

= Prince Family Paper =

" Prince Family Paper " is the thirteenth episode of the fifth season of the American comedy television series The Office , and the show 's 85th overall episode . It originally aired on NBC in the United States on January 22 , 2009 . In the episode , Michael and Dwight go undercover to seek information on a family @-@ owned business competitor , and Michael has a crisis of conscience when they turn out to be very nice people . Meanwhile , the others in the office passionately debate whether actress Hilary Swank can be considered " hot " .

The episode was directed by Asaad Kelada and written by B. J. Novak , who also plays Ryan on the show . The script addresses the Darwinistic nature of capitalism in its portrayal of the larger corporation Dunder Mifflin threatening a small mom @-@ and @-@ pop business , as well as societal definitions of beauty in the differing arguments regarding Swank 's attractiveness . Dan Bakkedahl , a comedian best known as a correspondent on the comedy program The Daily Show , makes a guest appearance as the business owner 's son .

The episode received generally mixed reviews , and was the lowest ranked episode of the season in a poll by The Office fansite OfficeTally . According to Nielsen Media Research , " Prince Family Paper " was seen by 8 @.@ 74 million viewers , a slight increase from the previous week 's episode , " The Duel " .

= = Plot = =

During the cold open , Jim (John Krasinski) runs 500 feet of red wire from Dwight 's desk to the top of a telephone pole as a prank , and Dwight (Rainn Wilson) follows it all the way to the top of the pole . Meanwhile , Dunder Mifflin CFO David Wallace (Andy Buckley) enlists Michael (Steve Carell) to report on the success of a small family @-@ owned local paper competitor named Prince Paper , which works in an area where Dunder Mifflin has never successfully acquired clients . Michael brings Dwight along on his field work to help gather information . Michael visits business owner Roger Prince (Dan Desmond) posing as a potential customer named " Michael Scarn " , while Dwight enters and pretends to request a job . The kind and overly trusting Roger Prince gives Michael the company 's customer list to use as a reference , and Michael and Dwight leave triumphantly .

However , Michael damages his car while exiting the parking space , which catches the attention of the Prince family . They come out to help fix the car as much as they can as Michael watches . Michael is visibly moved by their kindness and has a change of heart regarding giving the customer list to Wallace , but Dwight remains unmoved . Back at the office , Dwight tries to convince Michael he can 't let his heart get in the way of business . Michael agrees to send the list and his information to Wallace , but then tries to escape and get rid of the list . Dwight chases Michael down and takes the list from him , causing Michael to finally give in . David Wallace calls Michael to congratulate him on getting the list . Michael then explains he is feeling a " bittersweet " moment over what he did to Prince Paper , bitter because he potentially ruined a decent family , but sweet because he satisfied Wallace .

Meanwhile , the rest of the office get into a heated debate over whether actress Hilary Swank can be considered " hot " . Kevin (Brian Baumgartner) leads the group voting she is not hot , claiming she looks like a " monster " . Jim temporarily convinces Kevin to switch sides by having him imagine Hilary kissing him , only for Kevin to switch back , saying the debate is whether she is hot , not whether he would have sex with her . Angela (Angela Kinsey) resists the debate , but eventually votes " hot " after getting offended by Kevin 's crude remarks . Kelly (Mindy Kaling) , who believes herself less attractive than Swank , gets emotional when Toby (Paul Lieberstein) defends his " not hot " vote . Pam (Jenna Fischer) argues they should not let the Kevins of the world decide who is hot , or decide anything at all . Oscar (Oscar Nuñez) gives a detailed overhead presentation about the structure of Swank 's facial features , concluding she is " attractive ... not hot . " An uncharacteristically uplifting Stanley (Leslie David Baker) votes hot , claiming pointing out flaws is no way to live life . At the end of the debate , the sides are still tied until Michael , oblivious of their

debate , passes by the pictures on the wall and casually calls her hot .

= = Production = =

" Prince Family Paper " was directed by Asaad Kelada and written by B. J. Novak , who also plays Ryan Howard on the show . The episode portrays capitalism as Darwinistic in nature , particularly through its portrayal of the larger corporation Dunder Mifflin threatening the small mom @-@ and @-@ pop business Prince Family Paper , as well as societal definitions of beauty in the differing arguments regarding the hotness of Hilary Swank .

Dan Bakkedahl , a comedian best known as a correspondent from the Comedy Central comedy program The Daily Show , made a guest appearance as Robert Prince , Jr . , the son of the Prince Paper owner . When Michael infiltrates Prince Family Paper , he identifies himself as Michael Scarn . This is a reference to the second season episode " The Client " , in which Pam discovers an action film screenplay starring a character based on himself named Agent Michael Scarn . In a later episode of season 5 (episode 21 , Two Weeks) it is revealed that Prince Family Paper went bankrupt . This is probably due to the actions of Michael .

= = Cultural references = =

Robert Prince tells Michael he started his business after Vietnam , a reference to the Vietnam War , but Michael mistakes it for a reference to the country itself and says he has heard it is a nice place . During one scene , Michael said to David Wallace , " What 'chu talking ' bout , Wallace ? " in the style of Gary Coleman 's catchphrase " What 'chu talking ' bout , Willis ? " from the sitcom Diff 'rent Strokes . While discussing Hilary Swank , Kevin said he finds her so unattractive that he expected her to have a real penis in Boys Don 't Cry , the 1999 drama film in which Swank played a transgender man . When Angela votes that Hilary Swank is hot , she declares her " a female Boris Becker " , a reference to the German professional tennis player . Michael plans to meet Dwight at the IHOP pancake eatery after they visit Prince Family Paper , but Dwight insists IHOP is " socialist " and prefers the American restaurant chain Denny 's .

= = Reception = =

In its original American broadcast on January 22 , 2009 , " Prince Family Paper " was watched by 8 @.@ 74 million overall viewers , about a five percent increase in viewership over the previous episode , " The Duel " . " Prince Family Paper " received a 5 @.@ 3 rating / 14 share among viewers aged between 18 and 34 , and a 4 @.@ 6 rating / 11 share among viewers between 18 and 49 . It was outperformed by CSI : Crime Scene Investigation on CBS , which was seen by 17 @.@ 53 million households , and Grey 's Anatomy on ABC , which was seen by 14 @.@ 25 million households , although commentators said The Office still fared well against the tough competition . " Prince Family Paper " earned higher ratings than the Fox series Bones , which moved to Thursday for the first time and drew 7 @.@ 5 million viewers .

" Prince Family Paper " received generally mixed reviews . Travis Fickett of IGN called it one of the show 's better Michael @-@ and @-@ Dwight centric episodes , and called the chase between them " a classic scene and perfectly executed " . Fickett also praised several character moments , like Kelly 's breakdown over whether Hilary Swank is hot , but said the Swank subplot was less interesting than the main story . Brian Howard of The Journal News said he appreciated that the script had Michael follow through on betraying the Princes , rather than deciding to spare them , because he felt it was more realistic . Howard said , " They didn 't let Michael off the hook . Instead the writers took a dark and dirty turn toward the truly tragic , in the literal sense of the word . " He also praised the Hilary Swank subplot as funny and a realistic conversation topic among officemates , although he admitted it was " relegated to almost buffer status " to the main plot . Alan Sepinwall , television columnist with The Star @-@ Ledger , said Michael 's conflicted feelings about betraying the Prince family came up too late and resolved too abruptly to work well , and that the chase

between Michael and Dwight was a poorly constructed " misfire " . However , he called the subplot about Hilary Swank " genius with a capital G " .

TV Squad writer Jay Black praised the main plot , and wrote , " I was delighted that the trip to the Prince Family Paper Company became a test of Michael 's morals rather than the usual exercise in his stupidity . " Black said Dwight 's attempts to get Michael to give up the client were among the best set of scenes for the season . However , Black said the Hilary Swank subplot suffered in comparison , and felt like a vain attempt to find something for the supporting cast to do . The A.V. Club writer Nathan Rabin was disappointed with " Prince Family Paper " , calling it overly dependent on throwaway gags and describing it as " about as inconsequential as The Office gets " . Rabin complimented the opening gag with Jim and Dwight , but said it " felt like the kind of gag the show has pulled off dozens , if not hundreds of times , before " . Alynda Wheat of Entertainment Weekly said it was not one of the strongest Office episodes , and that the script took a particularly mean tone with the Prince Family Paper subplot . But Wheat said it included some enjoyable moments , like Jim 's prank against Dwight in the opening scene . Will Leitch of New York magazine was very critical of the episode , especially the Hilary Swank subplot , which he said " sounded like a conversation B. J. Novak had with himself at a party and submitted as a backup script " . Leitch also pointed out the episode had nothing to do with the show 's ongoing plotlines : " It 's the definition of filler . Which would have been fine , had it been funnier . " " Prince Family Paper " was voted the lowest @-@ rated episode out of 26 from the fifth season , according to an episode poll at the fansite OfficeTally , where the episode was rated 6 @.@ 98 out of 10 .

= Áedán mac Gabráin =

Áedán mac Gabráin (pronounced [?aiða?n mak ??av?a?n?] in Old Irish) was a king of Dál Riata from c . 574 until c . 609 . The kingdom of Dál Riata was situated in modern Argyll and Bute , Scotland , and parts of County Antrim , Ireland . Genealogies record that Áedán was a son of Gabrán mac Domangairt .

He was a contemporary of Saint Columba , and much that is recorded of his life and career comes from hagiography such as Adomnán of Iona 's Life of Saint Columba . Áedán appears as a character in Old Irish and Middle Irish language works of prose and verse , some now lost .

The Irish annals record Áedán 's campaigns against his neighbours , in Ireland , and in northern Britain , including expeditions to the Orkney Islands , the Isle of Man , and the east coast of Scotland . As recorded by Bede , Áedán was decisively defeated by Æthelfrith of Bernicia at the Battle of Degsastan . Áedán may have been deposed , or have abdicated , following this defeat . His date of death is recorded by one source as 17 April 609 .

= = Neighbours = =

Áedán was the chief king in Dál Riata , ruling over lesser tribal kings . The Senchus fer n @-@ Alban records the sub @-@ divisions of Dál Riata in the 7th and 8th centuries , but no record from Áedán 's time survives . According to the Senchus , Dál Riata was divided into three sub @-@ kingdoms in the 7th century , each ruled by a kin group named for their eponymous founder . These were the Cenél nGabráin , named for Áedán 's father , who ruled over Kintyre , Cowal and Bute ; the Cenél Loairn of northern Argyll ; and the Cenél nÓengusa of Islay . Within these there were smaller divisions or tribes which are named by the Senchus . Details of the Irish part of the kingdom are less clear .

Looking outward , Dál Riata 's neighbours in north Britain were the Picts and the Britons of the Hen Ogledd , the Brittonic @-@ speaking parts of what is now Northern England and southern Lowland Scotland . The most powerful Brittonic kingdom in the area was Alt Clut , later known as Strathclyde and Cumbria . Late in Áedán 's life , the Anglo @-@ Saxon kingdom of Bernicia became the greatest power in north Britain .

In Ireland , Dál Riata formed part of Ulster , ruled by Báetán mac Cairill of the Dál Fiatach . The

other major grouping in Ulster were the disunited tribes of the Cruithne , later known as the Dál nAraidi . The most important Cruithne king in Áedán 's time was Fiachnae mac Báetáin . Beyond the kingdom of Ulster , and generally hostile to it , were the various kingdoms and tribes of the Uí Néill and their subjects and allies . Of the Uí Néill kings , Áed mac Ainmuirech of the Cenél Conaill , Columba 's first cousin once removed , was the most important during Áedán 's reign .

= = Reign = =

Adomnán , the *Senchus fer n @-@ Alban* and the Irish annals record Áedán as a son of Gabrán mac Domangairt (died c . 555 ? 560) . Áedán 's brother Eoganán is known from Adomnán and his death is recorded c . 597 . The *Senchus* names three other sons of Gabrán , namely Cuilidach , Domnall , and Domangart . Although nothing is known of Cuilidach and Domangart or their descendants , Adomnán mentions a certain loan , son of Conall , son of Domnall , " who belonged to the royal lineage of the Cenél nGabráin " , but this is generally read as meaning that loan was a kinsman of the Cenél nGabráin , and his grandfather named Domnall is not thought to be the same person as Áedán 's brother Domnall .

Áedán was about forty years old when he became king , following the death of his uncle Conall mac Comgaill in 574 . His succession as king may have been contested ; Adomnán states that Columba had favoured the candidacy of Áedán 's brother Eoganán . Adomnán claims that Áedán was ordained as king by Columba , the first example of an ordination known in Britain and Ireland .

In 574 , following the account of Conall 's death , the *Annals of Ulster* and the *Annals of Tigernach* record a battle in Kintyre , called the Battle of Teloch , or Delgu . The precise location of the battle is unidentified . The annals agree that " Dúnchad , son of Conall , son of Comgall , and many others of the allies of the sons of Gabrán , fell . " In 575 , the *Annals of Ulster* report " the great convention of Druim Cett " , at Mullagh or Daisy Hill near Limavady , with Áed mac Ainmuirech and Columba in attendance . Adomnán reports that Áedán was present at the meeting . The purpose of the meeting is not entirely certain , but one agreement made there concerned the status of Áedán 's kingdom . Áedán and Áed agreed that while the fleet of Dál Riata would serve the Uí Néill , no tribute would be paid to them , and warriors would only be provided from the Dál Riata lands in Ireland .

The reason for this agreement is thought to have been the threat posed to Áedán , and also to Áed , by Báetán mac Cairill . Báetán is said to have forced the king of Dál Riata to pay homage to him at Rosnaree on Islandmagee . Áedán is thought to be the king in question , and Ulster sources say that Báetán collected tribute from Scotland . Following Báetán 's death in 581 , the Ulstermen abandoned the Isle of Man , which they had captured in Báetán 's time , perhaps driven out by Áedán who is recorded as fighting there c . 583 . Earlier , c . 580 , Áedán is said to have raided Orkney , which had been subject to Bridei son of Maelchon , King of the Picts , at an earlier date .

Áedán 's campaigns on the Isle of Man have sometimes been confused with the battle against the Miathi mentioned by Adomnán . The Miathi appear to have been the Maeatae , a tribe in the area of the upper river Forth . This campaign was successful , but Áedán 's sons Artúr and Eochaid Find were killed in battle according to Adomnán . This battle may have taken place c . 590 and be recorded as the Battle of Leithreid or Leithrig .

The Prophecy of Berchán says of Áedán : " Thirteen years (one after another) [he will fight against] the Pictish host (fair the diadem) . " The only recorded battle between Áedán and the Picts appears to have been fought in Circinn , in 599 or after , where Áedán was defeated . The annals mention the deaths of his sons here . It has been suggested that this battle was confused with the " Battle of Asreth " in Circinn , fought c . 584 , in which Bridei son of Maelchon was killed . This battle is described as being " fought between the Picts themselves " .

A number of Welsh traditions point to warfare between Áedán and King Rhydderch Hael of Alt Clut , the northern Brittonic kingdom later known as Strathclyde Hector Munro Chadwick and subsequent historians suggest Áedán was initially in a long @-@ term alliance with Rhydderch and his predecessors , but that it eventually collapsed into conflict . Adomnán reports that Rhydderch sent a monk named Luigbe to Iona to speak with Columba " for he wanted to learn whether he would be slaughtered by his enemies or not " . A Welsh Triad names Áedán 's plundering of Alt Clut as one of

the " three unrestrained plunderings of Britain " , and the poem Peiryan Vaban tells of a battle between Áedán and Rhydderch . The lost Irish epic Orgain Sratha Cluada is usually thought to refer to the attack on Alt Clut in 870 by Vikings , but MacQuarrie suggests that it may refer to an attack by Áedán on Rhydderch .

= = Degsastan and after = =

Degsastan appears not to have been the first battle between Áedán and the Bernicians . The death of his son Domangart in the land of the Saxons is mentioned by Adomnán , and it is presumed that Bran died in the same otherwise unrecorded battle .

Of the roots of this conflict , Bede mentions only that Áedán was alarmed by Æthelfrith 's advance . Wherever the Battle of Degsastan was fought , Bede saw it as lying within Northumbria . The battle was a decisive victory for Æthelfrith , and Bede says , carefully , that " [f] rom that day until the present , no king of the Irish in Britain has dared to do battle with the English . " Although victorious , Æthelfrith suffered losses ; Bede tells us his brother Theodbald was killed with all his following . Theodbald appears to be called Eanfrith in Irish sources , which name his killer as Máel Umai mac Báetáin of the Cenél nEógain , son of High @-@ King Báetán mac Ninnedo . The Irish poem Compert Mongáin says that the king of Ulster , Fiachnae mac Báetáin of the Dál nAraidi , aided Áedán against the Saxons , perhaps at Degsastan . The Anglo @-@ Saxon Chronicle mentions that Hering , son of King Hussa of Bernicia , was present , apparently fighting with Áedán .

After the defeat of Degsastan , the annals report nothing of Áedán until his death around six years later , perhaps on 17 April 609 , the date supplied by the Martyrology of Tallaght , composed c . 800 . The Annals of Tigernach give his age as 74 . The Prophecy of Berchán places his death in Kintyre and says " [h] e will not be king at the time of his death " , while the 12th century Acta Sancti Lasriani claims that he was expelled from the kingship . John of Fordun , writing in the 14th century , believed that Áedán had been buried at Kilkerran in Kintyre .

= = Áedán 's descendants = =

Áedán was succeeded by his son , Eochaid Buide . Adomnán gives an account of Columba 's prophecy that Eochaid 's older brothers would predecease their father . Áedán 's other sons are named by the Senchus fer n @-@ Alban as Eochaid Find , Tuathal , Bran , Baithéne , Conaing , and Gartnait . Adomnán also names Artúr , called a son of Conaing in the Senchus , and Domangart , who is not included in the Senchus . Domangart too may have been a grandson rather than a son of Áedán , most likely another son of Conaing . The main line of Cenél nGabráin kings were the descendants of Eochaid Buide through his son Domnall Brecc , but the descendants of Conaing successfully contested for the throne throughout the 7th century and into the 8th .

It has been suggested that Gartnait son of Áedán could be the same person as Gartnait son of Domelch , king of the Picts , whose death is reported around 601 , but this rests on the idea of Pictish matriliney , which has been criticised . Even less certainly , it has been argued that Gartnait 's successor in the Pictish king @-@ lists , Nechtan , was his grandson , and thus Áedán 's great @-@ grandson .

Less is known of Áedán 's daughters . Maithgemm , also recorded as Gemma , married a prince named Cairell of the Dál Fiatach . The names of Áedán 's wives are not recorded , but one was said to be Brittonic , and another may have been a Pictish woman named Domelch , if indeed the Gartnait son of Domelch and Gartnait son of Áedán are one and the same .