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The Visit (The Sequel): Charles R. Smith Entertains SMS 6th Graders

By Sara Vala
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer



On Friday, May 5th, Somers Middle School had an annual visitor stumble by our humble school (Well, not that humble). And who was this person you might ask? Well, he's many things—a poet, a trainer, a photographer, a role model, by the name of Charles R. Smith, Jr.

Mr. Smith swung on by around 9:30 am to talk to me and my fellow sixth graders. He told us his story. His life, his books, his motives, and a bit of advice to some of our future

authors.

From my standpoint, I enjoyed this author. He was fun, interactive, and overall a charismatic guy.

And then, were the activities. You know, eating lunch with the author, writing with him, taking photos with him, that kind of thing. Well, I wrote a letter to join the writer's workshop, and got accepted. And this...is what happened.

I came in to find about 15 people sitting around a table. And blah blah blah, we waited. He came in, said hi. And then, we began. He explained to us that writing is a process in which you dig deeper and

deeper. Or something like that. Basically, what we did, was look for certain objects in the room that fall under certain categories he gave us.

Next, we had to find objects and compare it something else. And finally, we had 5 categories, and we had to put objects into it. One of them was, beverages. I can think of a few like Pepsi, Snapple, Coke, Pitt Cola. Kind of like that. The funny part, was that we were timed, with WWE match times. (Either 3 or 5 minutes) I mean, it was pretty fun!

The one disappointment was that he mainly focused on writing poetry, and I'm not that into poetry. I'll give you that. So, this really didn't help me THAT much. BUT, it was useful to learn about ways to describe objects and create stories evolving from that one simple phrase. Heck, whole stories came to me by my friends saying one little thing to me.



I think that this author's visit was enjoyable and unique. I mean, sure, it was only one, but Mr. Smith was really fun and outgoing. (He also likes Marvel. Woohoo!)

So next time, when an author visits, listen to them. Who knows. They might have something to say that could benefit you in your life.

An Unusual Deer Encounter



By Brendan Muldoon
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

When a deer sees you, it usually runs away right? Well, not in this neighborhood.

When this deer sees you, he will come up right to you. This deer also has a collar. I mean who puts a collar on a deer? Yeah I think I like regular deer more.

The first time I saw this deer was when I was out biking with my friend. We came to a spot in the road where there were thick woods on either side. As we come to that location, we see two ordinary deer, or what we think are ordinary.



When we get closer to them, one runs away to the woods. The other one approaches us. He gets closer and closer and closer. We're pretty creeped out by this time and my friend and I make a run for it past the deer.

When we get a good distance away from the deer we get back on our bikes. As I mount mine, I look back and sure enough, here he comes. This deer followed us the whole way home. We even had to sneak around my house to get him from coming into my house. That would have been a

complete wreck.

So next time you see a deer with a collar you will know.

Summer's Sweet Hello and Quick Goodbye



By Arianna Carchi
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

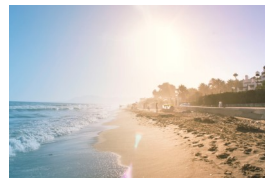
Going to the beach;
Where the sea is blue;
See little white waves
Running at you.

Oh summer how I adore you!
Eating ice cream and snow-
cones with spoons;



Then
staying
up till
midnight;
And
watching
the moon.

Summer is important, it gives
you a
break;
No more
tests and
quizzes to
take.
Summer
gives us
time to relax and play;
I wish it would never go away.



But school is back, no more
breaks;
More and more quizzes to take;
No more time to relax and play;
Summer has already gone
away.

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from

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Why We Play The Game



By TJ Olifiers
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

Football.

Strapping on chin straps
to be as safe as the president;
Running miles to get in shape;
Getting down in the mud and
dirt.

Playing rivals;
Team turns into family;
Being unstoppable.

Season ends after winning the
championship;
Everyone still gets sad because
it's over;
But we're the boys of fall.



SMS End of the Year Calendar

May 18th & 19th: 5th grade visits SMS
 May 24th: ILS Lab Assessment
 May 25th: Living History Day
 May 26th-29th: Schools Closed
 (Memorial Weekend)
 May 29th: Fife and Drum in
 Memorial Day Parade
 June 1st: Chorus/Orchestra
 Concert @7pm
 June 2nd: Chorus to High Note
 Festival
 June 2nd: Harlem Wizards
 June 1st & 2nd: Regents Earth
 Science Lab Practical
 June 5th: ILS Written Assessment
 June 7th: Band Concert @7pm
 June 7th: Special Olympics Dinner Dance @SHS
 (4:00-7:00pm)
 June 8th: Yearbook Distribution
 June 12th-16th: 7th Grade World Language Final
 (one piece per day)
 June 13th: Algebra Regents
 June 14th: 7th Science final
 June 14th & 15th: 7th and 8th Grade Math final



June 15th: Earth Science Regents (PM-students
 report by 11:30am)
 June 16th: 6th Grade Math final
 June 16th: Geometry
 June 16th: 7th Social Studies
 final
 June 16th: 6th & 7th Grade
 Health final
 June 19th: FLACS Exam
 June 19th: 7th Grade Splash-
 down trip
 June 19th: 8th Grade Gradua-
 tion practice; 8th Grade Gradua-
 tion Dance @Villa Barone (7-
 10pm)
 June 20th: *Raindate for 7th Grade Splashdown
 trip
 June 20th: 6th Grade Social Studies final
 June 20th: 8th Grade Lake Compounce trip
 June 21st: 6th Grade Science Final
 June 22nd: ½ day (dismissal at 11:30AM)
 June 22nd: 8th Grade Graduation (2:00PM)
 June 23rd: Last day of school for 6th/7th Grade (1/2
 day – dismissal at 11:30AM)

Champions League Displays Tons of Talent



By Jacques Verrad
 Tusker Tribune
 Staff Writer

The Champions League is underway!

The Champions League is the biggest club soccer tournament in the world. Every round has two games—one home and one away. It is past the group stage and we're into the knockout rounds.

The teams who made it through to the quarterfinals are Real Madrid, FC Barcelona, Dortmund, Bayern Munich, Juventus, Monaco, Leicester City and Atletico Madrid.

Leicester's Story

Leicester City are the biggest underdogs in the tournament. This is their first ever time in the Champions League. Last season they pulled



off one of the biggest up-sets in sports history. The 14-15 season in England was bad for Leicester. They just stayed in the Premier League avoiding relegation.

They placed in 14th. The next year, they WON the league. The chance of this happening was 5000 to 1.

Since they got 1st last year, they are qualified for the Champions League and are surprisingly still in it. Leicester City is truly proving how good they can be.

Continued on page 4

Another Champions League Perspective



By Andrew Russell
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

FC Barcelona, led by star forward and five-time Ballon d'or winner Lionel Messi, is no stranger to the Champions League. In 2015, they beat Juventus in the finals 3-1 for their 5th title. Their super-star combo of Neymar, Luis Suarez and Messi have an incredible total of 18 goals in the Champions League



alone this season. Neymar has four, Suarez has put three in the back of the net, and Messi has bagged a stunning 11 for the club.

On March 8th, Barcelona mounted an amazing come-

back. Going into the game 4-0 down because of aggregate, they did the impossible and won 6-1 to advance to the quarter finals. With this form, it is going to be hard for Juventus to stop Barca.

Monaco is mutilating

FC Monaco had a fierce battle with Manchester City in February in which Manchester's main man, Sergio Aguero, scored two goals which Monaco just couldn't overcome. Going into the game 3 weeks later, Monaco needed to win by at least two goals to advance. M'bape and Fabinho scored first. Leroy Sane scored late in an attempt to put away any chance of them being eliminated. Sadly for Man City, their own left back, Aleksandar Kolarov, scored an own goal to give Monaco an extra away goal which put them through to the semi-finals against Borussia Dortmund.



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Champions League

From page 3

Dortmund's Destruction

Dortmund lost the first game 1-0 in a strange win for the Portuguese team, Benfica. Dortmund never gave up. They came back to their own stadium in Germany to destroy Benfica 4-0!

Dortmund was the favorite to win the game because they are a strong team in a great league, as Benfica is in a smaller league. Nobody expected this big of a win after they lost to Benfica in the first game. Dortmund gave no mercy and it paid off in the end.

Real Madrid's Reputation

Real Madrid is the team that I think will win the whole tournament and take home the trophy for their club in Spain.

The reason I think they can win it all is because they have won it three times in the past four years. The other team who won was Real Madrid's rival, Barcelona.

Like Barcelona, Real Madrid has one of the best strike force in the world with Cristiano Ronaldo, Gareth Bale, and Karim Benzema. Real Madrid has won the Champions League 11 times and I am sure they will make it 12 this year. Not only is their attack amazing, they have one of the greatest midfielders and defenders in the world. So they are clearly a great team as a whole. The defender Sergio Ramos has an amazing eye for the goal. Whenever the team needs him he will come up for the corner or free kick and head the ball into the back of the net.

Atletico is in awe

Atletico has a star French striker by the name of Griezman. He is on fire this season and was one of the contestants for the Ballon d'or, which is a prize for the best player. Although he only got third, the fact that he was at the ceremony shows his potential.

Atletico has players that are some of the best, like Godin, their star center back. There are also some talented younger players who are making an impact, like Gimenez and Saul.

The team is doing very well in the league and it continues to awe its fans.

The Wreck of 1776



**By Nicole Fasone and
Julia Flake**
Tusker Tribune
Staff Writers

The waves were crashing down on
the dream I was following;

I stared to cry when the rain came
down;
I knew I wasn't ready I needed more
time but I already started, what
was I to do now?

As I lay down on the cold hard
ground, I look back and remember
everything I had left.

Family, life, job, future, all gone because of an ob-
session that I couldn't let go.
If only I could go back and get it all back.

As I looked out into the mocking water, it was

laughing so hard and the rain was getting heavier.



It knew I hurt so many
people; it wanted to
swallow me whole.
And I was willing to let
it.

As I hit my head on the
ship that was foolish
enough to take me out
on sea;
I looked up at the sky.

The clouds start to
lighten. I see the light
and two people walking

out.

As I started to cry tears of joy. I lay my head down
on the hard floor;
I get up walk towards it and fall in the water;
And that was the last breath I ever took.

Perspective From page 4

Juventus' Youngster

Juventus is facing FC Barcelona in the
quarter finals of the Champions League. They
have won two titles and are craving another. Led
by 23 year old rookie Paulo Dybala and 29 year
old veteran Gonzalo Higuaín, they have slotted 5
goals combined.

It is hard to score on the Italians. They
have an incredible combination of Dani Alves,
Alex Sandro, Leonardo Bonnuci, Andrea Bar-
zagli, Giorgio Chiellini as defenders and Gigi Bu-
fon in net.

This is not the first time Barcelona and Juventus
has squared off in the CL. In 2015, they played
against one another in the finals. Juventus suf-
fered a 3-1 defeat.



Battling Bayern

FC Bayern
Munich played Re-
al Madrid on April
18th. The last time
these two teams
squared off, it was

in the semi-
finals of the
Champions
League in
2013. Real
came out on
top. The first
ever match
between the
two was in
1975 and
ended in a 1-

1 draw. Bayern's goalie, Manuel Neuer has only
conceded 7 goals throughout this Champions
League season. He also has 30 saves and is very
difficult to get past. Robert Lewandowski has
scored 7 goals for the club. Pepe, Ramos and Na-
vas are going to have a great deal of work against
these Germans.

Bayern Munich vs. Real Madrid, Juventus
vs. Barcelona, FC Monaco vs. Dortmund and At-
letico vs. Leicester will all surely be great match-
es. My prediction is Real Madrid vs. Barcelona in
the finals with Real coming out on top. My pre-
diction (Jacques) is that Real Madrid will win
against Bayern Munich and Real will take home
the trophy. The only thing that we know for sure
is that we will not be short on entertainment in
the upcoming weeks.



SPORTS UPDATE



By Eli Yates
Tusker Tribune Staff Writer

This week in the NBA playoffs the San Antonio Spurs beat the Houston Rockets and moved on to play the Golden State Warriors in the NBA Conference Finals.



In the first game of this series, the Spurs had control of the game and they were up by 20 at the half. Then in the 3rd quarter, with 7:53 left, the Spurs were up 23 to shoot a step back 3.

and Kawhi Leonard went to shoot a step back 3. He landed on his ankle weirdly and left the game. The doctors said he will be back for game 3.

As soon as Kawhi left, the Warriors went on an 18-0 run and made the score an 11

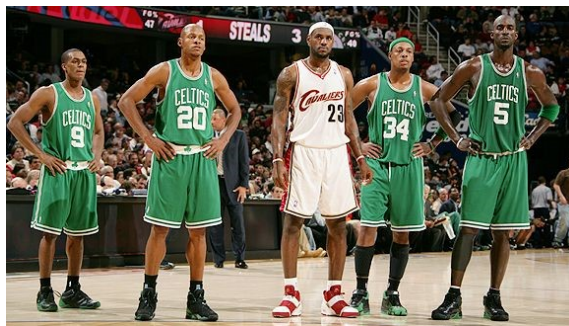


point game. In the end of the game, Golden State won by 25 point

comeback was the biggest comeback in the conference finals in 18 years.

In the second game, the Warriors had control the entire time and final score was 136-130. The next game is this coming Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Boston Celtics won game 7 in the NBA Conference Semifinals vs the Wizards, 115-105, and moved on. They played their first game in the NBA Conference Finals last night, against the Cleveland Cavaliers, and lost. The final score was Cavs, 117, Celtics, 104. They play their next game tomorrow at 8:30 p.m.



City of Calamity

From page 6

"Kill... The... Amulet..." Dominus groaned. The visions that the amulet was forcing in his head made him know that it was *alive*, that it had taken April and stolen her consciousness, and that she was no more. The Malus advance, closer, closer, and raised a claw above its mangled head.

"No, watch out!" Janette screamed, but it was too late. The talon had pierced Dominus' throat through his armor. He was dead. Dylan scrambled to the amulet and summoned a shard of green energy in his hand, and thrust it down into the amulet. It shattered, red shards splintering through the air. The Malus stopped moving. No movie-like shriek, no terrible death, it just stopped. Then it melted. The huge form melted and formed a humanlike shape, in unnatural magic, and a young woman in a white lab coat fell to the ground.



© Robin Bell

"Dominus...?" She stared forward, barely registering what was happening.

"April, if that's your name... He's dead.

And you killed him," Janette said. She walked over to April and punched her in the face.

"What was that for? I don't remember killing anyone! The last thing I remember was the bomb blowing up in our lab... Is this... The city?" April stared in horror and broke into tears.

Dylan moved Janette out of the way. "You've been part of the fusion for fifteen years. It's okay, you're fine now." She shook and stood up, and the three walked out of the city. They passed the inactive bodies of the Mini-Malus, lying immobile on the rubble, and Dylan thought only one thing:
Time to rebuild.