

Point of View

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The Third Force of Korean Politics Part 1

by YESEONG LEE



Image Source: NEWSPIM Establishment of the "Reform Party"

After the 20th Nation Assembly, many parties crashed down, and the two parties – the Power People Party and the Democratic Party of Korea – took over the National Assembly. People's dissatisfaction increased due to the two-party system and their crimes. Ahead of the general election in April, non-mainstream politicians are trying to attract these people to win the election.

The one that is getting the most interest is the Reform Party by Junseok Lee. After graduating from Harvard, he entered politics as the emergency council member of the Grand National Party (currently PPP) on December 27, 2011. At the young age of thirty-six, he was elected as the PPP leader and became the youngest party leader of a main opposition party. However, he was suspended from his party membership and dismissed from his duties due to the suspicion of sexual entertainment though many believe that the political interpretation is that the situation is due to the worsening relationship of Yoon. Later, the disciplinary action was canceled for the unity within the party. Still, he said he would find his own way if the party did not change until December 2023 while criticizing the president and the party's behavior that only follows ideology rather than people's lives.

On December 27, 2023, which was the same day when he first entered the party, he announced his withdrawal from the party and the creation of a new party in Mapo Cham Sut Galbi (마포참숯갈비), a restaurant located in his political hometown. The declaration is called "Mapo Cham Sut Galbi Declaration (마포참숯갈비 선언)". Junseok Lee's entourage, Haram Cheon and Ki-in Lee left the PPP on December 29. On January 3, Euna Her gave up the position of a lawmaker and

joined the Reform Party. Cheon, Lee, and Her became the chiefs of the party formation preparatory committee.

Because Juseok Lee was a programmer who majored in Computer Science, he could make a system that people could join the party easily and a community in which party members could communicate with each other quickly. This led to a large number of people joining in a short amount of time, surpassing the number of party members of the Justice Party in a few days. The Reform Party became the first party to get the required number of members to build the party only on the Internet. On January 20, the founding convention was opened. Junseok Lee was elected as a party leader, and Haram Cheon, Ki-in Lee, and Euna Her were appointed as the members of the supreme council of the party (usually by voting but appointed due to the lack of time). Yongnam Kim was appointed as the chairman of the policy committee.



Image Source: Namu Wiki

Unification of the "Hope of Korea" and the "Reform Party"

"We agree on each other's vision and values. This is because in order to have a 'better tomorrow than today', we must become a 'leading country in science and technology.' 'Reform Party' is the 'Hope of Korea'. 'Hope of Korea' is the 'Reform Party'. Today we declare our unity." -Hope of Korea X Reform Party

Hyang-ja Yang graduated from Gwangju Girls' Commercial High School and joined Samsung as a research assistant for semiconductors in 1985. She was a female who did not even graduate from college and graduated from a commercial high school, ignored at that time. She was never called by her name and called "Miss Yang". She studied Japanese and superconductors by watching seniority to help. She could get a chance to go to Samsung's in-house university. She was rejected a few times just because she was a working mom, but she could graduate from the university with high grades. She became a researcher and finally became the executive of Samsung. Later, she joined DPK and became a lawmaker. However, she was one of the people who was unsatisfied with the two-party system, so she created a party named Hope of Korea (HOK).

The unification of the third parties was an issue that started

to come out after the announcements of many politicians making new parties, for advantages in the general elections, but politicians started to make conflicts with each other. Yang and Lee were so close that the people were thinking that they would unify. They once uploaded a video of their debates for four hours. However, Yang said they must keep their party name and science and technology-centered platform policy, and the unification of the two parties faded out. With another twist, Junseok Lee accepted the conditions and they unified on January 24. They will change the party name after the general election. The Reform Party became the floor party, and Yang became the floor leader.

Deadly Cold Wave Spread Throughout USA

by CIERRA BAE



Image Source: FOX Weather

CBS reported on the 21st (local time) that 89 people died in a week due to the recent Arctic cold wave with strong winds and snow in the United States. In particular, 25 and 16 people were killed in Tennessee and Oregon, respectively. Additional deaths were reported in Illinois, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Washington, Kentucky, Wisconsin, New York, and New Jersey. Hypothermia caused by cold and traffic accidents caused by freezing roads were the main causes of death. As traffic accidents frequently occurred in states where deaths were reported, the state government asked drivers to drive safely. It also advised drivers to avoid unnecessary driving.

This weekend, the entire U.S. was hit by a severe cold spell. CBS said the eastern part of the U.S. is expected to experience the coldest weather this winter. Such cold spell warnings have been extended to northern Florida. Experts are urging people to wear multiple layers of clothing when going out and pay attention to hypothermia.Last week, northeastern Minnesota fell to minus 35.6°C. Wind chill temperatures in parts of North Dakota were minus 56°C.In western Oregon, a blizzard hit, forcing more than 45,000 people to experience power outages. Power outages were also reported in Pennsylvania, California, New Mexico and Indiana. In some parts of Indiana, 32 inches (81.3 centimeters) of snow accumulated.

The U.S. National Weather Service (NWS) announced that cold fronts from the Arctic and Canada were the cause of the cold wave. Earlier, the NWS reported that about 110 million people had been under a cold wave warning or warning, and record low temperatures were expected. The weather forecaster predicted that the weather conditions, where snow falls and ice forms, will continue until early this week. However, as the cold recedes, there is a risk of flooding in the Midwest and Northeast.

Youtuber Clones his Dog

by JULIE SONG



Image Source: YTN News

Recently, a YouTuber introduced two dogs on his YouTube channel. But his dogs were different from other common dogs. His dogs are from his past dog that died. It was the cloning dogs that he copied his dead dog's DNA to make them. In 2022, while he was suffering from his pet loss, he decided to visit a private company to ask them to use his dead dog's DNA to clone his dog. Some people were encouraging him with the loss, but others said that there are various ways to overcome the sense of loss, but his decision to clone was too hasty. Animal rights organizations criticize that the process of replicating the dog's DNA violates animal rights, and also the short lifespan and health problems of the cloning dog are pointed out as a problem. However, the side of the related organizations that cloned the dog states that they comply with the animal rights law well, and have no problem with it at all.

The Growth of Google's reCAPTCHA

by JIHOON CHOI

The barrier between you and the login-page is Google's reCAPTCHA(Completely Automated Public Turing test to tell Computers and Humans Apart), which traditionally forced users to click images or type randomly warped characters. But since the arrival of reCAPTCHA v3, the distress has been reduced.

reCAPTCHAs protect websites against bots trying to spread harmful messages or ads. The reCAPTCHA and reCAPTCHA

v1 made users write what they see on the screen, such as warped random letters or letters from newspapers. But both were either solved by bots or were too hard to distinguish for humans. New types of reCAPTCHAs appeared, such as our familiar image reCAPTCHA or the Checkbox reCAPTCHA(both are types of reCAPTCHA v2). Image reCAPTCHA compares the selected box with the ones of other users. The Checkbox reCAPTCHA, which states "I'm not a robot" tracks the mouse key's movement.

Most websites started to employ reCAPTCHA v2, but it was victim to reCAPTCHA solving mechanisms(a paper even dubbed "yet another captcha solver"). reCAPTCHA v2 also irritated the web users as we humans had to continually prove that we are human. But the emergence of reCAPTCHA v3 allowed user-friendly experiences. reCAPTCHA v3 works by distinguishing bots by their web activity and giving scores. If the score is low enough, it alerts the website managers to take actions on them. This takes off the stress of having to click at images or type letters by users. Google's reCAPTCHAs will likely be a victim to being cracked, and so is privacy and security. This is just one of the threats the internet will impose.

Harbin Ice and Snow World

by SHINE LEE



Image Source: USA Today

Bingxue Large World, also known as Harbin Ice and Snow World, is an ice and snow tourist festival that has become the most popular winter attraction in 2023. In this theme park, people enjoyed illuminating colorful ice and snow sculptures while enjoying winter sports and fun cultural activities.

The origin of Harbin's Ice and Snow World started in 1999, to celebrate the new period of the 2000s. Harbin's government built a unique Disney World with ice and snow which then became one of the most known features of Harbin. Since then, events connected to ice and snow have been held there every year. A never-ending amount of tourists visit Harbin for the astounding view of the cold fairy world.

North Korea's Train Accident

by SIOH PARK



Image Source: CNN

Last month, over 400 North Korean passengers lost their lives in a tragic train accident, as reported by Radio Free Asia. The incident took place on December 26, 2023, when a passenger train traveling from Pyongyang to Komdok overturned on a steep slope due to a power shortage. As the train ascended towards Lipa Station, a sudden power failure caused it to roll backward, resulting in seven carriages derailing down a mountain near Sinpyeong Station. The passengers in the front carriages, mainly high-ranking officials survived, but the majority in the overturned carriages including young men heading to Komdok mines and housewives passed away. North Korean authorities established a task force to investigate the accident and handle the aftermath, reminiscent of a similar tragedy on the same railway in November 1998 near Dancheon.

CHICK-CHICK'S Lunar New Year





Eat Traditional Food!





Se-Bae Time

Happy Lunar New Year!

Shohei Ohtani Signs with the Dodgers

by BRIAN CHOI



Image Source: CNN

On December 10, 2023 the Two-Way sensation Shohei Ohtani announced on his instagram that he will be playing for the Los Angeles Dodgers with a whopping 10-year \$700 million contract. Ohtani has been the best player in the league for the past couple of seasons being the first person in history to win two unanimous MVPs in the 2021 and 2023 season. Ohtani is one of a kind, it has been emphasized countless times but with good reasoning. For those who don't know, in Baseball, you either throw the ball or hit the ball; but Ohtani does both. Ohtani was the first two-way player since the old days of Babe Ruth but considering that Ruth won his MVP while President Harding's Teapot Dome scandal was on the front page of news while Ohtani won his award only ten months after the Capitol was raided. It is clear that Ohtani's such achievements have been universally acknowledged and when it was his time to hit free agency, he took the spotlight all to himself. MLB analysts predicted big market teams such as the Dodgers, Yankees, Red Sox, Giants, or the Blue Jays but it would've been the Dodgers who eventually landed him.

The Dodgers have an interesting history. They have always consistently been good during the regular season winning nine out of ten division titles and had three straight seasons with more than 100 wins. But their story in the postseason is something else. The Dodgers have been to three World Series in 2017, 2018, and won the entire thing in the controversial shortened COVID-19 season in 2020. The championship in 2020 is viewed by many as an illegitimate one and the Dodgers front office knows this since they told Ohtani the last ten years was a failure while in the process of convincing Ohtani and that certainly played a part in his decision.

Ohtani now has a lot of expectations upon him. Breaking the record as the most expensive sports contract in North American history and a once in a lifetime player. Would Ohtani live up to his expectation as the \$700 million man and lead the Dodgers to the promised land or would his career end in the next four, five years?

Book Review: The Hunger Games

by GEON GO

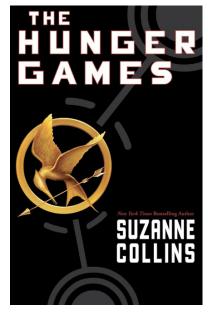


Image Source: Amazon

Hunger Games is a thriller, action, and science fiction novel by Suzanne Collins and it was first published on September 14, 2008.

Every year, the "Hunger Games" is hosted by the capitol of Panem. There are a total of 12 districts in Panem and capitols control each of the districts. Every year, capitols forces the citizens of each district to dedicate two children to compete in a nationally televised event called the Hunger Games. The children who are chosen are called tribute. The basic rule of Hunger Games is simple, the last surviving tribute wins and competitors from the Hunger Games are not allowed to prepare in advance. All tributes have to kill the other tributes and survive.

What should we do with the Lakers?

by MINSEOP CHIN

The Lakers have been starting horribly this season after signing numerous decent players for free such as Taurean Prince and Gabe Vincent. For Gabe Vincent, he was surely one of the key players for Miami Heat to reach the playoff finals last season. Taurean Prince, on the other hand, was not a world class player but a great 3 pointer option on the bench. Plus they have re-signed Rui Hachimura and D'angelo Russell who were also decent guard options that could shoot to the opponent's net. However, it hasn't been good from what we've expected. Gabe Vincent has undergone left knee surgery and would be

out for probably around a few months. Not only Vincent but also Jarred Vanderbilt has been injured and out for a few weeks. Due to these prime injuries, the squad depth has been very thin. Therefore, the rotation didn't go well. However, there were other problems than the players. Coach Darvin Ham couldn't firmly decide the starting lineup this season. Not only the lineup but he makes too many mistakes in terms of timeouts and challenges during the game. He also makes too many rotations which gives confusion to the role for players. So, in order to solve these issues, what should we do? There are solutions mentioned from various sources, but the most realistic solution would be trading before the deadline. The Lakers have been connected with various players including Alex Caruso and Zach Lavine. However, these players have been announced untouchable recently by their team Chicago Bulls. So recently, the Lakers have been connected with the shooting guard Dejounte Murray. Not only does he average 23 points per match but he could also defend well. It has been announced that the Lakers are ready to offer Murray's team Atlanta Hawks Max Christie, Jalen Hood, Schifino, Gabe Vincent, and possibly D'angelo Russell or Austin Reaves. Another solution would be sacking the coach Darvin Ham. He has lost trust from the Lakers fans after making 19 wins and 21 losses. Some of the candidates for the coach position in case Darvin Ham is being sacked would possibly be Rondo who was a smart and intelligent player in the NBA in the past. Therefore, as a Lakers fan, who wants the old Lakers, I wish these solutions would be helpful for this disastrous team.

History of Object Show

by SEONWOO JEONG



Image Source: DeviantArt

Object Show was created in 2010. Most object show genres are reality shows. The first object shown was BFDI (Battle For Dream Island). Michael and Cary, creator of BFDI, inspired by Total Drama Island. So they made BFDI on 2010 January 1st. But at first, it didn't get any attention. So they uploaded episodes every month, and object shows slowly began to build awareness. Then in 2011 Adam Katz, creator of Inanimate Insanity, was inspired by the BFDI. So Adam Katz created his own object show. The first Inanimate Insanity released was

clumsy, but the object show genre was growing up. Then in 2013, object show awareness was going down. Why? Because BFDI's second season, BFDIA, was canceled and Inanimate Insanity season 2 was uploaded once every 4 months. After, in 2015 2017 Object Show had a dark age. Inanimate Insanity quality was broadcast level but it uploaded episodes once per year. Then BFDI released IDFB(season 3). But IDFB released only one episode and was canceled. But! In 2017 Object Show dark age finally ended and BFDI released season 4 called BFB. And the Object Show dark ages finally ended after 4 years. And newly introduced Young age groups started to watch object shows. After that, in 2020 The Daily Object Show made a new trend. So we realized that the most important thing for the object shows is the story. ONE(object show) was evaluated as a masterpiece that was properly demonstrated, because ONE completely deviated from the mold of a reality show.

In 2021, Inanimate Insanity stopped making season 2, and season 3. In January TPOT was released. TPOT released an episode every year and in 2023, TPO released one episode every two months. Now In 2023, object shows are blown up.

Object shows have the viewer vote. So viewers can decide which contestant will be eliminated. When BFB part 2 was released, it was which contestant the viewers wanted to save. So you can make your own object show, anytime and any age you want.

Introducing Samsung's Galaxy S24

by YEONJEONG JEON



Image Source: digitaltrends

Samsung Electronics launched the 'AI phone era' by launching the Galaxy S24 series, the first artificial intelligence (AI) smartphone.

'Galaxy S24' is equipped with an on-device AI function that operates on its own along with online AI search. Attention is being paid to whether the Galaxy S24 series, which is equipped with AI functions such as weekly interpretation/translation and Circle 2 search and has strengthened counteroffensive capabilities, will be able to overtake the iPhone and take first place in the smartphone market.

According to the electronics industry on the 29th, about 1.21 million units of Samsung Electronics' Galaxy S24 series were sold in domestic pre-orders held for a week from the 19th to the 25th. In particular, in the same live sale held on Samsung.com on the 19th, about 20,000 units were sold in 90 minutes. This is the highest pre-order sales among the Galaxy S series ever.

The Galaxy S24 series is receiving a positive response not only from domestic assets but also from major global markets, leading to predictions that it will achieve a 'record' box office success.

The all time record for preorders in India is 250,000 copies as of the 21st. It surpassed the previous product's three-week pre-sale volume in three days, which is an achievement that surpasses the Galaxy S23's record.

The performance of the Galaxy S24 series is important in that India is a market where Chinese companies such as Xiaomi and Oppo are strong. This is a positive sign, especially considering that Samsung Electronics is targeting India as a market to replace China and is in a minority market.