



The Tusker Tribune

SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER



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Winter 2019

Disney + vs Netflix



By Morgan Klempner
Tusker Tribune Staff

There have been debates if Disney + is better than Netflix and since I am one of the lucky people to have both, I'm going to give you all the details.

Disney +

Disney + was an app that was released on November 12, 2019. At the time of the release there were some glitches and unfinished promises. One of the glitches was that there was no continue watching list, but Disney was quick to fix it.



One of the unfinished promises was that Freeform was going to be on Disney + which did not happen. I personally downloaded the app for the Freeform part at first, but once I got it, I was pleased that I could re-watch all my childhood shows.

Most people are pleased that they can watch some iconic Disney shows like, *The suite life Zach and Cody*, *That's so Raven*, *Lizzy Maguire*, and my two favorites, *Jessie* and *Wizards of Waverly Place*. Some of these shows are just plain good to watch by everyone and for some people the shows bring back childhood memories.

So far Disney+ seems great right? But is it anything compared to the great Netflix?

Netflix

Netflix has its own great accomplishments and we can't forget how popular Netflix is while comparing it against Disney +. The week before the release of Disney +, people were hyped that Netflix had added some iconic Nickelodeon shows such as *Sam and Cat*, and *Victorious*. Quickly after those iconic shows (and a few other shows) were added to Netflix, the spotlight then turned to Disney and its newest software.



Even though Netflix added those two shows and a few others, we must look at the whole picture of Netflix and all the other series it has created. Netflix made some very iconic shows. Two of the most watched shows on Netflix are *Orange is the new black* and one of my personal favorites *Stranger Things*.

Both of these shows have won some big awards. Netflix has lots of options for many different viewers. Netflix also has created their own original shows and movies.

Some people argue that Netflix has much more to offer than Disney +. What do you think? In my opinion both have different things to offer and give.

Looking Back on 6th Grade



By Drew Petrini
Tusker Tribune Staff

7th grade is different from 6th grade because in 6th grade there are fewer requirements and the school year is not as difficult. You also get more support from your teachers.

Last year, in 6th grade, you had three minutes to get to your next period class and now, in 7th grade, you only have two minutes because they expect more of you and they also expect you to be quicker. In 7th grade, if you go to your class late, even with a pass, then the teacher will still mark you late. In my opinion, in 6th grade, the bathrooms are cleaner than the ones in the 7th grade wings.

In 6th grade your teachers helped navigate you through the school because it was your first year in middle school, while in 7th grade, you have to read the signs more carefully and ask your friends to help you because the teachers aren't going to help you get around from place to place as much.

The Tusker Tribune is the online Somers Middle School Student Newspaper. It is published weekly (except during school vacations) on the Somers Middle School Website. It is entirely student-written by 6th, 7th and 8th grade students from:

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Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Co-editor Noah Volkman at

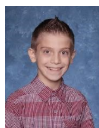
volkman.noah

@somersschools.org

or Advisor Dean Pappas at

DPappas@somersschools.org

The Scariest Thing That Could Happen To Me



By Simon Szabo
Tusker Tribune Staff

It was a dark and stormy night at my grandpa's house. I was supposed to watch the farm because he died. It was just me and I was sleeping near where he died.

THE BARN

It was a red and white barn and it didn't look scary. Until one night. I was watching a horror movie called "HAUNTED" on Netflix. I didn't see the time until I was turning off the TV. It was 2:00 in the morning and I didn't think



much of it. I went to bed and just as I got in bed, I saw a light on in the barn. I just went to sleep. But I had a nightmare and woke up. I saw the time and it was 3:00 in the morning.

I went to get a glass of water and went back to my room. As I was going back to bed, I saw the light again in the barn. So, I dressed up and went to the barn with just a lantern. As I walked to the barn, the

light just turned off. I was halfway there, and I was just standing there shocked. I think I saw a demon with a lantern and a sharpened ax. I remembered that there was a sharpener in the barn, and I think the demon found it.

I was still standing there shocked and saw the demon run toward me and I couldn't move! I saw the demon get bigger and bigger and it got closer and closer.

I finally was able to move, and I ran and ran as fast as I can. I woke up and turns out that this was a dream. I thought I was fine until I found the demon hanging upside down from the ceiling with the ax.

THE END

P.S: I'd like to see your scary story. Just write one and give it to Mr. Pappas in room 305

Gymnastics is So Much More Than Flipping Around!



By McKenna Mullins
Tusker Tribune Staff

Gymnastics is a benefit to your body. It's not just flipping around and doing cartwheels. You go through many problems to get where you want to be.

You have to work hard and train hard. Gymnastics involves upper body strength, leg muscle, and other muscles that you wouldn't use in other



sports. Gymnastics is a mental sport that involves many challenges and problems.

Many kids usually quit at around ages 13-15 because of the mental challenges. You have to be brave and have a good mind set.

Your body has to be confident and you have to believe in yourself to overcome your fears.

All gymnasts will have bad days which causes them to get frustrated and not want to come to practice. When you move on from gymnastics, your balance, upper body strength, leg strength and other muscles are strong and help you to do any other sports.

Gymnastics is a sport that is uncommon but gives you great benefits.



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Co-Editors:

Noah Volkman,
Joseph Melillo

Editorial Staff:

Samuel Sanz
Allison O'Connor

Reporters:

Morgan Klempner
Drew Petrini
Simon Szabo
McKenna Mullins
Isabelle Pollaro
Matt Battaglia
Kayla Tompkins
Nick Bachas
Rhys Carway

NEWSPAPER CLUB



The Day I Tried to Remodel Gianna's Stairs



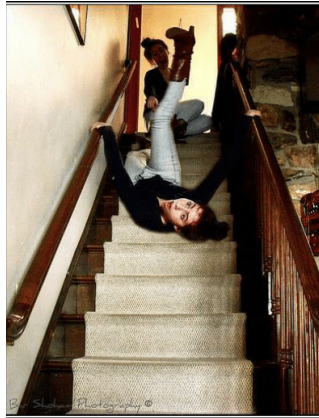
**By Kayla Tompkins
Tusker Tribune Staff**

I went to my friend Gianna's house one day. I had never been to her house before.

This first time was a time that she and I will never forget. I had originally gone to her house to study for Mr. Mullaney's test which we barley studied for...

We were studying, and then we started laughing and talking. Her mom called for us to go eat dinner. Once we got up from her bed, her sister, Josie, had come into the room. Gianna and Josie started talking and laughing.

Then we went to go downstairs... Gianna



was walking first, then me, then Josie. I started walking then all of a sudden... I lost balance and fell!

I was flying down the stairs and I grabbed onto the railing to stop myself from going any further and then... *the railing came out of the wall!* Gianna's sister was behind and was shocked.

When I first started falling Gianna sprinted down the stairs. Once I hit the bottom, Gianna was dying laughing and her mom had ran over from the kitchen in panic. I was laughing the whole way down the stairs because it was hilarious. Josie screamed "Mommy we need to call an ambulance"

I was laughing so hard at that point I couldn't breathe. I also felt so bad I apologized so many times.

More Commentary on Snow Days



**By Isabelle Pollaro
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Monday, December 2nd, was our school's first snow day of the year. Most students love snow days and being able to sleep in and to hang out with friends.

Others are concerned that we won't have enough snow days to last us through the winter. It's only the beginning of December and we already have

**Your kids this morning watching
you go to work as they enjoy
another snow day**



used one of our snow days. This leaves us with 3 snow days left over the course of the two months—January and February. It is even three months if you count the rest of December.

If we go over the given amount of snow days, which is three, then we will have to take days off from our spring

break or from Memorial Day weekend.

Snow days seem fun and like they only do us any good but we will most likely lose more of our free days in the nice spring weather because of it.



**By Matt Battaglia
Tusker Tribune Staff**

On Monday, December 2nd, many kids in Westchester county were notified they were off from school.

Many kids were very excited and didn't have to worry about going to school. They were able to sleep in, watch tv and see their friends.

We were able to stay up late be-



cause it was called in around 7pm on Sunday. It was snowing for many hours and the roads got icy which caused us to have no

school.

The next day, Tuesday, was bad but it was only enough for a two-hour delay. My friends and I went to my other friend's house to play football and hang out in his house. We only have a certain number of snow days so its not good to waste all the snow days early. One year we had so many we lost our spring break.

Still it was a great day to play in the snow.



Video Game Review: Batman: Arkham Asylum



By Shannon Williams
Tusker Tribune Staff

I would rate this video game 5/5. I rate it this because the graphics, storyline, and the difficulty in this game are amazing!

For instance, I once read an article that the small group of developers spent two years trying to perfect the cape graphics, going through seven animations. Also, movement and fighting graphics are amazing together, collaborating with the cape to create superb animations.

The storyline for this game is also AMAZING.

You'd have to play the first game to fully understand it (*Batman: Arkham Asylum*), but the twists, turns, and dialogue are mind blowing every time. For example, midway through the game,

you discover something that you never would have guess. I'm not gonna say what it is, but you must play the game in order to fully discover what is happening. And just the reason the storyline is

there is amazing. Finally, the amount of time is awesome. Completing the main storyline alone is just 20 percent of the game. After that, there are a various missions to complete.

To name a few, there are new bad guys coming after you, there are homicides that you need to bring to justice, and there

are cape gliding courses that you can go through to master your abilities.

Overall, *Batman: Arkham City* is a great game and I rate it 11/10.



Hunting is a Useful Skill to Have



By Nick Bachas
Tusker Tribune Staff

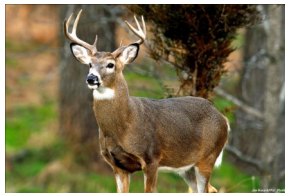
Hunting is a great hobby. I understand that some people don't like hunting but I like hunting.

Hunting is a great skill to know.

Let's say something happens to the government, supermarkets close and society breaks down. You are going to need to know how to fish, hunt, and trap. You will need to know how to survive.

Most people think hunting is bad because some people shoot animals and leave the body or the meat in the woods. But a lot of people hunt and give the meat to charity or homeless shelters. They give the meat to people that need it.

Hunting is not illegal. Fishing is not illegal, and trapping is legal in most states.



Deer are killing this earth in most places because there are too many of them and not enough woodland. If you look at the ground in the spring, there will be no plants or no good grass because of deer.

The deer population is also increasing because there are fewer hunters and more deer being born. Hunting helps to keep the deer population under control.

Fishing is a good sport as well. It teaches people how to catch fish easily. Keep in mind you need a license for all these activities.

Hunting animals is a way of life. Whenever you get meat from the supermarket like fish or steak, the meat is what I call sad meat. Good meat is meat from the wild. These animals eat grass plants and sea grass so their meat tastes better. The meat you get from hunting or fishing is good and tasty.

Open Freshman Baseball to 8th Graders



By Rhys Carway
Tusker Tribune Staff

I think 8th graders should be able tryout for freshman baseball.

I feel it makes sense because there are kids who are really good at baseball and want a challenge to improve their game.

Also, it makes sense to let them play because it could help the team win more games and that's the goal in a baseball—to win games and improve how you

play the game.

In addition, if the kid plays on the team when they're younger, when they are the right age to play on the high school team, they know what to expect so when it's time to play, they give the team an advantage.

Also, everyone plays their best when they are comfortable.

