



The Tusker Tribune



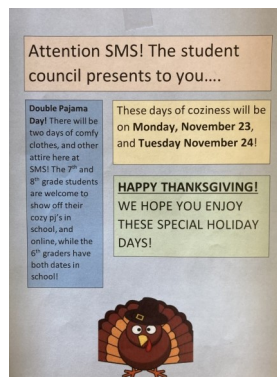
SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

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Have a Terrific (Safe) Thanksgiving!



Editor's Note: In the spirit of the upcoming holiday season, for this issue of the Tusker Tribune, we asked our writers what they would do if they could make up their own holiday. . . . Read on to find out!



**By Kate Seeger
Tusker Tribune Staff**

If I were to invent a holiday it would be all about children.

I would call this Child's Day. I would invent this because some kids around the world never get to get a holiday all about them and, so kids just want to spend a whole day alone with their parents.

Children's parents now must work all day or do something else and they never have time to spend with



their children. So, for a few days, parents should spend time with their children not doing anything else put hanging out with your children.

For example, the parents can take the kids to a park, museums, planetariums, movies whatever the kid likes! The people who do not have children should spend it with underprivileged children doing the same thing.

I think just things like that can really go a long way and you will make a child's day.



**By Juliet Gherardi
Tusker Tribune Staff**

If I could invent a new holiday, I would celebrate it by spending more time with your family.

I would call the holiday Special Family Day. I think it would be nice to have this holiday because we should spend more time with our families!

I also think this would be a great holiday because, do we even spend enough time with our family members? Even though we are going through tough times right now, you can still visit your family! You can take a walk with them; you can watch an outdoor movie with them.

That is why I think we should have this holiday!



**By Vince Pomponi
Tusker Tribune Staff**

If I were to invent a new holiday, it would be called Son Day.

I would celebrate that holiday by making all about the parent's son or sons, so the kids get all the attention.

If we have a Father's Day and Mother's Day, why not a Son Day?



Resident Evil or Roblox Would be Great Games to be Trapped In!



**By Giuliana Baldo
Tusker Tribune Staff**

If I could be stuck inside a video game, I would probably want to be stuck in either the game "Resident Evil" or "Roblox" because first, in Resident Evil, I have seen the movies, but my dad, when he was a kid, used to play it and for him to beat one level it took him 11 hours!

But if I was stuck in it, I would basically live there you could say, and Alice would hopefully protect me, Alice is very fast, and very strong, and if she died, she would come back because



there are clones of her.

In Roblox, it's basically a game where it has a bunch of other games that people create and build in "Roblox Studio". I have been playing Roblox since August 28, 2016. I would never get bored of it because there are thousands of games on it.

You could also play with other people, so basically there are public servers. You could create private servers too, and if you'd like, you can "friend" people so you could join them later if you want.

If I was stuck in it, I would probably join some of my favorite games and play with other people.

Subnautica Would Be A Good Game To Live In

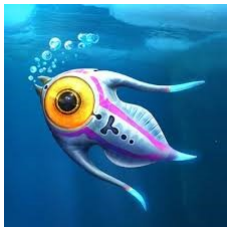


**By Peter Brennan
Tusker Tribune Staff**

If I was stuck in a video game, it would definitely be Subnautica, because it's one of my favorite games.

It takes place on an unknown planet. Your ship has crash-landed on it and the planet's crust is submerged by water.

The entire game is taking place in the water and you must survive among the fish and build a rocket to escape. That's why I would want to be trapped in that game because there's so much more to the game than you'd think.



All in All, I'd Rather Be a Dolphin!



**By Juliana Maffei
Tusker Tribune Staff**

If I had to choose between being a dolphin or a snake, I would rather be a dolphin. Firstly, dolphins have the whole ocean to travel. They can go anywhere they would like, and they have an unlimited amount of space. They can swim and jump whenever and wherever they would like. It would be so fun to be able to have all the space to yourself to swim and jump around.

Secondly, everyone loves dolphins because they are considered cute and friendly. People usually get so excited when they see them. Thirdly, dolphins can get their food easily. They are carnivores that eat a variety of fish, squid, jellyfish, octopii, and more. There are many fish in the sea, therefore, when they are hungry, they can just open their mouths and eat a fish when they see some.

Lastly, dolphins have incredible intelligence and speed so they can get away from predators easily. In fact, dolphins can scare away sharks by swimming in groups.

I would not want to be a snake for many reasons. Those reasons would be because most humans do not like snakes. When they see them, they get scared and disgusted. Who would want someone doing that when they see you? I know they can get their food fast due to slithering and their incredibly sharp fangs, but I would not like to get my food by suffocating another animal. Also, it's sometimes hard for a snake to get food because their prey might be too fast.

Lastly, snakes do not have arms or legs, so they must slither around everywhere. I would rather have arms and legs to be able to do more things. In conclusion, I would rather be a dolphin than a snake.



EDITOR NOTE: Read the Opposing View on Page 5

The NBA is BACK and Already On Fire!



By Benji Cutler
Tusker Tribune Staff

The NBA season will officially start on December 22, and this week will probably be the biggest week of the offseason!

There have been plenty of trades which began on Monday, November 16, the Draft was Wednesday, November 18, and Free Agency starts today! I have so much to talk about such as my opinion on the big trades and the top 5 draft picks, so let's get into it.

On Sunday, we did get reports that Dennis Schroder from the OKC Thunder would be getting traded to the Los Angeles Lakers for Danny Green and the 28th overall pick in the 2020 Draft. I think this is a great move for the Lakers and an OK move for OKC. LA gets a true starting point guard that can replace Rajon Rondo if he decides to leave, and that can put up 20 PPG no doubt. Schroder was second in the Sixth Man of the Year voting last season and will definitely help the Lakers try to repeat this season with another championship. For OKC, they get Danny Green who they used in a bigger trade on Wednesday, which I will talk about, and a pick that is very low in the first round, but if the Thunder organization plays their cards right, they could select a young player who will help OKC in the future.

To start off the week and the official trade season, on Monday, we had some huge and some interesting trades. We had some not as huge trades, however, like Bruce Brown from the Detroit Pistons to the Brooklyn Nets for D'Zanan Musa and a 2021 second-round pick, but besides that, the rest of the trades were at least kind of big. I will list all of them and go over how I feel about them for both teams.

The first big trade on Monday was OKC Thunder All-star **Chris Paul** being expectedly traded to the Phoenix Suns

along with Abdel Nader for Ricky Rubio, Kelly Oubre Jr., Ty Jerome, Jalen Lecque and a 2022

first-round pick. I think this a great trade for both teams, and here's why. For the Thunder's side, general manager Sam Presti has said he wants to go down the path of stacking up on draft picks and rebuilding off those players, similar to Danny Ainge and the Boston Celtics. The Thunder now have 17 first round picks in the next 7 years, which by the way, is absurd! They also get a great young small forward in Kelly Oubre who can really help Shai-Gilgeous Alexander in OKC. They also get a veteran point guard in Ricky Rubio who was used in a later trade for Aleksei Pokusevski



who has good potential to be a nice player. They also get two young guards in Jerome and Lecque who aren't good now, but you can develop them into good role players off the bench. Since OKC will begin rebuilding, I think this was the best move you can make when it comes to getting rid of Chris Paul. For Phoenix, they get an All-Star point guard for at least 2 seasons, since he only has two more years on his contract. He will be retiring pretty soon, but for now, CP3's experience and leadership will really help young stars Devin Booker and DeAndre Ayton become better players than before and will change the culture in Phoenix. The Suns haven't made the Playoffs since 2010, but that will most likely change with Paul, and that will give Booker a reason to feel confident to stay in Phoenix and help them become a better team.

The next trade on Monday was Robert Covington of the Houston Rockets being traded to the Portland Trail Blazers for Trevor Ariza, Portland's 2020 first-round pick and Portland's 2021 protected first-round pick. I think this is also a great trade for both teams. For Portland, they get one of the best role players in the league in Covington who will play the 3 or the 4, and will bring a great amount of defense and shooting to the Blazers. The Blazers had the 4th worst defensive rating in the entire league last season, so defense is their biggest weakness by a mile. So bringing in Covington will help Damian Lillard, CJ McCollum and the Blazers have a better chance of making a great playoff run. For Houston, it is almost guaranteed that they will be trading their two stars, Russell Westbrook and James Harden, so they will be going into rebuild mode. So getting two first-round picks from not even one of their best players will definitely help in the long run of their rebuild. They did trade Ariza and the 2020 1st round pick which was the 16th pick in a later trade.

The next two trades had to do with the same team, but let's talk about the first one for now. So the first trade the Milwaukee Bucks made late Monday night was sending Eric Bledsoe, George Hill, the 2020 first-round pick (via Ind), 2024 first-round pick which they can swap, 2025 first-round pick unprotected, 2026 first-round pick which they also can swap, and the 2027 first-round pick unprotected to the New Orleans Pelicans for **Jrue Holiday**.



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Alright, now that I finally named all those draft picks, let's talk about the trade. For Milwaukee, they get a great veteran who will be their primary ball handler, which they desperately needed, and a guy that fits perfectly with back-to-back MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo. He brings play-making, defense, scoring, he will really push the Bucks over the top to have an amazing chance at winning the championship. They have to hope they win the championship this year since Jrue Holiday is on an expiring contract and Giannis is also a free agent, however. For New Orleans, they get a solid point guard in Eric Bledsoe that can help bring leadership to the young locker room which includes Zion Williamson, Brandon Ingram and Lonzo Ball. They also got George Hill who they might waive, but he is a solid backup guard if they keep him. But the main part of the trade for the Pelicans was the 5 first round picks, including two swap picks which means if the Pelicans have the 30th pick and the Bucks have the 1st, the Pelicans have the right to swap picks with the Bucks! Jrue Holiday is a great player, but he's not worth almost the same number of draft picks as the Pelicans got for superstar Anthony Davis! I think New Orleans won this trade, but if Milwaukee even makes the Finals, this is a great move to have Giannis stay in Milwaukee.

The next trade the Milwaukee Bucks made wasn't as big, but still a solid trade for both teams. The main player in this trade, Bogdan Bogdanovic, will be testing free agency, but if he accepts the sign-and-trade, the Bucks will get Bogdan Bogdanovic and Justin James from the Sacramento Kings for Donte DiVincenzo, DJ Wilson, and Ersan Ilyasova. I think this is a good trade for both teams, but I think Milwaukee won the trade by a little bit. They got a great, young, talented shooting guard or small forward that can shoot it very well and in general, score the ball with ease. Bogdanovic rounds out the Bucks' starting lineup very nicely and can help the Bucks in the future. And by the way, Justin James won't get any minutes, so he doesn't matter. For Sacramento, they get a great young player in DiVincenzo who has great potential to be possibly an All-Star in the future. He can be a great scorer playing alongside young rising stars DeAaron Fox and Marvin Bagley III. Ilyasova is finishing his career, but he can be a solid big man off the bench. DJ Wilson won't get many minutes, but he can be developed into a solid backup big man. It really is hard to say who won this trade because DiVincenzo and Bogdanovic aren't even near their primes yet.

As you could see, there were more trades that had to do with players that were already traded. The first one was the Philadelphia 76ers trading Al Horford, the 34th pick in the draft which was Theo Maledon, the 76ers 2025 first-round pick and the draft rights to Vasilije Micic to the OKC Thunder for Danny Green and Terrance Ferguson.

I think this is a great trade for the Thunder and also a good trade for the Sixers. For Philly, they get rid of Al Horford's HUGE and overpaid contract which they've been wanting to do since he was disappointing this season. They also get Danny Green who is a fabulous shooter and defender. He will be perfect for the Sixers bench, since shooting was by far their biggest weakness. They also get Terrance Ferguson who is young and definitely has some potential.

We had some small trades on Draft night here and there, but the next big one was a 3-team trade between the Brooklyn Nets, Detroit Pistons and LA Clippers. Brooklyn gets Landry Shamet from LA, Detroit gets Rodney McGruder from LA and the draft rights to Saddiq Bey from Brooklyn, and the Clippers get Luke Kennard from Detroit. I think this is a bad trade for the Nets and a good trade for the Pistons and Clippers. For Brooklyn, they give up Saddiq Bey just for Landry Shamet. Shamet is a great shooter don't get me wrong, but he can only do that. Bey has great potential to be a good role player in this league, so I don't know why they gave up Bey just to get Shamet back. For Detroit, although they gave up Luke Kennard, he was going through some injuries and never really helped the Pistons too much due to his injuries. They get back Saddiq Bey who I already said has great potential, and Rodney McGruder who can bring some shooting off the bench. For the Clippers, they get Kennard who still has some potential if he stays healthy and only gave up Shamet and McGruder who weren't great players.

The last big trade was the Dallas Mavericks acquiring Josh Richardson and the draft rights to Tyler Bey and the Philadelphia 76ers acquiring Seth Curry. This is a good trade for Dallas and a great trade for Philly. Philly gets another great shooter that can take Richardson's spot in the starting lineup and really help the starting lineup and the team in general since Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid need to have shooters around them. The Mavericks already have great shooting in Luka Doncic, Kristaps Porzingis and even Maxi Kleber, so they don't need shooting as much as Philadelphia does. Richardson brings great defense to help Doncic in the backcourt, so I think that will be a great fit in Dallas. They also get Tyler Bey who definitely has some potential. As you can tell, this was a huge week for trades. I will now go over how I feel about the top 5 draft picks and how the players will help or not help their new teams.

With the 1st pick, the Minnesota Timberwolves selected **Anthony Edwards**. I thought they were going to take LaMelo Ball, but I wanted them to take Edwards because I think this was the perfect move!



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In the backcourt, D'Angelo Russell and Anthony Edwards will both provide great offense and Edwards will provide great defense which was what the Timberwolves needed. Edwards, Russell and Karl-Anthony Towns will be an exciting young team to watch and can definitely make some noise in a few years.

With the 2nd pick, the Golden State Warriors selected James Wiseman. I think this is also a great fit! Sadly, Warriors All-star Klay Thompson will be out for the rest of the season with an Achilles injury, but when he comes back, they will have an amazing chance at winning the championship.

A rim protecting center that is a decent passer and a decent shooter was what Golden State needed, and now they got it with Wiseman.

With the 3rd pick, the Charlotte Hornets se-



lected **LaMelo Ball**. I don't think this is as good as a pick, but come on. It's the Charlotte Hornets we're talking about. They need an exciting player there, and LaMelo Ball is exactly that. He will turn this franchise around, bring popularity to North Carolina and maybe some other stars to play with him. It's not as easy to tell how Ball will play because he is a boom or bust player. So we'll see what his future has in store for him

in Charlotte.

With the 4th pick, the Chicago Bulls selected Patrick Williams. Now this was a big surprise to many people including me because no one had Williams going so early. I don't have a lot to say about him because I wasn't expecting him to be in the top 5, but he is a small forward who is very athletic and a nice defender, and that's what Chicago needed in a wing, so he could definitely be a good fit for them.

With the 5th pick, the Cleveland Cavaliers selected Isaac Okoro. This was also a surprise since Obi Toppin and Deni Avdija were still on the board, and I was a little disappointed since I am a Cavs fan. But thinking about it more, this was actually a pretty good selection. The Cavs were the worst defensive team in the league last year and Okoro is the best defensive player in the 2020 class. The Cavs needed a small forward the most and Okoro is a small forward. His jump shot is questionable, but the defense is the main part of his game and that will be a huge help to Cleveland's future.

So to summarize, this week was the biggest week of the offseason, and there still weren't as many big trades as we thought there would be such as lottery pick trades or James Harden and Russell Westbrook trades!

I could've made this article twice its size but I already made it big enough. We still have so much ahead of us this off-season such as more trades, free agency, and more rumors.

The season literally starts in a month! That is crazy! Anyway, see you in two weeks!

I'd Rather Be a Snake!

By Emily Mladenovic
Tusker Tribune Staff

I would rather be a snake because snakes are the predator in the wild. Dolphins also live in the ocean and I am very afraid of the ocean.

One reason why I want to be a snake is because snakes are big and they can swallow almost everything in one piece so it wouldn't be hard to live with other animals.

Another reason is that they are very quiet reptiles so they can barely be heard, so it's easier to kill their prey. Snakes are also very dangerous to be around because they can slither up right behind you

(while you don't know) and give you a really tight hug, and kill you.

One reason why I wouldn't want to be a dolphin is because they are soft (too nice) creatures, and when others come around me, they want to touch or swim with me and I wouldn't want to be touched by someone who I don't know.

Another reason why I wouldn't want to be a dolphin is they live with a bunch of bigger animals in the ocean so it's easier to get killed. I do know that the way they survive is by hitting the animal with their stomachs and that kicks the air out of the animal. But they also have whales or other big creatures in the ocean.



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