Totally and Completely Random

For anyone who has ever pulled a banana out of his or her bag, only to discover that it is more brown than yellow, salvation can be found on the internet. Asking the simple question: “Are you fed up with bringing bananas to work or school only to find them bruised and squished?” the Banana Guard Company has created a patented, dishwasher safe devise to transport and protect your banana.

Designed to fit the majority of banana shapes and sizes, the Banana Guard claims to be specially designed and tested to accommodate over 90 percent of commercially available bananas: “Highly curved bananas can be straightened ever-so-slightly... the opposite holds true of very straight bananas.”

The Guard features perforations for ventilation to prevent premature ripening and features a locking mechanism to keep the Guard closed. In order to fit all personality types, the Banana Guard currently comes in seven colors: ravishing red, mellow yellow, sublime green, brilliant blue, passionate purple, pretty in pink, and outrageous orange. The Banana Guard delivers worldwide and can be ordered from bananaguard.com. It advises its shoppers that bananas are not necessary for use. Rather, the devise is designed purely to prevent trauma to the banana during transport.

Most widely known for its potassium content, studies have shown that banana consumption may come with a handful of other benefits. The banana has been known to boost brain power—research has shown that its high carbohydrate content controls blood sugar levels and is correlated with improved academic performance by keeping students alert.

Get out of Here!

Events in Boston

• Taste of the South End: Tues, 7:00p, Cyclorama, Boston. Food and Drink from more than 40 South End Restaurants. Proceeds benefit the AIDS Action Committee of MA.

• An Evening of Girl Scout Cookie Creations: Th 6:00p, Hotel Commonwealth, Boston. Boston’s best pastry chefs create desserts with your favorite girl scout cookies. Proceeds benefit Girl Scouts of Eastern MA.

• Manicures and Martinis for a Good Cause: Th 7:00p, Town’s Nail and Skin Salon, Boston. Proceeds benefit NEST-www.buildanest.com

3/14-Pi Day

Fun Facts:

• MIT tries to send out its acceptance letters on 3/14 each year

Ways to Celebrate Pi Day:

• Organize a pi mile run.
• Get married on March 14 at 1:59:26pm, to make your love last forever
• Eat plenty of pie, or ‘pi’ foods such as: pineapples, pizza, pina coladas, pine nuts
• Convert circular things into pie. Ex. 3 o’clock would be 1/2*pi clock.

Upcoming Lev Events

• Chiara Quartet Dinner: Mon 5:30p (DH)
• Letters of Recommendation and Faculty Relationships, Panel on: why they matter, and tips on how best to get them: Tues, 6-7p (JCR)
• Sherry Hour: Th 5:30p (SCR)
• SCR Regular Lunch: Fri 12:30p (PDR)
• Chamber Music: Fri 6:30p

Bubblegum, A History

1906, Vincent Hughes attempted to develop the first bubblegum, which was far too sticky and easily broken to be commercially successful. Unfortunately, after two years of failed attempts to strengthen his too-sticky gum, he was forced to declare bankruptcy in 1908.

Luckily, the Shelby Gum Company in Ohio managed to create the first commercially successful gum, called Blow Gum, and later Blo Bubble two decades later in 1924. Later that year, the Fleer Company’s Walter Diemer developed an improved model. Bubble gum is pink, because at the moment of destiny, pink was the only shade of food coloring Deimer had on hand. By the time the company hoped to change the shade, the gum had become too popular, selling over a million and a half pieces in its first year.

Yet, it wasn’t until the 1970s when the issue of overly-stickiness was finally solved. Until the introduction of Bubllicious, Hubba Bubba, and Bubble Yum, bubblegum had a reputation for sticking to the chewer’s face.

Since then, bubblegum has evolved into a worldwide phenomenon. Combined, the global markets for chewing gum (which was established earlier, in 1848) and bubble gum are estimated to be worth $19 billion.
**Bubble Gum Facts**

- The largest bubble measured 23 inches by Susan “Chewy Suzy” Williams (Calif, 1994). Susan broke the record three other times (since 1979) with 19.25, 21, and 22 inches.
- The Longest Gum Wrapper Chain measured 52,913 feet in 2007. The endeavor began in 1965 and continues today. As of last month, the chain measured 57,846 feet and consisted of over 1.3 million Wrigley’s gum wrappers.
- In 1993, Swedish archaeologists discovered the world’s oldest piece of gum complete with the teeth marks of a teenager from the Stone Age. The 9000-year-old gum was made from tree resin and sweetened with honey.
- Scotland Yard once forbade British police from chewing gum on duty for fear that the gum might get stuck in their whistles.
- During WWI, US military personnel spread the popularity of gum by trading it and giving it as gifts.
- Double Bubble was included in ration kits for American soldiers serving in World War II.
- A Philadelphia grocery store sold the first 5 pounds of Double Bubble for one penny a piece. The store sold out within hours.
- North America children spend approximately half a billion dollars on bubble gum every year; total sales amount to $2 billion per year.
- The average American chews 300 sticks of gum a year.
- It is impossible to create chocolate-flavored chewing gum. The cocoa butter in chocolate acts as an emulsifier on the chewing gum base, rendering it extremely soft and making 60 to 70% of bubble gum is sugar. Sugarless gum loses about 50 percent of its mass in 10 minutes of chewing.
- Chewing gum burns about 11 calories per hour.
- Chewing gum can improve long-term and working memory.

**Events on Campus**

- **Eastbound:** Fri, Sat 8:00p, Lowell Lecture Hall
- **Sticks and Stones May Break my Bones: Defending Women in Sharia Courts:** Th, 4-6p Tontens room (Winthrop House). A conversation with Hauwa Ibrahim about her work as a human rights activist.
- **H-R Collegium Musicum Chorus presents “Reverence and Reflection”:** Fri, 8:00p Sanders
- **Hasty Pudding Theatricals 161: Acropolis Now:** Th-Sun, 8p, New College Theater.
- **The History Boys:** Fri and Sat 7:30p, Sun 2:30p and 7:30p, Loeb Experimental Theater. Alan Bennett’s Broadway hit and motion picture set in the ‘80s in Yorkshire, England. Bennett’s coming-of-age "tale of teenage boys in pursuit of sex, sport, and higher education" tells the story of eight British schoolboys and their eccentric teachers preparing them for entrance into Oxford and Cambridge.

**Would you rather?**

- “Be 4’1 or 7’9”
- “Live without music or live without TV”
- “Publish your diary or a movie of your most embarrassing moments”
- “Have one wish granted today or 3 wishes granted in 10 years”
- “Give up your computer or your pet?”
- “Not be able to use your phone or your e-mail?”
- “Not need to sleep or not need to eat”

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:**

Deadline for Leverett House newsletter submissions is Thursday at 12:00 am. Please e-mail Leverettnews@gmail.com.

-Co-editors for Hare Today
Jessica Caplin, Maeve Wang, Linda Yao

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**Lev HoCo**

**HOUSING DAY IS NEXT THURSDAY! HELP WELCOME IN THE NEW RISING RABBITS!**

- **VOLUNTEER** to help with Rising Rabbits: Video, bunny suit, shameless Lev promoting, letter deliveries, housing day festivities. Contact Isaac martinez, Co-Chair (imartin@fas)

**This Month in Harvard History:**

March 18, 1964: Before an overflow crowd of 2,000 in the Leverett House Dining Room, black activist Malcolm X debates Government Lecturer Martin L. Kilson Jr. and Government Associate Professor James Q. Wilson on the nation’s current racial situation. It is the second of Malcolm’s three Harvard visits.

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**Leverett Intramurals**

**Sign up for Spring IMS and Support Lev!**

leverett.harvard.edu/IMsports

**A Basketball, C Basketball, and Squash made Playoffs**

- Winter C Basketball: Mon 9th, 7:45p v. Kirkland
- Winter A Basketball: Mon 9th, 8:30p v. Quincy
- Winter A Basketball: Thurs 12th, 7:30p
- Winter Ice Hockey: Mon 16th, 7:45p
- Winter A Basketball: Mon 16th, 8:30p