

From Breaking News

By Don Zolidis

OLIVIA, 17, a reporter for the *Intelligencer*
MARION, the spokesperson for President Christy

OLIVIA

Olivia St. John reporting on Bobbleheadgate. The next step, Studio Council.
(*MARION enters.*)

MARION

It's so good to see you, Olivia. We love the *Intelligencer*.

OLIVIA

Sure.

MARION

See what I mean? So what's the story this time? I can confirm that First Boyfriend Joseph does Crossfit. It's incredible. He falls down and then he gets up and then he falls down again.

OLIVIA

I'm not here about the First Boyfriend. I'm actually trying to get to the bottom of something about a fundraiser.

MARION

Can I just tell you that you look really pretty right now?

OLIVIA

That's not really what I'm here for.

MARION

I think you're so cute when you get on T.V. Do you have a hair person?

OLIVIA

There actually is one, but that's not what I'm here to talk about.

MARION

I wish I had a better hair person. Sometimes my hair is a mess, you know? Like, are you serious, I have to talk to the whole student body looking like this? Are you kidding me? So let me ask you this question: is there like a special guy in your life?

OLIVIA

No –

MARION

I know! It is so hard to date when you're in a position like this, you know? Tell you what: I have a friend, his name is Gregor – he's an exchange student from Switzerland, and he is amazing. I'm not attracted to him because I hate the Swiss, but he is probably perfect for you. He's stunning. And he yodels. Can I tell you how arousing that is? He starts in and I'm like – whoah! Feelings! Except not, because I don't think of him that way. So I'm going to set you up on a date. This was a great chat. Bye.

OLIVIA

I'm here about the bobblehead fundraiser.

MARION

That was cold.

OLIVIA

What?

MARION

I'm being like really friendly with you, and now you're all business. Like, what the heck? Don't you have any friends you want to set me up with? I just handed you Gregor. Gregor is like Grade A Man. Seriously. How about a little reciprocity?

OLIVIA

I don't know that I have any friends I want to set up with you.

MARION

Why is that? You don't think I'm good enough for your friends?

OLIVIA

That's not what I said. I'm not really here about dating –

MARION

Don't need a man! Miss Independent! You're like a Kelly Clarkson song come to life.

OLIVIA

I want to talk about the bobblehead fundraiser.

MARION

It was nice. It was a successful fundraiser. People like bobbleheads.

OLIVIA

Great. I know for a fact that there were 1.2 million dollars in sales, and yet the school only received \$53,000.

MARION

I don't know if those are the actual numbers.

From Breaking News by Don Zolidis

OLIVIA

I'm telling you those are the numbers. I have the actual proof right here.
(She hands the papers to MARION)

MARION

Proof can kind of mean anything.

OLIVIA

No it really can't. It's sales and disbursements. Right there.

MARION

Disbursements! Big word. Somebody's in AP English. Whoah.

OLIVIA

So what happened to the 1.15 million that's missing?

MARION

How did you get that number?

OLIVIA

1.2 million minus 53,000. It's math.

MARION

That's your math. That's one way to do math. There are other ways to do math.

OLIVIA

It's math! There's only one way!

MARION

You're bossy. Maybe that's why you're single.

OLIVIA

Where did that extra money go?

MARION

I think the real question is: who told you about this? To me, that seems like the real problem.

OLIVIA

There's over a million dollars missing.

MARION

According to your biased math.

OLIVIA

Math isn't biased!

From Breaking News by Don Zolidis

MARION

Sometimes when math doesn't show the numbers you want it to show, it's because of bias.

OLIVIA

Who was responsible for the bobblehead fundraiser?

MARION

All the fundraisers are handled by DECA club.

OLIVIA

What's DECA club?

MARION

Nobody knows. But they meet afterschool in a secret room. I would start with them.