SIT DOWN, SHUT UP

"Pilot"

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"SIT DOWN, SHUT UP"

TEASER

EXT. STREET - MORNING

A few live action shots of a simple fishing town gearing up for the day before we come across a sign on a hill for Franklin High School -- over the words, "The Fighting First Mates -- Go Baiters!" and the mascot, a sailor holding a worm.

We first see our animation style (a mix of simplistic illustration against a photographic live action background) as A FEW STUDENTS ON BIKES in 'Baiters' jackets laden with lumbar-breaking book bags struggle up the hill.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL TRACK -- CONTINUOUS

Some STUDENT ATHLETES are running around the track, they pass their coach who stands staring off waiting for the girl he most loves. This is LARRY (The "Nice Guy". The smartest guy at the school -- but unfortunately for all he teaches P.E. A voice of sanity despite being prone to bursts of frustrated anger.) Larry realizes too late that his students have finished.

LARRY

Arg! Sorry, one more mile and this time I'll definitely use the stop watch!

YEARBOOK PHOTO: LARRY SLIMP - P.E. QUOTE: "IS THERE ANY WAY I CAN GET TRANSFERRED OUT OF P.E?"

Back to action as Larry fires a starter's pistol and the exhausted kids take off for another lap. Unfortunately a moment later he realizes he's failed to start the watch again.

EXT. HELEN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

ANDREW is rocking out to the radio. ("The Sissy.") He shimmies and sways and wiggles his shoulders. HELEN ("the Know It All") is behind the wheel (tightly wound, highly frustrated).

INT. HELEN'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Andrew continues to undulate and we realize that the radio is BLASTING AN A.M. station. We hear a familiar ad.

ANNOUNCER ON RADIO Head on, apply directly to the forehead, head on, apply directly to the forehead, head-on --

Helen snaps off the radio.

HELEN

Do you have to dance to everything?

ANDREW

It's called Rap. And I don't "have to." I must. I don't expect you to get it. It's about feelings.

 ${\tt HELEN}$

I have feelings. And you're lucky I'm not a lady or I'd show you what they are.

ANDREW

Yeah, right. If you were half the man that I am woman I'd make you try.

They stare each other down, then realize.

ANDREW (CONT'D) Wait, who's what, now?

We flipped it, I think...

ANDREW (CONT'D) Did we flip it again?

YEARBOOK PHOTOS. HELEN KLENCH - LIBRARIAN. QUOTE: "QUIET DOWN!" ANDREW SAPIEN - DRAMA: QUOTE: "SPEAK UP!"

Back to action. Helen notices an oncoming Prius.

HELEN (terrified) Head on!

ANDREW (dancing) That's the spirit!

EXT. STREET

Helen's car narrowly misses a Prius (covered with bumper stickers) coming right at them. The cyclists from earlier must also dive out of the way.

INT. MIRACLE'S PRIUS -- CONTINUOUS

MIRACLE is driving. (Beautiful, spiritual, the "Airhead.") Her field of view is crowded by all manner of spiritual totems that hang from her rear view mirror and she struggles to put on eye-liner.

MIRACLE

Boy, I can't see anything because of this "God will protect me" bumpersticker. But I guess that's the point, huh, Baby?

She turns to the baby. Angle on a terrified baby next to Miracle surreptitiously trying to steer.

MIRACLE (CONT'D)
Oh, look at you! Steering just like grown up Mommy. I'm going to have to start buckling you in!

She bends over completely to buckle in Baby. The baby looks deeply concerned.

YEARBOOK: MIRACLE GROHE - SCIENCE TEACHER. QUOTE: "BABY'S ARE ONE OF LIFE'S GREATEST SURPRISES. BUT IT DOES EXPLAIN WHY I GOT SO FAT THAT YEAR."

EXT. PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

WILLARD ("The Loser." Dissolute, broken, the very essence of failure) drives his car past a number of nice cars in the parking lot until he reaches the faculty section, where the cars are distinctly worse.

INT. WILLARD'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

Willard is talking on his cell phone.

WILLARD

And I'm in trouble, you know? If the principal finds out, I'm ruined.

VOICE ON PHONE (O.S.)
I think we should try to keep our personal lives out of this relationship.

WILLARD

But...you're my psychologist.

YEARBOOK: WILLARD DEUTSCHEBOG - GERMAN. QUOTE: "IF I BELIEVED IN REINCARNATION I'D KILL MYSELF TONIGHT."

WILLARD (CONT'D)
I feel ashamed. Isn't there <u>any</u> advice you can give me?

VOICE ON PHONE (O.S.) It's probably just in your head.

EXT. TRACK -- CONTINUOUS

The students are rounding the bend as Larry sees Miracle's car pop over a curb and approach.

LARRY

Miracle! Here we go...Today's the day you notice Larry Slimp!

Larry joins the exhausted runners and sprints in a full-bore out to the front of the pack. He turns immediately to wave to Miracle's fast approaching Prius.

LARRY (CONT'D)
Okay, that's teamwork! ("Noticing")
Oh, hey Miracle... just showing the kids how to run...Miracle?

But Miracle's Prius is now driving straight at him. Through the sticker covered window we can barely make out the worried looking eyes of Baby who tries to steer. Larry dives out of the way, causing the group of cyclists to once again go down.

EXT. PARKING LOT/INT. MIRACLE'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Miracle's Prius rams up into her parking spot, just as she gets the baby buckled in.

MIRACLE

That was a whole lot of nothing! (noticing) Hey, do you have a fever?

The sweat covered Baby rolls his eyes.

EXT. PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Reveal that Miracle's car is inches from Willard's.

WILLARD

Miracle, I'm kind of trapped here.

MIRACLE

Oh, that's how I felt about having a baby with no Daddy. But the only protection any of us really need is prayer. Right baby?

She crosses off as the baby shakes his head in a silent call for help to Willard; "No it isn't."

Willard goes to put it in reverse when three black Mercedes Maybachs pull up to a stop behind him. A driver opens the door and HAPPY emerges (the "Weird one" -- We just might find out that he's Uday Hussein - but this is his secret... and in the meantime the teachers just assume he's from Mexico.)

Happy crosses to the trunk, tosses in his head wrap, throws on a gardener's hat and nonchalantly rakes up leaves.

WILLARD

Happy... I'm kind of stuck here...

(We will hear the halting and dispassionate O.S. TRANSLATOR over Happy when he speaks. Think 'Saddam on trial.')

HAPPY

Malech-hem aga shocar na baba befarma id haza malem Nabashid! (etc.)

TRANSLATOR (O.S.) Soon you shall be stuck in the manner of a swine whose infidel blood will flow glorious the streets.

YEARBOOK. Candid photo of Happy dumping some fishheads in the dumpster, scowling. MUHANNAD SABEEH "HAPPY" FA-ACH NUABAR. CUSTODIAN. QUOTE: "DEATH TO ALL INFIDELS AND GOOOOO BAITERS!"

WILLARD (CONT'D)
Um, yeah... I don't speak Spanish...
You don't know any German, do you?

INT. STUART'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

The SOUNDS OF THE SPORTS CAR are now full blast as we see STUART (feckless, clueless, upbeat, and disconnected;

"The Nerd") with a scarf around his neck and a pair of red and blue 3-d sunglasses. He shifts wildly, as we HEAR the engine rev and race and the squealing of tires.

EXT. PARKING LOT -- CONTINUOUS

WE REVEAL that Stuart is driving incredibly slowly through the lot in a small, late model Honda civic.

INT. STUART'S CAR -- CONTINUOUS

THE ENGINE SOUNDS ARE NOW FULL VOLUME again as Stuart pulls his car to a stop (next to and blocking Willard.) Stuart pops a tape out of the cassette deck and the ENGINE SOUNDS STOP.

ANGLE ON the cassette, labeled "The Sounds of Nascar." Stuart looks up and notices something. ANGLE ON a sign that reads; IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO STUDENTS. FLU SHOTS, MONDAY. Stuart approaches it and rearranges some letters.

STUART

There. Much funnier.

SUE approaches in her car. (The "Grown Up.")

SUE

Excuse me. That's not your spot. Perhaps you couldn't tell because of your... poor choice of eyewear.

STUART

Can you believe it? They were just giving these away for free out of this dumpster behind the movie theater. They really make people stick out and look kind of koo-koo, though.

SUE

Yes, I'm noticing that. I also see that you've parked your car in the spot reserved for the principal. And you're not the principal. You're a man with garbage on your face.

STUART

Oh, yes. I thought that would be fine since the principal's still out because of the... (makes clawing air quotation mark signs) ... "accident" he had while wearing those... (makes clawing quotes again)... "steel claws" while he was making... (air quotes) ... "quotation mark" signs.

SUE

Yes, well, what you perhaps don't know is that I'm the acting principal in his absence.

Oh, I know that, too, Sue. Sue, may I call you Sue, Sue?

SUE

(smiles, then) No.

YEARBOOK: SUE SEZNO - VICE PRINCIPAL. QUOTE: "NO."

STUART

Yeah, it is a little formal, Sue. Sue, is there a nickname for Sue? Something shorter than Sue, like Su--"Se", maybe. Or (barely a sound now, yet it actually takes longer to say) "hs." Just as a timesaver, hs?

SUE
Okay, well, why don't we start
with... "Acting Principal Sezno" and once we're further into the semester we can replace you. But right now let's move that car.

STUART

I'd love to, but once I've stopped her running she won't start again for six hours. It's not much of a car, but you sure wouldn't know it when I have my Nascar tape in. Great!

Stuart starts off.

SUE

Stuart, has anyone ever told you that you're completely oblivious?

STUART

Not that I'm aware of, hs. Not that I'm aware of.

Stuart exits, right through the pile of leaves that Happy has swept up, probably due to the sunglasses. Happy seethes.

PHOTO ATTACHED TO APPLICATION: STUART PROSZAKIAN - COMPUTER SCIENCE. PRIOR JOB: PRISON CLOWN. QUOTE: "12 THOUSAND A YEAR."

The students knocked off their bikes limp up to Sue. She almost speaks then thinks better of it and exits. They turn the sign, which now reads: "IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO STUDENTS. FU SHTS. MONDAY." Cut back to their scraped faces.

Title card "SIT DOWN, SHUT UP."

ACT ONE

EXT. SCHOOL COURTYARD - A FEW MOMENTS LATER

Larry enters and in a friendly way waves to some young female students.

TARRY

Hi kids...

They look away and quickly walk off. Larry is confused as Miracle approaches.

LARRY (CONT'D)

That was odd.

MIRACLE

It's probably because of the posters. But Sue says they're for our safety, too.

Miracle indicates poster that reads: "Don't tempt a teacher! It could cost them their job." Another shows a drawing of a teacher, his pockets pulled out, with the words "I MIGHT SEEM WORLDLY, BUT I'M REALLY QUITE POOR!" (We will see several others throughout the show)

LARRY

Why do I have a feeling that this is because of Andrew. (THEN) So... hi!

MIRACLE

Hi, I just wanted to let you know I've started a four-day famine with my classes...

INT. LUNCHROOM - FLASHBACK

Miracle continues in V.O. while we see her approach students with a STARVING ETHIOPIAN BOY (her own baby is on her back.) As she refers to him passionately she makes a self-righteous point of taking away her students lunches and throwing them in the trash.

MIRACLE (V.O.)
...in honor of all the people in third world countries who are starving or just don't know about restaurants.

The starving Ethiope goes for the trash bin, but not before Miracle has poured Pine Sol in after it.

INT. SCHOOL COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

LARRY

Wow... that's really noble of you, Miracle. Yeah, anything.

MIRACLE

Great... okay, so far that's eight students, you, me, the baby, and...

LARRY

Whoa, wait... You're not going to feed the baby?

MIRACLE
I know, it's not going to be easy.
was thinking of pouring pine sol on my chest.

The baby just puts his head in hand.

LARRY

That's idiotic. You can't do that! Are you that stupid?!

The baby shakes his head yes, as Miracle shakes hers "No.

MIRACLE

Only to talk to you! You're the worst... P.E. teacher in the world!

She runs off. Sue approaches Larry, who feels bad.

SUE

Larry. I was hoping to find you. have some rather disturbing news about something Happy found in one of your student athlete's lockers.

Sue hands Larry a large pill bottle to a distracted Larry.

SUE (CONT'D)

Drugs, Larry.

LARRY

Huh? Okay, but just to help me deal with the disturbing news.

Larry pops the top off and throws a couple in his mouth. crosses to the water fountain.

LARRY (CONT'D)

Sho, what'd the shtudent find?

The drugs, Larry. The ones in your mouth.

Larry spits them out, aghast.

LARRY

Those were in a kid's locker?!

SUE

That's right.

LARRY
I had those in my mouth!

SUE

I think you're missing some of the subtlety of my point. There are children using drugs in this school.

LARRY

(This hits Larry.) Wow. (then) And you don't think it's just a Ritalin or an Adderal... or some other approved form of child narcotic?

SUE

No, this isn't just some of run-of-the-mill pediatric anti-psychotic.

LARRY

Well, let's not overreact. It could just be a baby-Thorazine -- Of course it wasn't bubblegum flavored. (then) Maybe a Darvoset Jr?

SUE

Well, look at the bottle. See how there's no Bear with a cloud over him.

LARRY

(agreeing) ... And no kitten with a look of confusion.

SUE

No, this isn't one of our "Drug Day" give aways.

INT. SCHOOL GYMNASIUM - WEEKS EARLIER

The place is decorated with banners that read "Franklin High/Squibb presents Drug Day." The place is a zoo of vendors and confused children being ushered to various areas with hand made signs that read: "Anxiety disorders," "Flashbacks," "Digestion issues (non-Irritable Bowels)," etc. And signs advertising a host of pharmaceuticals. Sue works a megaphone.

SUE

Again, children, "anxiety" is not the same as "depression." If you can't choose one please head to the bipolar booth, if you can't remember please register for an anti-attention deficit... and for the last time if you don't have a syndrome please form a line to the left and a drug rep will find one for you...

The teachers hand out swag, balloons, etc. advertising heretofore undreamed of disorders and remedies.

EXT. COURTYARD - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

SUE

No, this isn't something we're helping sell, this is serious. Drugs.

LARRY

Wow. They even find a way in here.

SUE

I'm having Miracle in our science department take a look at it. You obviously know her.

Larry is arrested by the name of the woman he loves.

LARRY

Know her? Please... if I were better
with imagery I'd call her an angel...

As he waxes poetical WE SEE THE IMAGE he's trying to describe. Miracle's face on a flying angel.

LARRY (V.O.) (CONT'D)
...whose wings are...as soft as...
breasts, that...grow out of
her...back. Perfectly balancing her
two...front breasts...

The angel's breasts come into view, then her wings turn into breasts, the weight of which flops her over, so she's flying upside down. She sticks her tongue out, which gestures "come here" like a finger --

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Larry struggles to depict what we've just seen -- sticking his chest out, and folding his arms like chicken wings behind him and inside his shirt, pointing his tongue. Then.

SUE

And you realize she has a baby.

LARRY

Yeah, I didn't know where to put that in there. Maybe on one of the back breasts. But it doesn't matter that she has a baby. The problem is every time I try to talk to her I get so frustrated I end up lashing out.

SUE

Well, she suspects that these are performance enhancing steroids and thinks some of your athletes are taking them.

LARRY

(Lashing out) What? What does that quad-jugged freak know about pharmacology?

LARRY (CONT'D)
My kids aren't on steroids. It's impossible. They're crap at every sport they try.

QUICK MONTAGE SHOWS

- 1.) A pole vaulter running to vault, but planting the pole which jams him in the stomach into a stop. Larry calmly pulls it out after which the child falls over. (a sign in the b.g. reads: "Start treating Weak Urinary Stream disorder before it happens. Flospray!" 500mg Er.)
- 2.) Kids on the deck of a pool in water polo helmets. Larry blows a whistle and they leap into the pool not be seen again, while their helmets float to the top. Larry calmly gets out a pool scooper. (sign reads: Itchy down there? Invite in an InvisiTickle! as welcome as a Doctor's index finger.")
- 3.) A boy with a rifle waits next to a skeet machine. Larry yells pull. and a skeet flies out. The boy shoots the machine. Larry motions calmly "give me the gun." (sign reads: "Feeling left out there's no drug for you?" SIDE-EFFEXOR -- twice the side effects, none of the fix! Taplet or Cabsule.) Back to action.

LARRY (CONT'D)
No, these are performances that have not been enhanced. I mean we have two football players out with injuries from the last coin toss.

That freshman with the equal-length legs is pretty good at football. That red haired kid.

LARRY Who..."red-haired kid?"

SUE I think that's his name.

LARRY
Well, sure he's good. He's twentythree years old. (remembering) "Red
haired Man."

SUE That's what it is.

LARRY
Believe me, if I could get the other kids to play as well as he does we actually might have a shot at winning the big game on Thursday. (then) Hey, let's give them the 'roids. (off her look) It's not exactly going to be a federal case.

Cut to a US SENATE Yearbook. We see a picture of George Mitchell over the words.

NAME: US SEN. GEORGE MITCHELL (D-MAINE). AUTHOR: "SENATE INVESTIGATION INTO STEROID USE IN BASEBALL." MONTHS IN THE MAKING: 20. COST IN MILLIONS: 20. QUOTE: "SAY WHAT YOU WANT, TO ME HIS NECK LOOKS WIDER THAN HIS HEAD." Back to action.

SUE

Still, they can lead to thinning of the hair, shorten the temper, shrink the testicles... (then, realizing) Larry, do you take steroids?

LARRY
(Snapping) There's nothing wrong with my hair! Look, Sue--you're the acting Principal, if our team does well this week it might generate some interest in our school. You've been trying to raise funds for new books...

SUE Teachers, but go on...

LARRY

If we won a game we might be able to raise some money. Plus it might make me look like a winner to Miracle.

SUE

Well... we'd have to test them on somebody first. A faculty member -- But who's that going to be, it could make them horribly sick?

Stuart crosses in.

STUART

Hey, Larry, hs. I thought you'd like to know. (starts off then) Oh, by the way, if it looks like there's a scratch on your fender, it's actually just a dent. Great!

Stuart exits.

SUE

(to Larry) Well, come on. Let's get those drugs in him.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Willard is there with a large paper sack. He looks guilty. Stuart enters and goes to his locker.

WILLARD

Hey, Stuart... can I grab you for a second. Just privately. You know, man to man.

(scoffs) Oh, sorry, I'm not really into that kind of thing. I'll watch you though.

WILLARD Watch me-- No, I just meant..."can we talk?"

STUART

Oh. Sure. I don't have any cash on me anyway. You do that while I change.

Stuart starts taking off his scarf and glasses over the following.

WILLARD

Well...I was at the local newsstand this morning...

EXT. NEWSSTAND - MORNING

Willard, in a fake moustache guiltily and covertly grabs a stack of dirty magazines.

WILLARD (V.O.)
...I was buying a stack of adult magazines when I ran into one of the students.

Willard pulls out a credit card, and license to pay. He takes off his moustache and only then finds himself staring face to face with a frightened looking student. (It doesn't help that Willard wears a faded shirt that reads "Con**VIAGRA**tulations" Baiters! 2004.")

INT. LOCKER ROOM - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

WILLARD

I grabbed a couple of cooking magazines but I think he noticed. God, I'm so ashamed.

STUART

Hey, there's no need to be ashamed. Everyone enjoys food. Sure it's strange to read a magazine about it, but it's not like you were buying pornography.

WILLARD

No...that \underline{is} what happened. One of the students caught me buying pornography.

STUART

Oh, I missed that. Must have been while I was changing. Do the story again and this time I'll really focus.

Stuart "focuses." Willard is exasperated.

WILLARD

One of the students caught me buying pornography.

STUART

Got it that time! (high five, then) No, you should definitely be ashamed of that. You had it right.

WILLARD

I'm a lonely man, okay? And if this gets out, I'm ruined. And you know how kids spread lies. Especially when they're true.

STUART

(tch.) Kids. (then) All right, well this is an easy one. You just avoid being in any place where Sue is that there are also students.

WILLARD

But... I'm a teacher here.

STUART

That's how I know you!

WILLARD

Look, Sue's been looking for another reason to get rid of me -- I'm one month away from tenure. She's never been in favor of the German requirement at this school.

STUART

I didn't even know kid's learned German here.

WILLARD

No one ever actually has. Which is probably something else she's going to try to use against me. I don't know... maybe I am too old to still be connecting with the kids. (then) Dammit, why didn't I sign up for the internet when I got that shiny free coaster thingy in the mail! (then) Can you just throw the magazines out for me? No one knows you. You'll be fine.

Stuart puts out his hand. A relieved Willard hands Stuart the bag. Stuart flips through and focuses on one picture in particular.

WILLARD (CONT'D)
Thanks, Stuart. Just keep my name out of it. If anyone asks...

Hey, I don't know what the hell this is.

Willard smiles and pats him on the back, then takes off. Stuart continues to stare at the picture deeply confused.

STUART (CONT'D) (deeply confused) I mean, what the hell is that thing?

Stuart puts on the his 3-d glasses.

STUART (CONT'D) (then, delighted) Oh, it's a dog's nipple!

Stuart looks up surprised to see Willard gone and some students standing before him.

STUART (CONT'D) Oh, this is just Willard Deutschebog's porn.

He smiles at the kids. They look nervous. He flips the picture around to show them. They look horrified. A beat. He turns the picture to us. It's pretty awful. (chyron reads: "WARNING: DO NOT VIEW THROUGH 3-D GLASSES."

EXT. FRANKLIN HIGH - LATER THAT DAY/INT. CLASSROOM - LATER THAT DAY

Students sit quietly in an empty class room. They listen to Sue over the P.A. system.

SUE (OVER P.A.)
...so while faculty attend this
mandatory meeting, students are
encouraged to sit quietly in prayer.

INT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE - DAY

The teachers are there. Sue speaks into a P.A. mic.

SUE

For those of you who are "separation of Church and State" buffs, please feel free to engage in evolution.

MIRACLE

Evolution. There's a concept I wish I could believe in.

SUE

Well, the good news is you're just the science teacher. Now if we can get this "law of gravity" repealed it can pretty much just be a free period.

More time for us to float around.

SUE

Anyway, thank you for coming. I know that Principal Kevin never made you go to meetings, but as you know, Kevin is still recuperating from his (air quotes) "lacerations."

The teachers grimace and recall the horror.

ANDREW

I should have never tried to adapt Edward Scissorhands for the stage. He completely ruined my show.

HELEN

Well, it was more like a tie.
Anyway, I'm on the job and I'm trying to clean up some of his mess. As you may know we didn't exactly "kick ass" with regard to "No Child Left Behind" standards.

STUART

(Instinctively barking) Kick ass!

All cheer.

SUE

Okay, my fault, I should never have used such provocative language. The point is they've cut back our funding.

Larry enters.

SUE (CONT'D)

To that end, we have the big game Thursday. And we need to win, so I'm assigning Stuart Proszakian to work with Larry as the assistant coach. Larry, do you have those "vitamins" for Stuart?

LARRY

Right here.

Sue winks to Larry. Larry winks back, then turns to look at Stuart. Stuart winks at Larry. Larry looks confused.

SUE

I want everyone to show his or her support and be at that game. Teachers and students. Any questions?

WILLARD

Does that include teachers?

SUE

Yes, Willard, it does. I should have mentioned that.

Willard looks to Stuart, worried. Stuart calms him with a wink. Sue notices the wink and looks at Stuart. Stuart winks at her, then indicates Willard should do the same. He reluctantly does so.

ANDREW

You know, Stuart's new here. I should be Larry's assistant coach. I'm the one who really knows him. His ups and downs. His ins and outs. His chest, neck, hips, and pecks.

SUE

What's your point, Andrew.

ANDREW

I should be the assistant coach. I mean, I know what the man looks like naked for God's sake.

LARRY

You do?

ANDREW

Well, not yet--but that just supports my point.

SUE

No, I'd like Stuart to spend some time with Larry.

Andrew fumes in jealousy, and shoots daggers at Stuart. Stuart winks to Andrew in response. Andrew, unable to resist, winks back to Stuart, hating himself for the weakness.

SUE (CONT'D)

But we still need money. Now it's come to my attention that in 1991 there was a time capsule planted on this campus.

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - 1991

Students are gathered around a principal at a podium surrounded by an array of microphones. Chyron reads: 1991, but the scene is strangely 19th century. Stove pipe hats, handlebar moustaches, megaphone-y voices.

PRINCIPAL

It's been a tough year for all of us. We've been at war in Iraq. Transitioning from Bush to Clinton. The beginning of a huge recession. And a baseball player at the center of a scandal that broke our hearts.

INT. TEACHERS LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

STUART

God, what a crazy time. What must that have been like?!

EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - 1991

PRINCIPAL

To help us enshrine this capsule of a time we hope never to return to -- a pair of celebrities who will never let us down: Mr. and Mrs. Milli Vanilli.

The crowd goes wild as Fab and Morvan take the stage in period dress, but with dreadlocks.

MILLI

Thank you Franklin High First Mates. -irst Mates. -irst Mates. -irst Mates.

The students narrow their eyes noticing the boys are out of sync.

SUE (V.O.)
The capsule was packed with items thought soon to be rare.

Cut to students with late eighties hair packing a time capsule with a sandwich, some pennies, a kitten, and a bottle of wine.

SUE (V.O.) (CONT'D) I'm told that among them was a bottle of Dry Creek Chardonnay that today might well be worth thousands.

The capsule is lowered into a hole.

INT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

SUE

So I'll shortly be assigning someone to dig for the time capsule. (a moment, then) Helen, you'll be digging for the time capsule.

HELEN

No fair.

SUE

I'm sorry, Helen. But you're the librarian. And should something happen to you God Forbid we could always start just using Google.

HELEN

That's not true. I also have philosophy seminars.

HELEN (CONT'D)

We had an amazing night discussing the meaning of reality.

INT. LIBRARY - WEEKS EARLIER

Helen is before the students.

HELEN

So what is reality? Well, to help us answer that please welcome Fox programming executive, Mike Darnell.

Mike takes the podium.

MICHAEL

Okay, you've all filled out your releases, now who's ready to try out for "Who's Tougher than a Five Foot Millionaire?"

The kids look confused. Mike notices one has a sandwich and dives for it, but Miracle has appeared and covered it with pine sol.

INT. TEACHERS LOUNGE - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

SUE

Nonetheless, Helen, you've been chosen. Of course you will most likely be missing the game.

HELEN

Great, first the Daytime Emmys party gets cancelled and now this.

MIRACLE

You know, for what it's worth, I've heard that this school is built on an old Micmac Indian burial ground so there's always the chance that you'll unlock the secrets of living your life over again.

HELEN

(more annoyed) Great, so I'll have to dig for it twice.

WILLARD

You know, I don't mind missing the game. I can dig for it.

SUE

Oh, please, you wouldn't know which end of the shovel to hold.

WILLARD

Which end of the what, now?

SUE

So. Anything else?

Yeah, I just wanted to say that I'm really glad that we're winking in these meetings now because it makes it a lot of fun. And I can't say I completely get why we're winking, but let's just keep it up. Great! (winks. No reaction. A moment, then) Okay, I see no one's winking anymore and I just wanted to say that I'm secretly glad we've stopped because I never quite "got" why we were doing it in the first place.

Larry reenters with pill bottle as teachers file out.

SUE

Larry, you better go easy on the steroids. Stuart's starting to act a little unstable.

LARRY

I haven't given them to him yet.

SUE

Okay, well let's get moving on that.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - LATER

Students practice in the extreme foreground while Larry and Stuart watch from the sidelines.

LARRY

This is unbelievable. These guys just keep getting worse. (calling out) Come on! Stay on your man! He's only twenty-three for God's sake.

Larry shares a look of disbelief with Stuart, who joins in.

STUART

Don't look at him! Look at me! That's right, now look at him! Now wave to him! Okay, wave to that other guy! Where are the smiles, gentleman?

Stuart shares a look of disbelief with Larry.

LARRY

You've never coached before, have you Stuart?

STUART

Not technically. I've <u>co</u>ated things. With VapoRub or what have you, but to me that's not exactly the same as "coaching."

LARRY

But, you feel okay?

STUART

Oh, I feel great. I think it was those vitamins you gave me.

LARRY

Good, and how do your testicles feel?

Stuart reflects. We see a series of three quick cutaways.

- 1.) INT. CLASSROOM. Stuart walks into the corner of metal desk, crotch first. No reaction.
- 2.) EXT. COURTYARD. Stuart borrows a skateboard from a kid and attempts to good-naturedly ride down a handrail, like the others. The board slips away and Stuart slams down crotch first and slides the remainder rimming onto a trash can with the words "Evapo-TAB! The System-Wide Sniffle Stopper! '...if you can blink or swallow, you're not taking Evapo-TAB.'"
- 3.) EXT. FIELD. Stuart is coaching when a wild-eyed Mike Darnell rushes up with a camera crew and kicks him in the nuts. Back to present.

You know, they really don't. I got a little bit of a tickle when that three-quarter scale programming genius launched a Ferragamo into my yam-sack... but no... I guess the vapo-rub's doing it's job. (then) Thanks for asking.

Stuart hugs Larry. Larry looks confused. We rack focus to find Andrew watching, seething.

INT. SUE'S OFFICE - LATER

Sue is talking into a Dictaphone, when Andrew enters.

SUE

...also the staff needs to know that my door is always open...

ANDREW

Acting Principal Sezno? Can I talk to you for a second?

Sue holds up a polite finger while she finishes her thoughts.

SUE

...so have Happy install a locking latch so people don't just come in unannounced.

Sue clicks off the Dictaphone, then answers Andrew's question.

SUE (CONT'D)

No.

ANDREW

I'd like to work with the girls.

SUE

Well, that's a change.

ANDREW

The cheerleaders. I told them I'll be taking over the squad.

SUE

Oh, Andrew. Must you have?

ANDREW

I don't "must I have'd" I have to'd. I want to contribute, not that I'm saying I'm a better rallier than Stuart, but obviously he does something for Larry. I've also offered to do things for Larry, but he's obviously not fluent in the language of double-entendre. Or "saying something that's secret or super-sexy, but that seems regular."

SUE

I'm familiar with the term.

ANDREW

Oh, goody. So, have I not your blessing?

SUE

No.

ANDREW

I'll take that as a yes! Isn't it funny how when you speak grammatically correct it sometimes wouldn't've had hadn't a sound incorrect?

Andrew shake his head at the wonderful puzzle of it and exits. Sue returns to the Dictaphone.

Let's also get Andrew on steroids.

INT. CLASSROOM - LATER THAT WEEK

Willard is drilling his German class.

WILLARD

It's been a Again guys, come on. whole semester and we're not even out of the A's. "Auf Wiedersehen." One of the most basic German phrases there is. "Goodbye."

STUDENTS

(barely) Goodbye.

WILLARD

No, that was the English. And some of you got that wrong. Just "Auf"... Say "Auf"

STUDENTS

(various, lifeless) Auf...

WILLARD

Auf!

STUDENTS Auf. Auf...

Stuart is passing the class and looks in to see the students say their 'Auf's. He bursts through the door, outraged.

STUART

How dare you laugh at this man! Your laughter makes me sick! It doesn't even sound like laughter! Yes, Mr. Deutschebog buys pornography!

STUART (CONT'D)

Yes, he's chosen some obscure titles like "Nothing but Fuzz," "Wet and Jiggly" and "Giant Prawns." But he's a homely little gripper and you have no right to judge him!

Stuart storms out. Willard is stunned. Stuart bursts back in looking through the sack of pornography.

STUART (CONT'D)
Sorry, "Giant Prawns" is one of his cooking magazines. So, instead of that one let's say... (riffles through titles) "Squatting."

Stuart exits. The students explode in laughter.

ANGLE ON: Stuart outside the door.

STUART (CONT'D)

At least that sounds like laughter.

EXT. FIELD - CONTINUOUS

Helen is surrounded by several holes that she's dug. Sue approaches.

SUE

Hello, Helen. Any luck?

HELEN

Oh, please. I know that you get off on making me look foolish.

SUE

There's nothing foolish about digging holes, Helen. Lots of bugs and stupid people and small rodents do it every day and they're certainly not foolish except for the stupid people.

HELEN

You just don't want me at the game.

Of course I don't. You're the reason we had to put up all these stupid signs.

Sue gestures to a banner; "DON'T LET A TEACHER GIVE YOU AN 'F': It won't be a great time, When you end up on Dateline."

HELEN

Okay! I'm sorry! I flirted a little bit with a student! I was going to surprise him.

You spent three days in his locker!

HELEN
Well, obviously that wasn't my original plan.

INT. LOCKER - DAY FLASHBACK

A nervous Helen is crouched. We hear footsteps approaching.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Mamoud with a fumigation tank on his bank sprays past a row of lockers. We hear a THUMP from within one of them.

EXT. FIELD - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

HELEN

Besides, he's in his twenties. I think his son goes here!

SUE

Just find the capsule. I thought you were going to ask Happy to help you.

HELEN

I did. He started digging a hole with a backhoe and I haven't seen him since. He's just making one giant hole. God knows where he is now.

INT. TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS

Happy is digging horizontally now and comes to something hard. He brushes the dirt off what appears to be a sign.

ANGLE ON: Sign. It reads "MICMAC INDIAN BURIAL TEMPLE (AND KINO!) SECRETS OF IMMORTALITY CONTAINED WITHIN. DO NOT ENTER!"

Music swells as we fade out.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. TUNNEL - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

Happy reads the sign "MYSTICAL INDIAN BURIAL TEMPLE. SECRETS OF IMMORTALITY CONTAINED WITHIN. DO NOT ENTER!"

Instead, unfazed, he begins digging in another He doesn't. direction.

EXT. FIELD - CONTINUOUS WITH BEFORE

Helen is there with Sue.

I have no idea where he is now.

SUE

Probably half way to that vulnerable chemical plant down the hill.

HELEN

Boy for a Mexican he sure can dig a bunker.

INT. SCHOOL COURTYARD - LATER THAT DAY

Stuart and Larry are returning from the field.

LARRY

Well, that was another disastrous practice.

STUART

Yes, but on the plus side I think I've got the defensive linemen being a lot more open and, frankly, a lot less defensive.

Larry notices Miracle across the way.

LARRY

Oh, great. There she is. Miracle. An angel whose eyes are like...lips sucking on my...soul's neck.

STUART I could never get my wife to Really? do that.

LARRY

I wish I knew how to talk to her. But I always end up blowing it like the stupid PE teacher that I am.

STUART

Really? I could never get my PE teacher to do that. Look, maybe it's just the vitamins talking, but you want to see this girl, you know?

STUART (CONT'D)

And...(tearing up) she probably wants to see you... (more tears) and I want to see you see her and watch the love happen!

Stuart is overcome.

LARRY

You're really a good guy, you know that Stuart?

STUART

...or I could maybe film it, so I've got a copy, in case one of us is ever unavailable, but you need to tell her how you feel!

Stuart sobs. Then pops some vitamins. Larry looks concerned. And a little guilty.

LARRY

Listen, Stuart... I don't feel right about this. There's something I didn't tell you about those vitamins before. They're actually drugs. Happy found them in a kid's locker.

Stuart spits them out.

STUART

A <u>locker</u>! Did Sue put you up to this?

LARRY

Okay, now you're being paranoid. But yes, she did.

STUART

Well, they're probably just megasedatives, or anti-sociopaths. Was there a sleepy looking raccoon on the bottle?

LARRY

No, we think they're steroids. Look, I feel awful about it. But she made me try them out on you before we could give them to the kids -- to help them win.

STUART

Well, I guess if it's for the kids. But isn't it true they cause birth defects?

T.ARRY

Only in babies.

STUART

Well, as long as I'm out of the danger zone. (then, all bravado) Now go. Talk to that girl!

Stuart sends Larry off, who approaches Miracle.

LARRY

Oh, hey Miracle.

MIRACLE

Hi. Here's a list of all the students that are involved in the four day famine. Just in case some are in your class.

Larry looks at the list.

LARRY

That's a familiar name.

MIRACLE

Oh, yeah. He's been here for years. He's a freshman.

LARRY

With red hair? (off nod) You've got "Red Haired Man" on your famine? (reads on) You've got half of my football team on this list. No wonder they've been so lethargic. Why would you do this?

MIRACLE

Look, Larry. I'm idealistic, okay? That means I believe in doing things that are unrealistic or have no effect. That's who I am!

LARRY

But this was our chance to shine. You've destroyed this with your stupid famine! You idiot! You're a total idiot!

Miracle runs off, upset. Stuart approaches.

STUART

So, did you tell her how you feel about her?

Larry realizes that he forgot.

LARRY

Oh, shoot.

Larry looks after her, but she's gone. Stuart pops another pill. Then cries. Larry looks concerned.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - THAT NIGHT

The game is underway and not going well. Sue approaches Helen, who is feverishly digging.

SUE

Helen, you know that if you'd like to take a break and watch the game I'd be happy to let you stay late and get back to the digging.

Helen looks up from her latest pit. She's muddy and loving it.

HELEN

I've never felt more alive!

SUE

Oh, great. Well, then keep up the digging.

ANGLE ON Stuart: who has arrived and spots Willard who is keeping a low profile out of the view of the students. Stuart waves him over. Willard nervously waves him off - pointing to Sue nearby. Stuart waves him over again. Willard shakes his head and indicates "no". Stuart calls out.

STUART

Deutschebog! Willard! Come over here! Willard Deutschebog! Willard Deutschebog the German teacher!

We hear a murmur from the students. Willard rushes out to keep Stuart from drawing more attention.

WILLARD

What.

STUART

Mission accomplished.

WILLARD

Great.

Willard starts off.

STUART

I got rid of that "package" we talked about.

WILLARD

Wonderful.

Willard starts off again.

STUART

They'll never find it in a hundred

Stuart raises his hands to high five, but Willard's gone.

STUART (CONT'D) (calling after) Um...you're welcome for hiding your porno, Willard!

Stuart storms off in a huff. Willard looks up, concerned.

ANGLE ON: Students in the stands. They begin chanting in unison;

STUDENTS

Porno! Porno! Porno! Porno!

Amid the chanting, Willard notices Sue approaching. Trying to cover up the situation, Willard joins in the chanting, but slowly changes the stress on the chant.

WILLARD

Porno! Porn-no! Porn! No Porn! No Porn! No Porn! ("notices" Sue) Oh, hi, Sue. Never too early to keep the kids away from the horrors of pornography.

I see. Well, keep up the weird work.

ANGLE ON Larry, watching his athletes play football in the extreme foreground.

LARRY

Come on guys, don't let the hunger get to you. The score is tied. We can win this thing.

A HOT DOG VENDOR passes by.

HOT DOG VENDOR Hot dogs! Moist hot delicious hot Hot Dogs.

ANGLE ON: Football field. The RED HAIRED MAN is about to release the football, but, famished, looks up to hot dog vender instead. He is immediately and brutally tackled.

ANGLE ON: Stuart approaches Larry.

LARRY

Oh, come on. Don't look over here!

STUART

Yeah, look at the other guy! Now look over here! Now tell him how you feel about him.

Stuart stifles a cry.

LARRY

Maybe, I should have given them the steroids. They just didn't seem to work for you.

STUART

Well, maybe they just need a little encouragement. A little support. You shouldn't be afraid to show them your feminine side.

Stuart takes off his jacket and it becomes clear that he has developed female breasts which are visible through his shirt. Larry notices. Stuart hasn't.

LARRY

Right.

STUART

We've all got a feminine side, you

LARRY

I've heard that said.

ANGLE ON: Andrew coaching a few listless and lethargic cheerleaders -- a few sneeze.

ANDREW

Come on, what's the matter with you? We're in the final moments of the game here. (off sneeze) And that's enough with the sneezing! What, did no one get their flu shots?

A CHEERLEADER passes out.

ANDREW (CONT'D)
All right, I'm going to show these students what rallying really is.
And I just might show "assistant coach" Stuart while I'm at it.

Andrew struts out to the foot of the stands. He stands stock still for a moment, arms at his sides, then.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

Hit it!

We hear a click and then the sounds of a radio Announcer.

RADIO ANNOUNCER

Head on, apply directly to the forehead! Head on, apply directly to the forehead! Head on...

Andrew commences a funky dance.

ANDREW

(to self) Come on, notice me. Notice me!

The students stare off at something in the distance.

ANDREW (CONT'D)

What... What's everybody looking at.

Andrew looks over to see Stuart, who has grabbed a megaphone and is calling to the crowd.

Come on, guys. Let's show the boys what we think of them. Jump up and down, everybody!

Stuart jumps up and down, his new breasts freely swinging.

STUART (CONT'D)

Let's shake those shoulders people!

The crowd is in shock. Stuart shakes his shoulders now in SLOW MOTION.

ANDREW

Well, I can't compete with that. (then) But I can ask it out.

Andrew crosses off to do so.

ANGLE ON: Football field. An OPPOSING ATHLETE is distracted by Stuart's energetic pendulousness. He drops the ball and a red haired Baiter scoops it up and runs the ball the other way.

LARRY

It's working, Stuart. We've got the ball. We could win this!

The Baiter tears down field with the ball. The teachers cheer and hoot. They're going to win!

Suddenly the Red Haired Man drops deep into a sinkhole, and the football scatters. The OPPOSING ATHLETE grabs the ball and now takes it all the way to the other end of the field.

Happy peers out from the hole.

HAPPY

Melema bis' a-aba sho kar mahe-ofa... Sha-vach!

TRANSLATOR (dispassionate) I still remain in the arena of the the infidels. Defecation.

Happy crosses off, unhappy.

LARRY (CONT'D) We don't have a chance. There's no one on the field to stop them.

Suddenly, and seemingly from nowhere, an over-vitalized Helen charges at the opposing athlete and tackles him on the five yard line. The whistle blows. The game is over.

All the teachers join in the celebration. Stuart leaps as Happy passes.

HAPPY

(broken English) Nice breast.

That's odd. (then) I guess "breast" is Spanish for "ass."

Back to the celebration. All are chanting "We won! We won!"

LARRY

We won! We won!

INT. TEACHER'S LOUNGE - THE NEXT DAY

Sue is addressing the faculty. Helen is absent.

SUE

No, it turns out we lost. Apparently there's some sort of State athletic standard that disallows game winning tackles by school librarians.

LARRY

I was actually surprised to see that had come up before.

ANDREW

This was my fault. I should have done more work with the cheerleaders.

LARRY

It wasn't your fault, Andrew. If anything it was that moron Miracle's fault with her thick-headed famine.

Miracle hangs her head ashamed. Larry mouths "I love you."

STUART

Besides Andrew, you did a great job. You know how kids are. They don't want quality dance. At that age they just want to stare at my heaving breasts. (then) Well, these are new.

SUE

Yes, I think I've gotten to the bottom of this. It seems Miracle misidentified some pills that Stuart was taking as steroids, when, in fact, they were female hormone replacements.

MIRACLE

That's the word I was looking for.

SUF

Of course we still don't know who they belonged to. And we certainly don't want to embarrass anyone.

Helen enters covered in mud holding a bound package.

HELEN

I found the time capsule!

The Teachers cheer as Helen starts cutting it open.

SUE

Nice job, Helen. Oh, by the way, when you were crouching in that boys locker you left your hormone replacement pills.

HELEN

Oh, yeah...I stopped taking those. (then) I guess that explains my recent love of tackling and digging.

STUART

So, if I stop taking the pills these hideous breasts will go away?

SUE

I assume so.

A moment as Stuart thinks about this. Then proudly decides;

STUART

Then I'm going to stop taking them.

Sue rolls her eyes. Helen has unwrapped the package.

HELEN

I give you, the time capsule.

Applause as Sue reaches in and pulls out some magazines. reads the titles, appalled.

SUE

"Pacific Rim?"..."The Knob Hobbyist?"..."Spurts Illustrated?"

STUART

Wow. I can't believe you found that so quickly. I just had Happy bury all that pornography yesterday for Willard.

All eyes turn to a feebly defensive Willard.

WILLARD

Actually, "Pacific Rim" is a cooking magazine.

SUE

Oh, Willard. You poor lonely man. (then) You're fired.

Willard is devastated. He looks to Stuart. Stuart winks.

END OF ACT THREE