



by JAKE GOLDSTEIN and MADDIE BOGERT

## Jake and Maddie: At Chadwick, LGBT couples can never be royals

In the wake of Homecoming Week, we would like to start a discussion about a longstanding Chadwick tradition with unsettling heteronormative and cisnormative underpinnings: the Homecoming Court. The negative basis of Homecoming Court applies to Winter Formal and Prom as well, but we have chosen to specifically focus on Homecoming, as it is the largest and most publicized “court” of the three major dances.

Heteronormativity is defined by Wikipedia as “the belief that people fall into distinct and complementary genders (man and woman) with natural roles in life. It asserts that heterosexuality is the only sexual orientation or only norm, and states that sexual and marital relations are most (or only) fitting between people of opposite sexes.” Cisnormativity is the idea that all people identify as the sex they were born as.

Each year, Chadwick students are required to vote for one boy and one girl to be their grade’s Prince and Princess or King and Queen. The current system of se-

lecting students for Homecoming Court allows only for one boy and one girl to win the vote and walk down to the football field during the halftime ceremony. This means that even if, for example, two male or two female Chadwick students have been dating for months, they cannot win a spot on the Homecoming Court because it is impossible to vote for them together.

Additionally, the policies for the Homecoming Court ceremony reinforce traditional gender norms and largely deprive students of the freedom to express their gender identities as they please. An email sent to the students selected for this year’s Homecoming Court included the following instructions in the explanation of the event: “Boys must wear a coat and tie, unless you are a football player. Girls must wear a nice dress and heels.” Given that one of our core values is fairness, and that Chadwick typically strives to foster a diverse, accepting community, we need to reform this anachronistically heteronormative and transphobic tradition.



One possible solution for this issue would be to vote for the members of Homecoming Court as couples. With this system, it would become possible for long-term LGBT couples—or even friends of the same gender—to be voted in as the Queen and Queen, King and King, etc.

This situation could, however, potentially cause difficulty because at such a small school, there are often very few established couples to vote for. To solve this issue, we would not necessarily have to vote for romantic couples (people who are dating each other), rather people attending the dance together—this new policy encompasses both friends and couples of

all sexual orientations and gender identities. People who want to be eligible for Homecoming Court positions would simply submit their names to the ASB Social Chair via a Google Form survey.

In order to address the cisnormative issues regarding the Homecoming Court, two things need to be done.

First, winners of the Homecoming Court must not be required—as they currently are—to wear clothes specific to a gender. In order to eliminate the cisnormative aspects of the court, each person should be allowed to dress how he or she wants, provided that his or her attire is formal. A guy could wear a dress, and a girl could wear

a suit.

Second, those who win Homecoming Court should not be required to define themselves as either a prince or princess (or king or queen). The current system assumes that each person defines him or herself as only either male or female. Chadwick should be a place where everyone feels comfortable expressing his or her gender identity without having to conform to the societal expectation that gender is binary.

Instead, there should be an option for people to represent themselves as Chadwick “royals,” “rulers” or any other pronoun of their choice in order to eliminate the cisnormative aspect of this tradition.

Chadwick should strive to be on the forefront of gender and sexuality issues by allowing students to feel comfortable with these aspects of their identities. In order to truly become a fair and compassionate community, we must alter these norms and customs that reinforce traditional, outdated notions of gender and sexuality.



by AUSTIN FARRIS and MATT SONNENBLICK

## Welcome to Chadwick’s new club: Lust

A new dance club hit the scene last Monday that can only be described as the “hottest club in the South Bay.” Lust, an ID-only lounge, opened up shop in Christensen recently.

“We just felt like there was a hole in the Chadwick community that needed to be filled,” said Lust owner Mr. Hill.

“We only admit people with the proper identification to ensure that no funny business happens when people are buying our products,” Mr. Hill continued.

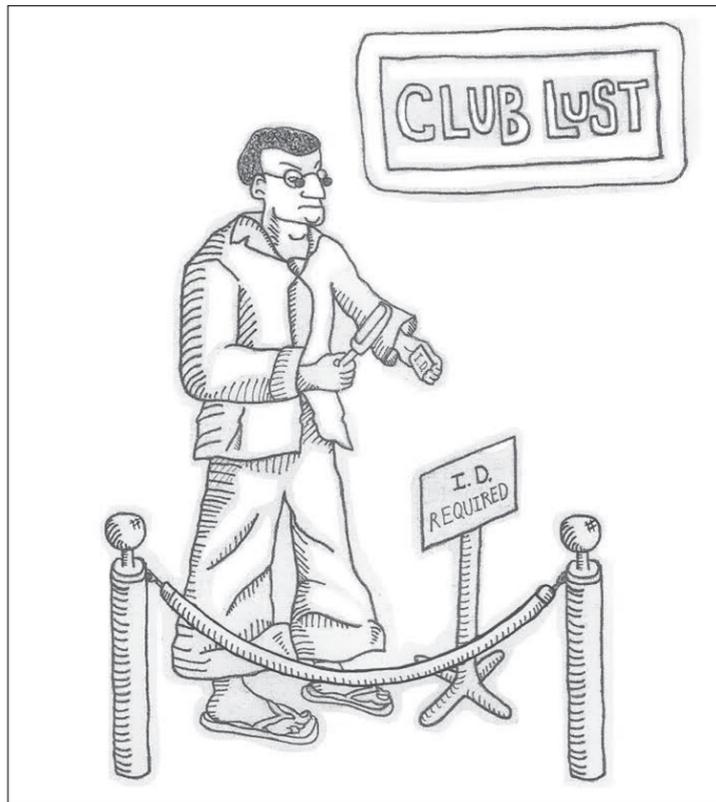
Lust opens up at around 8 a.m., and typically plays top-40 music. At 12:25 p.m., Lust closes down temporarily in order to prepare for rush hour: 1:15-1:45.

“During rush hour, things get very hectic,” said club bouncer Ms. Terry.

“People try entering through the exit. People even try to *cut the line!* These things are unacceptable at Lust, and I’m here to put people in their place.”

Unfortunately, the ID-only rule at Lust has sparked an underground black market fake ID chain across the street (known as “Reception”), as well as various black market food retailers. Black market informants claim, “Everyone deserves the right to an ID.”

According to other *Mainsheet* confidential informants, bagels have become a black marketer’s gold mine. Underground bagel sales have skyrocketed since the implementation of the ID-only rule. According to one underground bagel dealer, his black mar-



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ket sales have already broken \$50 in the past week alone.

In an exclusive *Mainsheet* interview, the bagel dealer wishes to use the pseudonym “Randy Friedman.”

“Look, I provide a service. People without IDs need bagels too. There was a void in the bagel industry that needed to be filled, so I filled it. If it wasn’t me, then it would have been someone else,” Friedman said.

In regards to Lust forcing IDs on their customers, do the ends justify the means? Our team of in-

vestigators conducted a string of interviews throughout the Chadwick community to discover if Lust’s new ID rule is beneficial to the community. What we found was shocking.

Quinn Jones has forgotten his ID at home so many times that he has been forced to buy more than 10 fake ID cards from “Reception.”

“ID cards are expensive, man,” Quinn said in an interview. “I sold my kidney so that I can buy more ID cards. I need my Flaming Hot Cheetos.”

Concerns over the direction that Lust is heading have gained leverage.

“Lust needs to play more EDM or else it’s gonna lose interest from the customers,” claimed Harrison St. Jean. “Dubstep!” screamed Quinn Jones. “We need Dubstep!”

Conversely, many other students want Lust to do exactly the opposite: “Taylor Swift’s new album just came out,” said Courtney Bond. “I’ve already memorized like three of the songs. It is awesome! I want Lust to play Taylor Swift!”

Everyone seems to have an opinion, but the one that matters most is that of DJ Ango (the spinmaster behind it all).

In an interview, DJ Ango told us: “DJ Ango! Get it! It’s like Django from the movie *Django Unchained* with Jamie Foxx! It’s my favorite movie! Gotta love Quentin! That scene where Jamie Foxx kills like 40 people is awesome! If you put DJ and Ango together, you get Django!”

After being assured that everyone understands his name, DJ Ango got serious: “I have one job

tracks I can find. I’m an artist, and everyone should be able to enjoy my gift. Except, of course, those jerks who refuse to buy new ID cards.”

The issue of the new consumer ID laws has become the most divisive issue within the Chadwick community since the cafeteria briefly stopped selling bottles of water. Many anti-ID-law advocates say that the new laws unfairly discriminate against those who find it difficult or are unable to secure a photo ID.

One such advocate, who also wished to use the pseudonym “Randy Friedman,” said, “It’s ridiculous! I’m just trying to put food on the table, and the man is trying to keep me hungry! What?! Am I supposed to walk all the way up to ‘Reception’ and wait for them to print me a new ID card! I have people to hang out with on the lawn!”

Whether or not these new consumer ID laws unfairly target certain groups of people in order to serve food to some and not to others, DJ Ango will continue to quench the thirst of the people with his dope tracks.

It will be easy to get lost in the rhythm of the music and ignore the possible civil rights implications of the

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Quinn Jones

and one job only, and that is to provide these kids with the dopest

possibly discriminatory consumer ID laws.