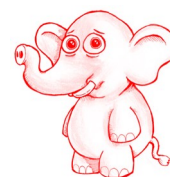


The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Spring 2017

One SMS Tusker's Philosophy on Life



By Samantha Fabry
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

How does this happen? Why is it here? Why do you make me waste my time on something that is unneeded?

I waste all my money on random things that my inner self is just telling me to get. However, I really never end up using them because my obsessions don't last longer than a week.

Well, other than Starbucks.....



if you ever need a refreshment, STARBUCKS IS THE PLACE TO GO!! Green tea lemonade, chocolate chip Frappuccino, iced coffee, raspberry refresher, and so much more that I would probably be yapping about this for months. Ahhhhhh! Just thinking



about makes me hungry. I have even had every drink on the secret menu, too!

And then there's Snapchat! THE DOGE FILTER IS ALWAYS ON POINT. And guys.... we all know that I have the highest score: 148,918 AND STILL GOING UP. I feel like a celebrity with this high of a score. Whoop! Whoop!!

But then there are some obsessions that you should never get into. Like JUST BITING INTO STRING CHEESE!! What has become of this generation, people? It's called "string cheese" for a reason. And also, when eating a Kit Kat, please don't be stupid. There is a thinner piece of chocolate in the middle to break off. Don't be eating it like your STRING CHEESE!!!

Continued on page 6



An Interview with Ethan Hsu



By Colin Brooks
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

Ethan is 12 years and is 7th grader.

When he was born in New York, but when he was young, he moved to Taiwan where his family is from. Ethan enjoys to draw and is a great artist. This year he came from Taiwan to the USA for about a year. Ethan has noticed many differences from Taiwan to America.

Ethan says that one of his hardest things about coming to America is speaking and writing in English and have a good vocabulary. He says that since he has been in



America for the whole school year, he can understand most if not all the English words that people say on a daily basis.

Also, Ethan says that school is very different in Taiwan from SMS. He says that school in Taiwan starts at 7:30 and continues up until 4:00. He says that in Taiwan, the teachers change classes and the students stay in the same classroom for their whole day. In Taiwan, every single day there is a

quiz and he thinks that testing is the main focus of the teachers, which he says is very tiring.

Continued on page 8

Spring Break!

A Poetic Tribute



By Brandon Armstrong
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

School is out!
Planning to do whatever I want,
Rescued from endless hours of work,
Indulging in food, friends, and fun,
Not worrying about due dates or alarm clocks,
Getting to experience new places.

Bringing together friends and family,
Relaxing and really enjoying ourselves.
Experiencing complete happiness and then,
Already starting to feel depressed

Knowing it's all about to come to an end.



Winter Recollections



By Nate Bellio and
Terrence Shalley
Tusker Tribune Staff Writers
Snow falls down with no sound
all around,

you sit and watch the flakes as your
brother stuffs his face with snow,



You lay all
around with snow
on the ground and
a big smirk on your
face.

You build a
fort with many
mean quotes to yell

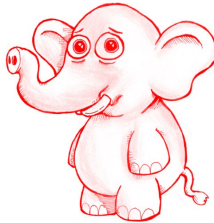
at your friend when

snowballs go whizzing passed
them. You go back in with

frostbite all over and you're sad
that the season is over.

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How Lemonade Changed a Dog's Life



By Conor
McCooey
Tusker
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Writer

One day, I, a
dog, was
waiting with
my owner
who was
running a
lemonade
stand.

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT, my
name is
Chris and I
can speak to
lemonade. I
am a Corgi puppy and
that's right, you heard
me right, I talk to lem-
onade!



Some dogs have
called me Lemonade
Dog, because I... a...
well talk to lemonade.
If you are still so
shocked, please stop

being so
shocked. I
have said it
three times!
All right,
calm down
and listen to
this story.

Now
where was
I...? OH, so
my owner
gave me
some lemon-

ade and I, well, acci-
dently spilled it on my
stuffed chew toy.

Continued on page 6



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The Exploring Adventure of Kids



**By Alexander Dahling
Tusker Tribune Staff
Writer**

A bunch of kids were exploring a haunted hallow one evening. One of the kids was goofing off.

"Come on," said a girl. "No lollygagging." "Sorry," apologized the boy. The gang continued along their way.

"Are we lost?" asked a different boy.

"No," said a different girl. "I've been this way a lot of times."

"Phew," said the first boy. "I thought we were lost."



The gang came across some different paths. "I always like to explore new paths," said the second girl. And they went through the new paths.

The first girl took out a ball of yarn. "Wait," said the second boy, "You carry around a ball of yarn?"

"Well no," said the first girl, "When I heard we were going exploring, I decided to bring it. I have cats you know."

The girl tied an end to a branch and they continued along their way. One of the boys yawned.

"I'm tired," he said, "Can we go back?"

"Sure," said the second girl, "I'm feeling tired too." and the friends walked backwards towards home.



Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher



**By Makenna Comparetto and
Amelia Lopez
Tusker Tribune
Staff Writers**

Amelia: The book Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher is a thrilling story that will keep you at the edge of your seat from the beginning until the end.

The lesson of this book is that your words and actions affect that person. This story shows a possible consequence of bullying, or teasing. I recommend the book Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher, be-



cause it's a great yet interesting life lesson.

Makenna: Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher is hair-raising story that will grip you from the very first page. It's addictive, electrifying, and keeps you on edge.

It has a meaningful message, as well. The moral of this story is that rumors can affect you and be more harmful than you think. All in all, I recom-

mend the book Thirteen Reasons Why by Jay Asher.

'A Cut Above the Rest'—The Story of 'Mr. Sciz'



**By Maggie Hannan and
Julie Rios
Tusker Tribune Staff
Writer**

Mr. Scissors taught at a school in the middle of Idaho. Every morning he woke up at 4:27 and ate pancakes. Then he was the first person to show up at school at 6:30 and stood outside the doors for an hour until the doors opened at 7:30.

Then he would walk up 3 flights of stairs, sit at the top of the staircase, and eat a slice of bread. Then he would walk all the way back down stairs to the cafeteria where he worked. He would then take out his scissors tool box and his

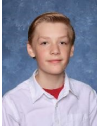


bag of bread. That's when he started making the kids' lunch with his special scissors.

Every day at 7:35, Mr. S had to look at what was for lunch that day. Today it happened to be quesadillas. So Mr. S got the cheese, tortillas and all the ingredients for lunch. Before you knew it, he had made 100 lunches. Every second he would make at least 10 lunches. His special scissors is what were so magical. They worked at lightning speed to cut everything. All he had to do was bake the quesadillas in the oven for 15 minutes. No one knew how he did it. Mr. Sciz made a ridiculous amount of lunches in such a short period of time.

Continued on page 4

Apple Update—iPhone and Apple Watch



By Xander Pedersen
Tusker Tribune
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, March 21 Apple revealed its latest iPhones. That are literally the same as the old ones.

But first, let's get to the less exciting stuff because they also released new bands for the Apple Watch. Honestly, this was just kind of meh. It is kind of cool to have more different colored bands. But, they did not release any stainless steel bands, which was kind of disappointing.

Now let's get to the new iPhones. First up is the iPhone SE and I hear you—"But Xander, they released the iPhone SE last year". I know.



That's why this announcement does not really excite me. The new iPhone SE's only difference to the original is that it has better storage.

The final thing Apple announced March 21 was a red iPhone 7 and 7 Plus. It looks really cool. Yet if you already have

an iPhone 7, you are paying hundred of dollars for the color red. Sure some of it goes to charity, but you could just donate eight hundred dollars to charity.

If you don't have an iPhone 7, it's cool to have a new color option, but if you were not going to buy the iPhone 7 already, you shouldn't buy it just because it's red now. Those are my thoughts on the matter. What are yours?

Xbox or Play Station? An Analysis of the Debate



By Joseph Burgio
Tusker Tribune Staff
Writer

The age-old argument. Is Xbox better or is PlayStation better? Let's start with the features.

The Xbox has Kinect, which is uh...they haven't come out with a new game for Kinect in a while. I guess they forgot about it? I don't know, but the Xbox has Netflix, music, and a bunch of other stuff that isn't gaming.

The PlayStation has VR (virtual reality) which is kind of old news if you ask me. But it also



has PlayStation Vue which is like TV on your console. The Xbox is backwards compatible (you can play games for the 360 on here) but only for some games. There are a LOT of great games. I'm just going to call PlayStation PS4 because it's shorter. So PS4 has this thing called PlayStation Now where you can play PS3 games. There is a little delay when you push the buttons though which can get annoying.

Continued on page 5

Mr. Sciz

From page 3

Later that day, all the kids came running down the stairs. Yeah you guessed it—the dreaded lunchtime had come. Almost every kid loved Mr. Scissors, which made the other people making lunch jealous because nobody liked them.

Everyone would go running up to Mr. S because he made the best lunches. The only reason kids ever bought school lunch was because Mr. S made it taste good.

Obviously, before he came to the school, it had a reputation of being terrible, disgusting and deadly. But he changed that. The food tasted like it had come from a fancy restaurant. He had



made the food so good that the other people making lunch quit their job because nobody compared to Mr. Scissors.

There was this one day at the end of the school year. Everyone was so depressed and mad. Mr. Scissors was leaving to pursue his dream. All the kids cried out saying not to go. But there was no turning back. He was leaving for good.

For his whole life Mr. Sciz had wanted to be a handyman. He already had the skills for it. No kid will ever forget him. But when he left his job making school lunches, his special scissors motivated him to succeed in life because they were amazing. So, why couldn't he be amazing as well?

Looking for a Hero? Give a Call to MOOSE COP!!!



By Noemi Lucciola
Tusker Tribune Staff
Writer

One night, a man walked into the forest and when he came out, it was life changing. He found out he was no man. He was . . . MOOSE COP!!!!!!

The night of the transformation was amazing. This man with no name found an orb that looked like no other. When he went to pick it up, BLAM! He fell to the ground, unconscious.



When he finally regained consciousness, he found that his hands were hoofed, his head had grown antlers, his nose had grown enormous. In fact, for a second, he thought he was Pinocchio!

But that was not to be. He was . . . MOOSE COP!!!!!! By day he's a man, by night he's a moose. Arrest by arrest, he has become a superhero.

He has no name. The only thing he knows is saving good people and killing bad people. Moose Cop is amazing! Whenever you're in danger, he will find you and save you!

7th Grade 'Will' Part 2!



By Olivia Shea
Tusker Tribune Staff
Writer

Editor's Note: Olivia Shea continues in this issue what Avery and Alisa started last issue—that is, to list what would be left behind, or “bequeathed” to future SMS students once she graduates from the 8th grade.

When I move on in school I would like to bequeath my tablet charger to all of the people who come to school every day with a dead tablet no matter how many times they are told to charge it every night.

I would also like to bequeath all of my pens and pencils to all the kids who decide never to bring a pencil to class and always ask you for a



pencil every day and never give it back at the end of the class. Like where is the pencil I gave you yesterday?...and the day before that....and the day before that.....etc.

My backpack will go to the kids who carry a whole library's worth of books around with them to every class.

Oh and I would also like to bequeath my tablet to the kids who have had a loaner tablet since last year. It would also be for kids who, for some reason, don't even have a tablet and

have no explanation for it.

I will bequeath all my old hall passes to the kids who never have a pass and then get in trouble. Lastly, I would like to bequeath my locker to the kids who carry backpacks around the school for no reason.

Xbox vs Playstation

From page 4

So for the controller, it really just comes down to your preference. The PS4 has a touchpad at the top of the controller, and two thumbsticks at the bottom. The d-pad is on the left and the buttons are on the right. The Xbox has the d-pad on the bottom left and the thumbsticks are on the top left and bottom right. The buttons are on the right and there is a home button at the



top.

What it's come down to are the graphics and the exclusives. They're both pretty much the same graphics so don't worry about that. The exclusives for PS4 are good, the exclusives for Xbox are good. Same thing. They're both pretty much the same consoles just re-skinned and

slightly different games and features. They're both equal.

Ode to 'Mrs. S.'



By **Diana Antonecchia and Emma Murphy**
Tusker Tribune Staff Writers

Buffalo Bills and Shamrock Shakes.

A teacher who is crazy and exciting; can make you laugh or make you cry.

A teacher who loves yoga and guacamole.

A teacher who is crazy about the

A teacher who teaches but is thrilling; serious but funny, sarcastic but realistic, a teacher who is everyone's favorite; she will scream through a megaphone right in your face; she will stand on your desk and laugh in your face

A teacher who is the best teacher of all!



Philosophy

From page 1

And lastly, please, just please, never obsess over school. That's the worst possible. I mean come on, it's our jail and the teachers torture us with tests on Fridays and the mystery meatloaf. I mean what even is the ingredient called IEID? I think it stands for "if eaten, instant death." No wonder Chloe hasn't been in school.

Or what about the milk there that whenever

you take a sip out of it there is a huge random chunk in it. WHO KNOWS WHAT THAT COULD BE!! Maybe your friend Billy dumped his old cat hair in their because you took the last red velvet cake on Tuesday. And on the side next to the cow that was paid to look happy, it says "100% real milk". Seems promising...

Obsessions can be good or bad. But honestly, how can you choose school over Starbucks? And please, string cheese is NOT an option.

War



By **Ethan Like**
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer
I'm loading my rifle. It's as heavy as brick.

We are marching onto the battlefield where we will conquer! Bullets start to fly and I hit the ground with a thud.

I see an enemy in my scope. Bam, he's done. My companions are next to me. We are unstoppable!



Next thing I know one of them has been shot. One by one my companions are being shot.

I am now the only one left, Boom! I have been shot.

Slowly I fade into the light. But to my surprise, more of my soldiers are coming to take back the battlefield



A medic comes over to me and helps me. I stay in

the fight till it's over.

Finally, it is over and we have WON!

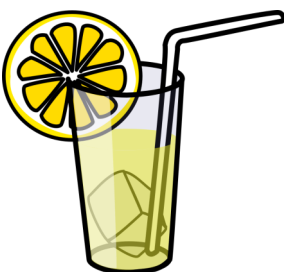
Lemonade

From page 2

I was in the middle of being angry when I heard the words, "HEY DOWN HERE!!" come out of nowhere.

I looked all over for the source but I could not find it. Then realized it was the toy. I had spilled the lemonade on my toy and now it was TALKING TO ME!!!

"Um... yes?" I said to the toy not understanding how it was talking to me.



"I have heard of you and I wanted to see if it was true," he said.

"To see if what is true?"

"To see if you were true."

"Me? Why wouldn't I be true?"

"Because Chris, you are the only dog who can talk to lemonade."

I was in shock "No other dog can talk to lemonade!?"

"Yes."

"But I thought there might be another." "No, not ever but remember this before this story gets too long—you are special."

From that point on I kept saying I was special to myself.

SPORTS UPDATE



By Eli Yates
Tusker Tribune Staff
Men's and Women's NCAA
B-Ball Roundup

It's all over. The UConn women's basketball team lost to Mississippi 66-64 in the final four at a buzzer beater shot. UConn's streak was 111 and UConn beat the record earlier in the year with 100 wins after passing their own record of 90 wins. UConn's last loss was in November, 2014.

For the men, on April 1st, it was the final 4. In the Gonzaga- South Carolina Game, Gonzaga won by 2 points by grabbing Sindarius Thornwell's free-

throw.



Then, in the UNC-Oregon game, UNC pulled away by first getting Kennedy Meeks' missed free throw, and then getting Joel Berry's free throw that he missed.

In the finals, with 27 seconds left, North Carolina hit a 2-pointer after being up by one. When Nigel Williams-Goss shot a 3-pointer to tie it, he got blocked and North Carolina won.

North Carolina was also in the finals last year but they lost at the buzzer to Villanova who lost to Wisconsin in the round of 32.

Finally, in the UNC-Gonzaga matchup, UNC took it 71-65.

The Day the Guardians Died (A Brief Adventure Tale)



By Michael Carlson
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

One day a fierce knight went into the Hyrule castle. The knight's name was Crota son of Oryx, the Taken King. He was imprisoned by the guardians, and Crota was the only one who could save his father. His sword could break through anything, even through steel 6 inches thick.

When Crota stepped into the castle, he saw three guardians with big weapons in their hands. He stared at them, said "Hi", and killed them all with one swing of his sword.

"I could do this in my sleep," Crota mumbled to himself. As he got closer to where his dad was being held, he felt he was being watched.



Then he turned around!

He saw Lord Saladin and the other seven iron lords (who were the strongest guardians alive), so he called in a few of his friends—Golgeroth (an ogre) Warpriest (strong guard) and his two crazy sisters who used magic for all kinds of crazy situations.

They engaged in an awesome battle and the only two still alive at the end of all the fighting were Crota and Saladin. But Crota was not as hurt as Saladin, and when the last blow came, Crota was the last man standing.

Finally, the guardians were all dead and Crota could save his father. When he got to his father's cell and got him out, they teleported back to their base.

The Magic Of Candy



By Jake Riina
Tusker Tribune Staff
Writer

I love candy;
Candy is sweet.

I love candy;
It's a great treat.



I love candy;
Candy is sour.

I love candy;
Every hour.

Softer than a cloud;
A pleasure to the crowd.

I love candy;
Time stops.
Gum drops.

I love candy;
Sour patch.
Chocolate eggs hatch.

I love candy!



Back for One More Invasion?

By Sara Vala
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

You all remember “Invader Zim”. Right? No? Seriously, I feel like I’m the only one who remembers the good stuff.

For those of you who don’t know who Invader Zim is, have you been living under a rock? It was one of the best cartoons on Nickelodeon. Now for some brief history.

“Invader Zim” was a cartoon on Nickelodeon that ran from 2001-2002, and lasted only 27 episodes. It involves the story of an alien invader, Zim. He’s sent to a far-away planet to invade and conquer for his home planet, Irk. And guess which planet he got stuck with. Yup. Earth. And so, he tries, and fails and tries and fails and tries and fails . . . you get the point.

And due to low ratings and disputes amongst Nickelodeon and Zim’s creator, Jhonen Vazquez, this cartoon was cancelled. And for 15 years, we barely heard from it again. Until now. Recently, April 4th 2016, Nick Animation Studios released a commercial with only audio. There we hear Zim talking once more, along with his robot servant, GIR, interrupting. Here are the exact lines.

Zim: People of Earth. Did you really think you’ve seen the last of me? Don’t you know an invader never stops till their mission is complete? I’ve been watching you. Waiting. And, soon, your world will be mine!

Gir: Hehehehe!

Zim: No GIR. I’m being serious!

Gir: But I like your voice. It’s funny.

Zim: I’m not being funny! I’m being, you

know, terrifying and spooky.

Gir: Oooh Okay

Zim: Soon, you’re world will beeEE. Nope. You ruined it GIR. Nice going.

Gir: Awww

And we end with three final words on the screen. “Invading Soon ish”.

Now, what does this all mean? Well, in an article written by Nickelodeon, they’ve stated that “Invader Zim” is returning for one 90 minute TV movie. While we don’t know the release date, fans all over the world are now cheering for joy. Their beloved invader has finally returned, even if it’s only a one time thing. But who knows?

Recently, networks have been rebooting some of their popular, old cartoons. This summer, Disney is reintroducing “DuckTales”, with a whole new cast and a whole new look. Cartoon Network brought “Samurai Jack” back onto their network.

As for Nickelodeon, cartoons like “Hey Arnold!” And “Rocko’s Modern Life”

are making an appearance in the form of a movie, so who knows what’ll return. Maybe we’ll see “Danny Phantom” again. At least, that’s what I’m hoping.

So don’t just sit there. Check out “Invader Zim”, and re-watch some of the old episodes. It’s like reverse Spongebob. “Spongebob” is a light hearted cartoon with an occasional dark themes, but lots of laughs. (Note that this is the old “Spongebob” I’m talking about). And “Invader Zim” is a dark-themed cartoon with the occasional light-hearted humor, but lots of laughs.

And be sure to check out the movie coming soon. When? Well, we just have to wait and see. Wait and see.

Invader Zim, Signing Off.



Ethan Hsu From page 1

Also, Ethan claims that every day at lunch, they have food from a different culture. For example, they have foods from Taiwan, China, Japan, America, Mexico, Italy, etc. According to Ethan, Taiwan has much more homework than in SMS. He said that one day he had 14 assignments due the next day.

Clubs in Taiwan are also very different than the clubs here. Ethan say that clubs in Taiwan

are all academics, but clubs in America is much more fun. He says that the clubs in Taiwan is like more school after school.

Overall, Ethan has noticed man differences between Taiwan and America. I asked Ethan what country's school he liked better. Ethan responded by saying that he was not sure because there are good and bad things about both schools.

He said that, " I think American schools are more free and you can find your hobby easily here. In Taiwan, it is like everyone has to be the same."