \* Problematic
- \* Dubious
- \* Fantastical
- \* Unsolvable
- \* Unattainable
- \* Incomprehensible

# Fiwst We Mine, then we cwaft: A Weview of a Minecwaft Movie

By Becca Huynh of the Forecast *with Minor revisions by Backcast editorial team*

I gotta say straight up fellas, this shit SLAPS. There ain't not no way this muzz (movie huzz) should've gotten as many folks to see it as it did, but here we are. We got a Minecraft movie before GTA 6. All I can say is: Absolute Cinema!

## 5/5 for general entertainment

WATER BUCKET RELEASE \*Pisses on keyboard\*

## 5/5 for casting

Jack Black carried this movie yo. He literally ate and left NO crumbs (I mean, obviously. Look at the guy). Little bro was supposed to play Steve but basically was just Jack Black which is kinda rizzy ngl. Though he doesn't have as much aura as 'Tralalero Tralala' (a shark with blue shoes). Bro I was literally shipping Jack Black and Jason Mamoia, but they never kissed so I wrote a fanfiction, which you can read here: [\\*Insert Link Here\\*](#).

## 3/5 for soundtrack

Using the original minecraft soundtrack was such a sigma aura farming 4d chess move right there. The C418 shit is so nostalgic, even gurt thinks so. Additionally, 'Steve's Lava Chicken' was straight fire!!! Ts did NOT PMO because it was actually kind of... b-based??

## 5/5 for social impact

WATER BUCKET RELEASE \*Pisses on Keyboard\*

## Overall

It was really good. It gets a 10/10 and a 26.5/30 on the MangoMeter (>87%).

# Statistics For The Bold: A New Math Exam?

By: P. Pig

Students enrolled in the 2025-2026 Fall Semester will be among the first to experience a new, unique assessment, designed to prepare students for work in high stress environments, close associates and members within the Math Department say. The new assessment has been described as a group lab activity, a change surprising for the school, known exclusively for its solo exams.

The lab will reportedly be organized in groups of six students, each given 3 partially loaded revolvers, leadership students intimately involved in the decision claimed to Backcast representatives. "This is all anonymous, right? I don't want to get in any trouble with my teachers. Okay, great", Grade 10's Hassan Ahmed confided in reporters.

Math Department Head, James Taylor, speaking to The Backcast, said, "We believe that Data Management students at Laurel Heights receive very little opportunities to learn and apply their skills to real world scenarios. Our new assessment strategy will allow students to utilize the information they've learned in a creative, unexpected way, and practice necessary risk management skills, that will be instrumental to their future successes."

At press time, Taylor was reportedly asked about reception to the change, and was quoted as saying, "Well, the general consensus was highly positive. In fact, 5 of the 6 math teachers involved were in complete support of the plan."

## On Bill C-2

Written by: Harper Artichoke & Ivan Ochs

The 45th Canadian Parliament has recently introduced a new bill it's calling "The Strong Borders Act". Their goal is to pass this titanic 50,000 word mega-bill before June 20th, when Parliament is set to go on its summer recess. The bill promises to strengthen our border, crack down on terrorist activity, and create "peace, order, & good government". This bill is two-faced, and under the guise of protecting us from a fabricated threat, weakens democracy in Canada. Not parliamentary democracy, but true democracy; the power to choose your leaders and hold them accountable. This bill further weakens our already fragile privacy regulations, opens the door to deportation, and gives Canada Post the privilege to open, damage, and delay your packages. What's worse is that the sheer size of the act makes it nigh-on incomprehensible; preventing you and I from easily seeing what the government is doing. They tried this before when they refused to publish a budget, but public pressure made them back down. Could the same happen to The Strong Borders Act?

First, some definitions. This bill concerns itself heavily with checks and regulations. Regulations are the enforcing rules that give a bill its teeth; they direct the government, companies, or the public on how to act. Almost every bill either adds, modifies, or removes regulations. Checks on the other hand, are self-enforcing rules that stop the government from devolving into tyranny. A healthy democracy should have many checks to stop any one group from gaining too much power over the other in government. The Canadian system doesn't have as many as it should, but there are still a few. For some examples: The Prime Minister has to wait for approval from parliament before they can pass their laws, the courts can shoot down laws they deem unlawful, and the public can (theoretically) mobilize and protest against a law that harms them. The Strong Borders Act weakens all these checks. Can Parliament hold power over the PM when he can unilaterally decide to freeze a protestors' bank accounts? Can the courts defend the law when it becomes dramatically easier for police to access your personal information without a warrant? Can the public say it has any power over its government when that government can steal your data and prohibit access to your money if they feel that you've become a threat to their administration?

Bill C-2 grants the government the power to introduce silent backdoors into our technology, and demands that all telecommunications services provide plain text data to the government without warrants. All the powers that the government is granting itself are 'checked' with what basically amounts to "We'll do whatever we want, whenever we want, and we'll try not to abuse the power". The government may say that it won't abuse these privileges, but then why do they give themselves these privileges in the first place? What possible use does the government have for being able to spy on everyday citizens silently? We don't think that there is a legitimate use for any of these powers. Every time any major leaks have come out, it has always, without fail, been shown that governments are abusing their powers, overstepping boundaries, and spying on their peoples. For example, in 2013 Edward Snowden leaked that the Canadian Securities Exchange (Canada's internal digital spy agency) was monitoring tens of millions of downloads and uploads daily in Canada & across the world. They were creating profiles on citizens, all in the name of protecting us from terrorism. We have no reason to assume that our government won't do the same thing it has always done: spy on Canadians.

This bill's bipartisan immigration plan is to lump refugees and terrorists into the same deportation boat. The Act gives the cabinet the ability to cancel work and student visas as well as 'permanent' resident visas. The Act's emphasis on securing our border from crime, alongside this immigration reform paints a very clear picture: Even if you came here legally, even if you are working or studying in order to contribute to the country, you will be viewed as no different than an American gun runner by the government. It also makes it harder for residents in Canada who have been here for more than a year to apply for asylum. What happens when a foreign country gets engulfed in a civil war or gets invaded? Are we expected to send Canadians back to these war-torn nations, and risk imprisonment, torture, or worse? Immigration and crime are important issues, but this solution hurts far more than it helps. As a final note for asylum & immigration, what happens when people on their permanent residential visas can't afford to leave? Will the government back down and let them stay, force them to become undocumented immigrants, or put the time and resources into deporting all these people?

What this bill also promises to do is worsen our already poor shipping through Canada post even more, by granting Canada post the ability to open (and damage) packages, then hold them for up to 60 days, and get off scot-free without any liability. We here at the backcast believe that much like the TSA, this will do nothing towards catching terrorists and everything towards annoying & frustrating their respective citizens.

This Act's supporters will be quick to use Trump as an excuse: that drastic times call for drastic measures. But 'The Strong Borders Act' isn't new; several of its provisions are taken from another bill drafted 11 years ago under Stephen Harper. Public outcry killed that bill, and the public can kill this bill too; that is, if we can organize quick enough.

Yet More Ads:

Let's Kill Bill C-2 Before It Gets a Chance To  
Take a Foothold. Join The Backcast in Protesting.



# Inside The Leadership Regime

By: Harper Artichoke

"I joined to become a leader, instead I became a follower."

- 'nonymous'

What does leadership (henceforth referred to as The Regime) (you have to roll the 'R') think it is? What is its mission? Whatever leadership's mission & goals are, it seems as though the group has fallen from grace in the minds of the student body, and even within leadership itself. Rebuilding trust—if that trust was ever there in the first place, will require serious reform and a sharp change of course.

The Backcast Investigative Team took to the field early this month to gauge support, not just from the student body, but from members of Leadership themselves. The consensus? Overwhelmingly negative. For fear of The Regime's totalitarian inclinations, and to protect the identity of those interviewed, all responses are completely anonymous.

"They're all a bunch of wankers aren't they?" said a Grade 12 student, "Breeding the err-uh next generation of corporate bootlickers." The disconnect between the students and Leadership was a common grievance put forth. It's worth asking; what's the point of The Regime? The official answer of "to put into practice effective leadership skills while planning school events and activities" is, dare I say, bullshit. The Leadership Regime, in order to truly empower its students, must democratize and return power back to the people.

When Leadership was asked to comment, things got ugly quick. One Grade 09'er punched our field journalist in the face (The journalist had insulted the niner's socks; justice was swift and well deserved). He didn't believe that they were doing anything wrong, which can only mean one thing; he was being censored by The Leadership Regime.

One person, going by the name of 'nonymous', testified that leadership was "ruining lives". They had joined leadership to become a leader, but were forced by the machine to become a follower. They testified that Leadership hurt them emotionally, physically, spiritually, and through other facets that the Backcast Investigative Team cannot confirm. We'll omit those allegations until new evidence comes to light.

After sitting down to interview a prominent leadership student (who'll probably become co-prime one day or something), we gained some valuable insights on the inner workings of The Regime. When asked for Leadership's greatest failing, they said:

"It's all disorganized, some people don't do any of the work and the rest of us have to pick up the slack."\*

Could the higher-ups be instilling apathy in the lower (student) class to maintain their grip on power? I forgot to ask this follow-up so I guess we'll never know. We also asked if the allegations of Mr. Steckley jumping on student's heads whilst dressed up as Mario were true, but they refused to comment.

Almost as an afterthought, we asked how an indie satirical newspaper organization might be able to undermine The Leadership Regime. They suggested infiltrating the course from the inside and taking it over. We at the Backcast are too busy for that kind of game, so we'll leave it as an exercise for the reader.

As a final note, we know that this exposé may make you angry at the system and yearning for radical change. Don't worry! We have an excellent recipe to help calm you down. Get an empty ~half-litre liquor or cider bottle, and fill it with a mixture of water\*\* and motor oil. It should be a 2:1 ratio of water to motor oil. You can also add a touch of tar, though that's optional. And you're done! Aren't you calmer already?

\*The transcriber for the interview wasn't actually taking notes, instead playing Tetris on his computer, so the quote is slightly reconstructed based on memory.

\*\*NOT gasoline. ;)

## Credits:

Ivan Ochs: Co-Founder, Editor, Journalist

Harper Artichoke: Co-Founder, Journalist

P. Pig: Journalist

Rivers Cuomo: Artist

James White: Co-Founder

# The Backcast Needs YOU!

The Backcast (The school's only newspaper) needs a new logo!

**All submissions sent in by September 1st will be reviewed. In order to win, your submission(s):**

a) need to be better than current logo

b) be better than all other submissions

Criteria for being 'better' is vibes-based

## WINNERS RECEIVE:

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2) Mention in credits

3) All new Backcast employees will swear allegiance to your name

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