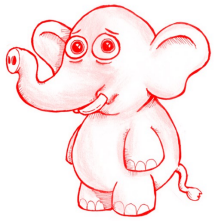


# The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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## Martin Luther King’s Legacy an Example for All Generations



**By Robert Gaudio**  
**Tusker Tribune Staff Writer**

Martin Luther King, Jr was a civil rights activist during a time of civil unrest.

He delivered the famous "I have a dream speech" where he spoke about his dream of an America where everyone was equal. Martin Luther King was tragically assassinated in 1968. But his legacy still lives on.



Many Americans wanted a holiday for this national hero. It took many years and compromises to get the national holiday

that many people wanted. The holiday was first to set to be on Dr. King's birthday, January 15th. However it was changed to the third Monday of January due to opposition feeling the holiday was too close to Christmas and the New Year's Day holidays.

President Ronald Reagan signed the legislation in 1983, making Martin Luther King Jr. Day an official national holiday.

Martin Luther King Jr Day is celebrated by all Americans, nationwide, to honor one of the brave men who fought to bring equality and justice to millions.

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**Nitin Seshadri**  
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**250 Route 202**  
**Somers, NY, USA.**  
 Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean Pappas at **DPappas@somersschools.org**

## My Take on Frog Dissection



**By Sabrina Cheung**  
**Tusker Tribune Staff Writer**

Yesterday and today, all 7th grade science classes at SMS engaged in the annual science rite of passage—frog dissection!

Yes, I know. Very scary and gross. But in my opinion, I think it is really cool. They buy some frogs, we cut them open and see what’s inside. I



asked people what they think about it and they were like...

“No I can’t! I would totally pass out and throw up!”

And I was like, “ok cool, I hope we do it soon. I am

excited to, but also a bit nervous because I hope it’s not TOO gross.”

*Continued on page 2*



## “Uranium” (Chapter 5)

### A NaNoWriMo Story



**By Nitin Seshadri**  
**Tusker Tribune Staff Writer**

*Editor's Note: Somers Middle School Eighth Graders have been writing novels during the school year for the NaNoWriMo program. The name is short for National Novel Writing Month. Nitin Seshadri, a Tusker Tribune Staffer, will be presenting his NaNoWriMo entry chapter by chapter in the Tusker Tribune. Chapter 5 of his novel, “Uranium”, appears today.*

*Beep...beep...beep...*

Andrew woke up on a bed, in a dingy room with four white walls and a humming fluorescent light.

Where am I? he thought. He didn't know. Andrew looked around a spotted some beds to his left and right. On one of them was Derek. He was sleeping soundly, and appeared to be dreaming. Andrew looked to his left and saw that Andrea was sleeping as well. Andrew hopped out of the bed onto the cold, hard wooden floor and woke up Andrea. She was startled as well.

"Where am I?" she said.

"How am I supposed to know?" he replied. Derek, by now, had woken up. "Huh? Where am I?" Derek asked to no one in particular.

Just then a nurse walked in. She started droning on about where this place was. It was an underground hospital and they were the only ones in it. They could not go through the Employees Only door nor could they go through the Above-ground door. It had (apparently) been one month since the collision. Andrew wondered how he could have slept that long. Besides, this room was barren. There were only a few dirty green couches and a computer.



Derek walked over to the computer and tried to turn it on. *Duh*, Andrew thought. *How the heck should it work?* Sure enough, it didn't. Derek shut it down and plopped on to the couch, which made a loud whining noise as if it wanted to break into two. *So much for that.* Andrea was trying to look for her phone.

"What happened to my phone?" she asked Andrew.

"I don't know. Mine's gone too," he replied.

"We took them away. The radiation from a cell phone can damage your body. As is, you just survived an asteroid impact. We don't need you to die," the nurse, who was still there, explained.

"How long until I get my phone again?" Andrea asked.

"You won't need it. The Internet won't work. All the cell towers were wiped out. You won't be able to use Facebook, Instagram, or whatever 'social networks' you Earthlings use," said the nurse as she walked out. "I'll be back with your dinner in a few moments."

The nurse left, got their dinner, and burst through the Employees Only door again a moment later as if she was a football player scoring a touchdown.

She served a particularly rotten-smelling dinner. "Enjoy your dinner!" she chirped as she left. Andrea took one bite of the food and exploded. "Ugh! This food SUCKS! Who would even call this healthy?" exclaimed Andrea.

"I don't know. This is probably the only food they have with that asteroid and everything," Derek replied.

"I guess so. Wonder where this crap even comes from..." pondered Andrew.

And with that, they all turned off their lights and went to bed. Andrew fell asleep instantly.

## Frog

*Continued from page 1*

While everyone else worries about what the frog's intestines look like, I think about how much bigger ours are. (I also think about someone fainting, but...who knows).

I think everyone is worrying too much because they are afraid the organs may be all slimy

and stuff, but honestly, it's not that big of a deal. All you do is take a knife and slit open the chest to see what surprise the frog has prepared for you.

If you are reading this, and in 7th grade waiting to complete the dissection, just know that it's not going to be as bad as it looks. Just do a quick look, and if it's really that hard to see, then just let others have all the fun! Anyway, I was so ready to see my surprise. It was like a late Christmas gift.



## Movie Review: **Back to the Future**

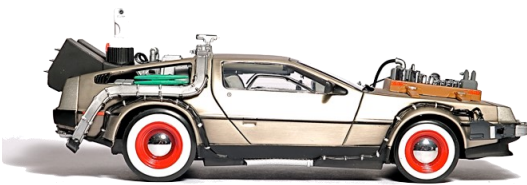


By Sara Vala  
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

As a big fan of action movies, I really don't like movies rated PG. Especially today's movies, which involve horrible plots, and freaky characters.

These days, it seems like PG movies are at their all-time worst. But recently, I've seen a particular PG movie that was pure genius. It was a perfect blend of science fiction, action, and comedy. Best of all, it wasn't animated. And this movie was called, "Back To The Future".

Now, this is a very, very, **very** popular movie that many people love. Personally, I am now going to be officially obsessed for the next few weeks or so. Anyway, here is the summary: Marty McFly is just your average 1985 teenager. With his good old friend Doc Brown, the two loved to test out Doc's experiments. His biggest one? A



time machine made out of a DeLorean car. But when the two are attacked, Marty tries

to escape in the time machine, accidentally going back in time, to 1955. Now, Marty has to get back to his time, without ultimately destroying the future.

Along the way, he meets his teenage parents, some bullies, and plenty of other familiar faces. With the help of 1955 Doc, can Marty get back to the future? (Pun intended)

On a scale from 1-10, this is probably a 9.5. The Rotten Tomato Rating was 96%, and the most shocking part of all, the movie was made in 1985. Sure, some of you might not be so shocked, but some movies in the late 1900s were really bad/scary. \*Cough\* It \*Cough\*

But this movie was actually very surprising. I loved how they blended comedy, science fiction, adventure, action, and mild swearing into a great movie. The only part I didn't like was how confusing the time travel concept was. It took forever to understand it.

Well, that's all the time I have for today. Thank you for reading, and please check it out.



## SPORTS UPDATE



By Eli Yates  
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

Over winter break on December 20, the NFL announced the Pro Bowl Rosters which will be played at Camping World Stadium in Orlando, Florida this coming Sunday at 8:00 PM.

The Atlanta Falcons have 6 players chosen for the Pro Bowl, which is the most in the NFC. Three of those players are offensive quarterback Matt Ryan, wide receiver Julio Jones and running back Devonta Freeman. However, they'll probably not play now that they're in the Super Bowl.

Rookies Dak Prescott and Ezekiel Elliott have helped the Cowboys win their division, and the Cowboys have five players playing in the Pro Bowl.



The Pittsburgh Steelers and the Tennessee Titans are the other two teams to have five players each playing in the Pro Bowl.

Chiefs kick returner Tyreek Hill, who's a rookie and took over the starting position at running back when Jamal Charles got hurt on November 1st, is the only rookie to make it to the Pro Bowl.

Patriots quarterback Tom Brady was selected to his 11th career Pro Bowl which is the most pro bowl selections for anyone playing right now. However, he won't be playing now that the Patriots are in the Super Bowl.

Cardinals wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald also made the NFC roster for the eighth time.

*Continued on page 4*

# Pro Bowl

From page 3

This season's Pro Bowl will feature a return to the traditional AFC vs. NFC game format following three years using a revised, unconfederated format. Here are the rosters.

## AFC Pro Bowl Roster

### Offense

**Wide receiver:** Antonio Brown\*, Steelers; Amari Cooper\*, Raiders; A.J. Green, Bengals; T.Y. Hilton, Colts

**Tackle:** Joe Thomas\*, Browns; Donald Penn\*, Raiders; Taylor Lewan, Titans

**Guard:** Marshal Yanda\*, Ravens; Kelechi Osemele\*, Raiders; David DeCastro, Steelers

**Center:** Rodney Hudson\*, Raiders; Maurkice Pouncey, Steelers

**Tight end:** Travis Kelce\*, Chiefs; Delanie Walker, Titans

**Quarterback:** Tom Brady\*, Patriots; Derek Carr, Raiders; Ben Roethlisberger, Steelers

**Running back:** Le'Veon Bell\*, Steelers; DeMarco Murray, Titans; LeSean McCoy, Bills

**Fullback:** Kyle Juszczyk\*, Ravens

### Defense

**Defense end:** Khalil Mack\*, Raiders; Cameron Wake\*, Dolphins; Jadeveon Clowney, Texans

**Interior linemen:** Geno Atkins\*, Bengals; Ndamukong Suh\*, Dolphins; Jurrell Casey, Titans

**Outside linebacker:** Von Miller\*, Broncos; Lorenzo Alexander\*, Bills; Brian Orakpo, Titans

**Inside/middle linebacker:** Dont'a Hightower\*, Patriots; C.J. Mosley, Ravens

**Cornerback:** Marcus Peters\*, Chiefs; Aqib Talib\*, Broncos; Casey Hayward, Chargers; Chris Harris, Broncos

**Free safety:** Devin McCourty\*, Patriots; Reggie Nelson, Raiders

**Strong safety:** Eric Berry\*, Chiefs

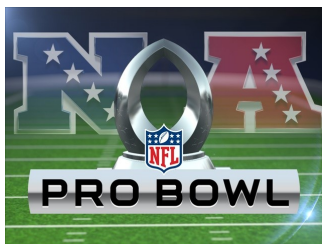
### Special Teams

**Punter:** Pat McAfee\*, Colts

**Kicker:** Justin Tucker\*, Ravens

**Return specialist:** Tyreek Hill\*, Chiefs

**Special teamer:** Matthew Slater\*, Patriots



## NFC Pro Bowl Roster

### Offense

**Wide receiver:** Julio Jones\*, Falcons; Odell Beckham\*, Giants; Mike Evans, Buccaneers; Larry Fitzgerald, Cardinals

**Tackle:** Tyron Smith\*, Cowboys; Trent Williams\*, Redskins; Jason Peters, Eagles

**Guard:** Zack Martin\*, Cowboys; Brandon Scherff\*, Redskins; T.J. Lang, Packers

**Center:** Travis Frederick\*, Cowboys; Alex Mack, Falcons

**Tight end:** Greg Olsen\*, Panthers; Jordan Reed, Redskins

**Quarterback:** Matt Ryan\*, Falcons; Aaron Rodgers, Packers; Dak Prescott, Cowboys

**Running back:** Ezekiel Elliott\*, Cowboys; David Johnson, Cardinals; Devonta Freeman, Falcons

**Fullback:** Mike Tolbert\*, Panthers

### Defense

**Defensive end:** Everson Griffen\*, Vikings; Cliff Avril\*, Seahawks; Michael Bennett, Seahawks

**Interior linemen:** Aaron Donald\*, Rams; Gerald McCoy\*, Buccaneers; Fletcher Cox, Eagles

**Outside linebacker:** Vic Beasley\*, Falcons; Ryan Kerrigan\*, Redskins;

Thomas Davis, Panthers

**Inside/middle linebacker:** Bobby Wagner\*, Seahawks; Luke Kuechly, Panthers

**Cornerback:** Janoris Jenkins\*, Giants; Patrick Peterson\*, Cardinals;

Richard Sherman, Seahawks; Xavier Rhodes, Vikings

**Free safety:** Harrison Smith\*, Vikings; Ha Ha Clinton-Dix, Packers

**Strong safety:** Landon Collins\*, Giants

**Special teams**

**Punter:** Johnny Hekker\*, Rams

**Kicker:** Matt Bryant\*, Falcons

**Return specialist:** Cordarrelle Patterson\*, Vikings

**Special teamer:** Dwayne Harris\*, Giants

• Indicates starter

• NOTE: Patriots and Falcons candidates will not play due to being in the Super

Bowl.

- Roster Courtesy of NFL.com