

The Tusker Tribune

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Fall 2018

Winter Concert Warms the Holiday Season



By Sara Hanford
Tusker Tribune Staff

The Winter Concert took place on 12/6/18 in SMS. On this exciting day the Chamber Orchestra, 6th-8th grade Orchestra, 6th grade Chorus, and 7th – 8th grade Chorus performed. These four-musical groups had been training since September for this big night. The feedback from the performances were all positive.

Chamber Orchestra

The Chamber Orchestra was the first group to perform. This group had six members. Three violinists, a cellist, and a bassist. These talented musicians did not get an easy way into the orchestra. These students had to try out for a position in the orchestra. They played three well-known favorites like *The Little Drummer Boy* and *Morning*.

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Holiday Gift Ideas For You



By Deanna DeCamp
Tusker Tribune Staff

Are you struggling trying to figure out what to get your family, friends and Secret Santa gifts for the holidays? You shouldn't always ask them what they want ESPECIALLY your Secret Santa, otherwise they will know what you have for them. Some people sometimes may even say that they don't want anything and we all know that is no help to figure out what somebody wants. Here are a few ideas to help you figure out what people want.

One thing moms love is jewelry. Try to think about what your mom wears the most. For example, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, etc. Maybe you could get your mom jewelry. If you don't know what kind of jewelry your mom likes maybe buy her a purse, lipstick or perfume that she would like. Try not to buy her anything that she wouldn't use. Really put thought into her gift.

For a gift for your dad think about what sport he likes and his favorite professional or college team. Maybe buy him a water bottle or even a pair of socks with his favorite team logo. Or maybe buy him a gift card to his favorite store or restaurant.

Siblings can be one of the tougher gift ideas. I can't give you exact examples because I'm not your sibling and I don't know them but maybe I can help you. Try to think about their favorite sport or hobby. Maybe revolve the gift around that. Or maybe you could even think about the thing



that they wanted last year but didn't get. You could even get them something you heard them ask your parents for., and your parents reply back "the holidays are coming so maybe then" and then your parents completely forgot about that gift. Maybe you could get them that item!

Gifts for a friend should be easier because they are your friends, but sometimes this can be tricky too. Since they are your friends, you will probably spend about 20-30 dollars depending on how well of friends you are. You may even spend more money. For a girl you could get gift cards to Hollister, Forever 21, and Aeropostale. You could even get them lotions and soaps of their favorite scent from bath and bodyworks. For a girl maybe get them a shirt or something with a sports logo on it. Maybe you could even get them a gift card to their favorite store.

For a Secret Santa gift, it all depends on the amount of money you and your group decide to spend. You should talk about this before or after you draw names so you know how much money you should spend. You should also go around the group you do secret Santa with and you could all share what kind of candy you like and something you want for the holidays. Some gift ideas for girls include fuzzy socks, scrunchies, and gift cards. Some gifts ideas for boys include candy, money for their favorite video game and gift cards. Gift cards work for almost anyone if you know what stores and restaurants they like.

I hope I gave you a few ideas for buying your next holiday gift. Gifts can be hard to find but they are worth looking for, for the people you love.



Waiting at Traffic Lights



By Joseph Melillo
Tusker Tribune Staff

Today's Did you Know is . . .

Did You Know that the average person spends 6 MONTHS in their entire lifetime waiting for a red light to turn green? Is it true? I know, but do you? This fact is true; think about it. Have you ever been late to soccer practice, or football practice, or that really important event that you had to be there on time? I guarantee that a red light stopping you was one of the reasons. Why do you do this to us, Department of Transportation? There are also yellow lights, but people usually take their chances and gun it to the next light.

But then there are also the indecisive stoppers who constantly debate whether or not they are gonna make it



or not. To those people out there, make your decisions already!

Guess what? The average light cycle is 120 seconds, so you will only be sitting at a red light for 1.5 to 2 minutes, even if it seems like you are the light forever. That also means that the green lights won't stay green forever. Yes, I hate to break it to you, but traffic lights do work 24/7 unless there is a power outage (those are pretty common around here), and even then, there will usually be a police officer directing traffic. Anyway, if you really think about it, six months out your entire lifetime sitting at a traffic light? That's not that bad. Out of the average 79 years that humans in America live, only 6 months are spent staring at the big, red, LED light that tortures the human race.

The Tusker Tribune Commentary: Why Does the Cafeteria Run Out of Food?



By Ian Cohen
Tusker Tribune Staff

The school cafeteria runs out of food or the food is cold when 7th graders like me have lunch the second half of 6th period.

Usually, when my friends and I go to the lunch line, the lunch ladies always say, "sorry we ran out" or "there is no more but you can get a sandwich".

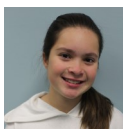
They also run out of snacks and drinks like



milk, cookies, and ice cream. A lot of students get cookies with their lunch, but by the time the second half of the period comes, the snacks are gone too. The other thing is that if there if all there was sandwiches, not everyone likes sandwiches so they skip lunch. What's the point of having "hot lunch" without the "hot lunch" being there?

This needs to be fixed. My suggestion is that if there is no "hot lunch" then the students should get a sandwich or an apple for free. Fix the lunches now!!!

How to Cope with that 7:40 a.m. Deadline



By Natalia Tellez
Tusker Tribune Staff

It's always difficult to arrive on time when you take Chorus, Band, or Orchestra. It means waking up early and doing everything in a rush, so you aren't late. This is normal because practice starts earlier than school does or the bus comes, practice starts at 7:40 a.m.

There are many different ways that can help you wake up earlier, dress quickly, and leave at a better time. Here are a couple of tips and sug-

gestions that can help you arrive at Chorus, Band, or Orchestra on time.

I know it's hard to wake up early in the morning. Who wants to wake up from that wonderful dream you were just having? Or leave your bed and the warmth it gives you, especially when you know you won't return to it until night? The answer is nobody, so it is hard to wake up when you need to. Lucky for you, I have some tips that I use that help me and you might be able to use.

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Deadline

From Page 2

First of all, set up an alarm for when you want to wake up. There are many ways to set up one on your electronic device, a watch, or you can buy an alarm clock. My first tip is to pick a time you want to wake up and set the alarm for 5-10 minutes earlier than that time. This way, you will have a few minutes to stay asleep and slowly wake up. Another useful tip is to place your alarm in a place which you can't reach it from your bed just by moving your arm. This will make you have to wake up which causes you to move and not able to go back to sleep after hitting the snooze button.

Furthermore, a helpful thing to do is change the alarm sound into something enjoyable, peaceful and calm. This is good because when you wake up to a good sound, not an annoying beep, you will be in a better mood. My last tip is that when you wake up think of something to look forward to, to get you going and excited. Maybe, a yummy breakfast or something happening at

school when you arrive? What-ever works for you!



These are just some ways to help you get up early in the morning.

To help you get ready during chaotic mornings when you have a before school activity, I have some suggestions. Choose a breakfast that doesn't require much time. It doesn't have to be super simple but just don't choose those days to have pancakes and bacon. In addition, it's better to know what day it is and whether you have gym or team time so picking what you are going to wear will be easier.

Another good tip is to make sure you finished all your homework the night before, so you have nothing to do in the morning except get ready.

My last suggestion varies on where you live. Plan an estimated time where you know will arrive on time and take away 5 or 10 minutes to spare. This way if you forget something or are behind on time, you don't need to freak out and stress because you saved extra time. Isn't that smart?

These are just some suggestions and tips that I use that help me arrive on time. I really hope that this helps prevent you from being late. These helpful, easy tips will make getting to Chorus, Band, or Orchestra at 7:40 a.m and being on time easy.



Concert

From Page 1

The audience loved the performance and gave them a huge applause.

6th – 8th Grade Orchestra



The 6th – 8th grade Orchestra also played three songs. *Frosty's Caribbean Holiday* was a happy, tropical piece. The composer took

the classic song, *Frosty the Snowman*, and gave it bright Caribbean feels. *Sevivon*, meaning dreidel in Yiddish, honored Hanukkah. The last song, *Christmas Fiddlers on the Housetop* was a combination of three Christmas songs.

7th and 8th Grade Chorus

The 7th and 8th grade Chorus sang three songs. *Al Slosa DVarim*, *Angels Gloria*, and *All I Want for Christmas Is You*. This group of perform-

ers worked extremely hard like the other kids to learn and perform three difficult pieces. *All I Want for Christmas Is You* had a spectacular solo sung by Colleen Donohue. All the songs were beautiful with *All I Want for Christmas Is You*, earning the biggest applause.

6th Grade Chorus

The 6th grade Chorus practiced two days a week to build up to the performance. One of their songs, *A Star Dances an Angel Sings* was a joyful Christmas song.

Hashivenu, was a unique Hanukkah song, and lastly, *Winterlight* was a gorgeous and exciting song describing winter. The audience was in awe with the 6th grade Chorus performance



A big congratulations to Mr. Maino, Mrs. Williams, and the performers who pulled off an amazing concert. They will continue to practice making the spring concert just as spectacular.



By Kaeleigh Picco Tusker Tribune Staff

Have you ever wondered what happened today-ten years ago? Twenty years ago? Thirty? In *This Week in History* I will tell you about the events that happened that particular week that could have impacted our everyday lives, or are just really interesting to learn about.



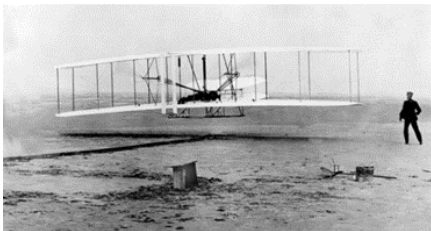
December 15th, 1791

On this historic day in American history, The Bill of Rights, or the first ten amendments to the constitution, became effective following the ratification of Virginia. Written by James Madison, the main purpose of this document was to protect citizens from an overabundance of government power.



December 16th, 1773

Yet another important date for the U.S., December 16th marks the anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, a revolt in Massachusetts which conspired of members of the Sons of Liberty. In the middle of the night, they boarded British ships in Boston harbor, dumping 342 containers of British tea into the water. This event sparked the beginning of more movements throughout the early American colonists to gain independence.



December 17th, 1903

Do you love to go on vacation in far away places-like Europe or the Caribbean? How are you going to get there? Sure, taking a boat might be one option, but it takes days-weeks even- to get to your destination. One faster, and more convenient option, would be to take a plane, which is an advantage that millions of people take for granted every day. But this faster vehicle



of transportation wasn't always available; until the early 1900's, the plane wasn't even invented! The first successful powered and controlled airplane flights too place on this date; piloted by none other that Orville and Wilbur Wright in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

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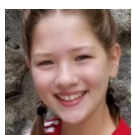
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Tusker Tribune Trivia



By Allison O'Connor
Tusker Tribune Staff
What city is nicknamed the City of Angels?
Los Angeles

What city is nicknamed Sin City?

Las Vegas

What city is nicknamed the Windy City?

Chicago

What city is nicknamed the Big Apple?

New York City

What state is nicknamed the Golden State?

California



What state is nicknamed the Lone Star State?

Texas

What state is nicknamed Aloha State?

Hawaii

What color are Mickey Mouse's shorts?

Red

What edible substance do bees make?

Honey

How many innings make up a professional baseball game?

Nine

Which country would you visit if you wanted to see the Leaning Tower of Pisa?

Italy

Who wrote the Harry Potter series?

JK Rowling

What are the four sections in a band?

String, brass, woodwind, and percussion

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2018 NBA Redraft



By Benji Cutler
Tusker Tribune Staff

It has been about two months now since the 2018-19 NBA season has begun. Every year, we have a draft class of rookies that is revealed in June.



So far, the rookies have been a little wacky. Today, I will be making a redraft of the first 15 NBA picks of the 2018-19 NBA Draft class that would make the most sense as of December and would've changed the NBA.

- 1.(Phoenix Suns) Luka Doncic
 - 2.(Sacramento Kings) DeAndre Ayton
 - 3.(Dallas Mavericks) Jaren Jackson Jr.
 - 4.(Memphis Grizzlies) Trae Young
 - 5.(Atlanta Hawks) Collin Sexton
 - 6.(Orlando Magic) Marvin Bagley III
 - 7.(Chicago Bulls) Wendell Carter Jr.
 - 8.(Cleveland Cavaliers) Mo Bamba
 - 9.(New York Knicks) Shai-Gilgeous Alexander
 - 10.(Philadelphia 76ers) Kevin Knox
 - 11.(Charlotte Hornets) Miles Bridges
 - 12.(Los Angeles Clippers) Josh Okogie
 - 13.(Los Angeles Clippers) Allonzo Trier
 - 14.(Denver Nuggets) Michael Porter Jr.
 - 15.(Washington Wizards) Mikal Bridges
- If these were the top 15 NBA 2018 Draft picks, this league would definitely be different.



The Most Disliked Video On YouTube



By: Deanna DeCamp
Tusker Tribune Staff
The most disliked video EVER on YouTube is **YouTube Rewind 2018**.

YouTube rewind is when each year the creators of YouTube make a YouTube video recreating all of the best videos in 2018. This video received only 2.1 million likes and 10 million dislikes.

This happened in only a week.

If you watch the 2017 YouTube rewind video, you would have realized how much better it is compared to the 2018 video. If you ask me, I think it's a bad video, too. I don't understand why YouTube would even let their company post something like that. The people who probably did like that video were the people who helped make that video or the people who were in the video.

Here's the link, so if you would like to watch and maybe even dislike it go ahead. It was not a good video in my opinion and the other 10 million people who also like it.

<http://viewpure.com/YbJOTdZBX1g?start=0&end=0>





Music Report



By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff

Championships – Meek Mill

Meek Mill knows how to make an entrance. “Dreams and Nightmares,” the opening track from his 2012 debut, became one of the most chantable rap songs of the era. “Intro,” the opener from the rapper’s fourth studio album, *Championships*, revisits the same energy, this time with the dramatic flair provided by a sample of Phil Collins’ “In the Air Tonight.” *Champion-*



ships serves as a reintroduction, of sorts, for the rapper.

Its title refers to a feeling of accomplishment that Meek is finally comfortable embracing after a tumultuous few years in the limelight, including a bitter rap feud with onetime friend Drake (who officially closes out the beef with an appearance on *Championships*’

“Going Bad”), a high-profile breakup, and a stint in jail stemming from a probation violation related to a charge he caught roughly 10 years prior.

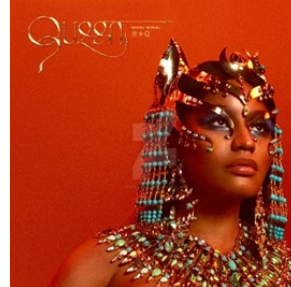
“I feel like I’m at a championship stage in my life,” Meek explained in an interview. “I call it beating poverty, beating racism, beating the system, beating gun violence, beating the streets. Once I made it through all that, I got to a point in my life where I’ve been living good and balling, doing what I do.” The album is plenty celebratory, with the Philly rapper partying New York City’s Washington Heights on “Uptown Vibe” and then showing off with the neighborhood’s queen, Cardi B, on “On Me.” “Splash Warning,” “Tic Tac Toe,” and “Stuck in My Ways” are all classic Meek-flexing (lest we forget that Meek gets money, that money buys nice cars, and that the women he courts love both money and nice cars). *Championships*, then, is the many sides of Meek—a rapper who speaks to the streets of Philadelphia as one of its biggest success stories and a man compelled to talk about his country’s injustices as someone who has dealt with them head-on.

“I don’t want to be an activist,” Meek says. “That’s not my goal. God put this on my lap where my situation brought attention to it. I want to address it and I want to do some real things, take action, do some real things that make change, but through my music.”

Genre: Hip-Hop/Rap

Queen (Deluxe) – Nicki Minaj

“You were a queen before him. You’ll be a queen after him,” Nicki Minaj tweeted a few months ahead of her fourth studio album, *QUEEN*. Throughout her meteoric rise and even



more impressive reign as one of the most formidable voices in hip-hop, female empowerment remains a constant in Nicki’s messaging. It was a motivating factor in the making of this album, which includes “Barbie Dreams,” a toothy and hilarious flip of the Notorious B.I.G. classic “Just Playing (Dreams),” wherein Nicki

upends the concept of predatory masculinity, lining up a gang of her rap contemporaries as potential conquests.

Elsewhere, Nicki raises a lighter to her Caribbean roots with “Ganja Burns,” which could work just as well as a dancehall rid-dim; goes bar for fiery bar—again—with Eminem on “Majesty”; and provides a simple solution for the Barbz dealing with unappreciated partners on “Nip Tuck.”

“I think my role is putting out music that makes women feel like they can go from a poor neighborhood to doing records with the greats and being hailed as someone that shifted the culture,” Nicki said in an interview. “There are songs on the album that I feel women really need right now.”

Genre: Hip-Hop/Rap

DiCaprio 2 – JID

In the age of overnight virality, JID’s about craftsmanship and good old-fashioned hard work; on *DiCaprio 2*, it pays off—and then some.

On his second album, the East Atlanta native raps circles around just about everybody (including his label boss, J. Cole, who impressively stepped

his game up on his “Off Deez” verse) in a dense, breathless drawl that’s bound to draw comparisons to a down-South Kendrick Lamar. The guy’s got bars for days—check “Stick Talk,” a clinic in double-time wordplay that careens from fourth-grade memories to absurdist *Maury* impressions. But he knows how to set a mood, too, recruiting some of 2018’s best producers (Kenny Beats, ChaseTheMoney) and occasionally veering into slick, upbeat R&B. Partial credit is due to the late Mac Miller, who helped post-produce and arrange nearly every song before his tragic death; but it’s JID’s masterful rapping that makes *DiCaprio 2* great.

Genre: Rap

