

THE ASHVILLE ANIMALS

By Ian Stroud

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL STADIUM ANNOUNCER BOOTH

TOMMY and Gil are announcing in the booth. On the field we see the scoreboard says it's 15 minutes to game time.

TOMMY

Before a riveting game, let's begin
the infamous Ashville pregame show!

The marching band enters the field. There are a massive variety of unique instruments, from a piano that is wheeled on, an acoustic guitar to a xylophone and a soprano sax.

GIL

For our visiting folks, you may
know Ashville better as the school
where the students get to vote on
everything.

TOMMY

And vote they did. We currently
hold the state record for most
unique instrumentation of a
marching band.

We hear a strange, but not all together terrible rendition
of 'Flight of the Valkyries'.

GIL

The marching band chose the theme
of 'intimidation' for their
pre-game show this year.

TOMMY

I hear it was a nasty last-minute
vote that ended a three day
gridlock for the band. I think it
suits them nicely, don't you, Gil?

GIL

I'd have to agree. While they proceed down the field, it's time for our first trivia fact of the night. The school operates on what would be considered a direct democracy. Most people don't understand the the difference between that and what the United

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GIL (cont'd)

States has, which is a Representative Democracy.

TOMMY

Direct Democracy, by chance, is also the name of the marching band...they felt that all bands should have, quote unquote "band names".

The band finishes it's cute lil' pregame show and forms a tunnel at the Home end zone. A solitary mascot, a duck, trots out.

GIL

Ramping up the energy, the school mascots are trying to get this crowd thirsty for a win!

TOMMY

That's right all you visitors, Gil said mascots - plural!

GIL

These progressive students voted that anyone who wanted to be a mascot was eligible to try out. Well, 28 kids tried out and held a special election where each voted only for themselves. Thus, 28 mascots. And here! They! Come!

A steady procession of different animal mascots starts to parade through the band tunnel.

GIL

First up we've got the Ashville Duck, followed by the Ashville Panther, the Ashville Ant, the Ashville Chiwawa, the Ashville Deer, the Ashville Parakeet, the Ashville Monarch Butterfly, the Ashville Anteater, the Ashville Tiger, the Ashville Lion, the Ashville Bear, the Ashville Crow, the Ashville Dragon, the Ashville Elephant, the Ashville Bulldog, the Ashville Rattlesnake, the Ashville Platypus, the Ashville Minutemen, the Ashville Pyramid, the Ashville Algebra Equation, the Ashville Fan, the Ashville Apple,

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GIL (cont'd)

the Ashville Circuitry Board, the Ashville Donkey, the Ashville Airbag, the Ashville Pet Rock, the Ashville F-35 Fighter Jet, and the the Ashville Ashvillian.

TOMMY

Second trivia fact of the night: By purchasing 28 different, unique mascot costumes, the school will not have a balanced budget until the year 2016.

GIL

Ain't that funny. Sorta mirrors modern society. Always pushing off the worst problems on the next generation.

The procession ends, the teams walk to the field and flip the coin, and line up. This happens pretty fast.

TOMMY

Well folks, you're in for a treat treat tonight. These fine students put democracy to work and voted to play by NFL rules this season. This actually disqualifies them in every single game they play.

GIL

The students felt this was unfair and voted to not recognize the legitimacy of the ruling body. I tell ya, the brains on these young men and women.

The game begins. Plays are made. Football happens.

TOMMY

NFL rules mean their quarters are 15 minutes long instead of 12. Typically the other team won't play those three minutes, as they are still playing by high school rules but that won't stop your hometown heroes from running the ball and moving the chains!

GIL

And I've just received word that we
have been voted out of the booth.

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TOMMY

They say that Democracy isn't
perfect, but I think tonight speaks
volumes for power of it. It's been
a pleasure. Thank you all for
listening to us.

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