

The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Middle School + Crutches = Tough Combination



By Sara Hanford
Tusker Tribune Staff

As a 6th grader, the change to middle school is already a challenge, but with crutches too?

In the first few days of school, I bruised a muscle in my calf, making it difficult for me to walk. It was not a bad injury, but I would need to use crutches to help me walk around for a few days.

All the teachers and school staff are very kind and understanding when kids have injuries like this. The school allows one friend to use the elevator and walk you to your class. If needed the teachers will give whoever walked, you to your class a late pass and will completely understand if you are late to class yourself.

Even though the teachers are very helpful and understanding, there are still some problems you must face when you have an injury like this. Even though the teachers are okay with you leaving a few minutes early and arriving just a few



minutes late, you must risk the chance of missing something that is important to know.

Also, even though you can use the school elevators, it is still very tiring to walk from class to class all day.

Some things that I think the school can do to help with these problems are allow more than just one friend to go on the elevator with you so not only can your friends help you walk, but also hold your school supplies and books for you. Also, it would be good if teachers could explain anything that the student with crutches missed or will miss for the homework, quizzes, and tests.

Starting middle school with crutches was not an easy experience. There were many hardships I had to face. Even with these problems, I found friends and teachers are very caring and want to help you in any way possible.

So, if you have an injury or ever get one like me, don't get worried. It might be tough, but in the end, everything will work out.



Falling Over Sideways by Jordan Sonnenblick



By Hannah Noreika
Tusker Tribune Staff

Falling Over Sideways is a book by Jordan Sonnenblick. The main character is an eighth-grade girl named Claire.

The book starts off at Claire's house, when she is having a birthday party with her friends Katherine and Alanna from dance and Roshni from school. They were all having fun, until Alanna brings up that her mom got an email telling her that Alanna is moving up to a more advanced class in dance.

Claire and Katherine didn't see this email, but Katherine did get moved, while Claire stayed at the same level. She got in a fight with her dad about dance a couple nights later and said, "You should struggle more!"

The next morning, Claire and her dad were having breakfast together. Her mom and brother were at a sports practice, so Claire and



her dad were the only two in the house.

Suddenly, her dad falls over and starts acting weird. He starts saying random words. Claire doesn't know what to do, so she calls the police and ambulance. They come over and take her dad to the hospital. Her mom and brother meet her there. It turned out that her dad had a stroke and might not recover fully.

Even though Claire is devastated, she still goes to school. She gets bullied by a boy named Ryder, who doesn't make situation any better.

After a couple of days, the whole school knows about her dad. As the weeks went by, her dad starts to get better and recover. But then, he gets pneumonia, which can affect his recovery.

Jordan Sonnenblick does a great job discussing the realities of dealing with typical teenage stress coupled with the strain of caring for a seriously ill family member.

Homework Club Gets You Caught Up



**By Allison O'Connor
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Homework Club is a club after school from 3-4 o'clock. It meets every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. Teaching aides are there to help you if you have any questions.

The club is quiet. You can



work on projects, homework, and other things. You're able to leave to use the bathroom,

go to a classroom, and go to your locker. You must sign in and out. If you must leave early you must fill in the box that says "EARLY DISMISAL".

So, if you need help with homework, or you need peace and quiet, you can come any day (besides Monday and Friday).

Homework Club takes place in the library.

Chargers' James Having A Breakthrough Year



**By Jesse Manginelli
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Los Angeles Chargers safety Derwin James had an amazing and historic start to his career.

James already has 26 tackles, 3 sacks, and an interception. James got 9 tackles and an interception in the Chargers' most recent loss to the Rams. James has shown immense potential according to ESPN.com.

James was picked 17th in the NFL Draft out of Florida State. Derwin James is 22 years old and is 6'2. He plays safety and is number 33.

Oakland Raiders coach, Jon Gruden, said he

wanted to draft James, but passed. Gruden speaks highly of Derwin James and the rest of the Chargers. Eric Williams from ESPN has said that Derwin James and Melvin Gordon have filled the hole of Joey Bosa's absence.



James also has an 86 overall rating in a popular game called Madden 19. Along with Derwin James' historic start to

his career with the Chargers, they have gotten a decent record of 2-2.

Hopefully the Chargers have a more exciting season than ever!

Cross Country Challenges You to Test Limits



**By Thomas Hauser
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Somers Modified Cross Country team can benefit you in so many ways. First off, if you do not do any after school stuff, cross country would be a great thing to do. It is fun, and you get in a good exercise.

It also helps in many other sports like basketball, football, lacrosse and soccer. It is in the beginning of the year after school every day. You take the bus to Primrose and run in the trails behind Primrose and Somers High School.



Periodically, you run in meets against other school. These meets are the highlight of cross country. You go



to different schools or towns and race against other kids your age. You need at least 10 practices for the first meet, but we didn't have enough runners, so we made it a scrimmage which you only need seven practices for.

Each meet course is 1.5 miles and it is not all flat. Some courses are hilly, and others are flat. Some meets have 20+ teams and others have under 10. For the meets with over 20 teams, we have more motivation to do well because no one wants to place in the 50s and 60s, so most runners will want to better than they have ever done before.

So, if you want the thrill of running on different trails against kids your age, you should participate in Somers modified cross-country.

MLB Playoffs Show Fall is Really Here!



**By Pat Carino
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Wow! Can you believe that the Major League Baseball Playoff season is here? Well, it is that time of year, and it is and an exciting time for me. In fact, it is my favorite sports season.

Did you know that each year, there are 14 teams in the Playoffs? This year, in the 2018 Playoffs, the teams are: the Athletics, the Yankees, the Red Sox, the Indians, the Astros, the Dodgers, the Braves, the Rockies, the Brewers and the Cubs.



Of course, my prediction is that the Red Sox will play the Dodgers in the World Series. According to my research, the Red Socks are favored to win to the Series.

As a New Yorker, I really hoped that the Yankees were going to make it and win it. Unless a team wins four games in a row, game 7 of the World Series will be on October 31, which is Halloween. What do you think most kids will do if it falls on this sweet holiday? I believe that most of us kids would rather trick or treat.

I know that's what I am going to do.

Troop 228 Somers Seeks New Members



**By Joseph Melillo
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Troop 228 Somers is a Boy Scout troop in Somers, NY.

We work hard and strive to help the community through hard work and service.

Some of these service projects include clearing trails, replacing flags at the cemetery, and retiring flags properly.

Many people think that to be a Boy Scout, you have to be an outdoorsy person, that's not true! Sure, you have to go on some campouts, but we have cabin campouts, car campouts, and for the real outdoorsy people, we have campouts



that require you to have all the proper equipment and hike all the gear into the site.

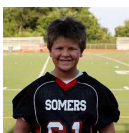
We have service opportunities, which is good for the NJHS. Last year, many of our scouts made it into the NJHS and most of us had more than enough service hours.

The six ranks of Boy Scouting are Scout, Tenderfoot, 2nd Class, and 1st class, Star, Life, and Eagle.

Scouting is fun. If you like camping, hiking, fishing, and swimming, Boy Scouts is totally for you! If you would like to have a look before you join [here](#) is where you can find the information.



The Physics of a Football Throw



**By Samuel Sanz
Tusker Tribune Staff**

You may think throwing a football is simple, but you would be wrong.

When you release a football, if thrown well, it should spin at about 400-600 RPM's, or revolutions per minute. (Wow!) How does this work?

This spin creates a gyroscopic torque, which is when the axis of a spinning body is tilted. This creates a third axis that is perpendicular to the spin and the tilt axis. Gravity will try to



**Nerd's
Words**

pull the nose of the ball downward but will have a hard time, the ball is aerodynamic, so the forces of wind counteract gravity and keep it in the air longer.

Newton's Laws help dictate the pattern of all moving objects, including footballs. The path of a football's flight is not random, it is the result of the physical forces of inertia, air resistance and gravity. Newton's first law of motion states that an object in motion will stay in motion unless acted upon by an outside force.

Continued on Page 4

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**Somers Middle School
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Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean Pappas at DPappas@somersschools.org

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Tuskers Field Hockey Take the Lead



**By Kaleigh Picco
Tusker Tribune Staff**

It's here : The roaring crowds. The electrifying anticipation. Rooting for your favorite team.

The fall sports season is always a busy one in Somers, and the 7th and 8th grade girls of Somers Middle School are not slowing down.

The first game of the 2018-2019 Girls Modified Field



Hockey season began on Monday, October 1st at Hendrick Hudson Middle School in Cortlandt, New York. Af-

ter only nine practices, the girls banded together for an incredible 5-1 win.

On Thursday, October 11, the girls were scheduled to play Lakeland, but the game is rescheduled for November 2nd.

Now 1-0, the girls hope to continue strong for another successful season. Next week on Monday, October 15th, the Tuskers challenge Henry H. Wells Middle School in Brewster, NY. Feel free to stop by the game and show your support. Go Tuskers!



What's With All This Rain!!!!????!!!!



**By Will Underkoffler
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Why have we been getting all this rain? This is completely insane, and we don't even need it anymore.

We have (at least at my house) gotten a huge number of leaks in the basement because the ground just can't hold any more water, followed by my family and I spending three hours blowing fuses to vacu-



um up all the water out of the carpet and preventing more from getting into the house, as well as having us redo the floor in the basement.

So why have been getting all this rain and more is coming, but then a little bit later all this rain will become heaps of snow?

So, are you happy about all this rain or are you mad because you can't go to sports or play outside?

Football Throw From Page 3

The basic flight pattern of a football is the shape of an arch, this shows that there is a bend in the football's movement through the air.

Newton's first law applies here because there are outside forces like air resistance to keep the ball from traveling in a straight line.

So, the next time you throw a football at recess you have the laws of Newton at your side. See you next time!

Barcelona v Valencia Always a Good Matchup



**By Joseph Melillo
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Barcelona, otherwise known as Barca. Barcelona is a professional soccer club based in Barcelona.

This team was founded in 1899 by Swiss, English, and Catalan footballers led by Joan Gamper.

Valencia Club de Futbol, or just Valencia, is based in Valencia, Spain. They have won 6 La Liga titles, 7 Copa del Rey titles, 2 Inter-Cities Fairs Cups, 1 UEFA Cup, 1 UEFA Cup Winners Cup, 2 UEFA Super Cups.

As you can see, Valencia has

quite a history of winning numerous titles.

Now, Barcelona vs. Valencia. Two teams from La Liga. Both teams played well in this face off. Goals scored by Ezequiel Garay for Valencia, and the star Lionel Messi scores once more for his team Barcelona.

The game was played in Mestalla, Valencia. Valencia got off to a good start. Ezequiel

Garay scored right off the bat, just 2 minutes in! Barcelona, who got off to a slow start, scored in the 23rd minute. Both teams fought it out for the rest of the game.

