

The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School

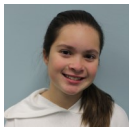


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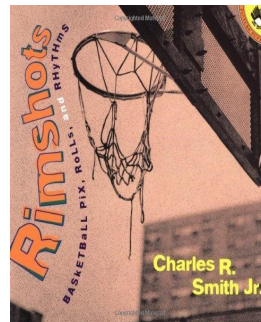
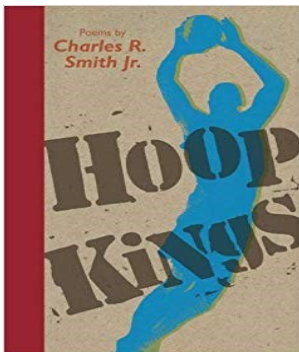
Charles R. Smith Engages 6th Graders



By Natalia Tellez
Tusker Tribune Staff

On Thursday, March 28th, the 6th grade students had author Charles R. Smith Jr. come for a visit and talk about the poetry process and his own achievements. This was done in hope that students will take what they learned during the hour presentation and used it on their own during the poetry unit they will start after spring break.

Charles R. Smith Jr. has written, or photo-illustrated more than 20 books for young readers. This includes *Hoop Kings*, *Hoop Queens*, *I am America*, *The Mighty 12: Superheroes of Greek Myth*, and *Black Jack*. He told the eager 6th graders that they must find inspiration in everything around them and of course, the people they love. The author has two sons and one daughter who he always uses as inspiration. Not on-



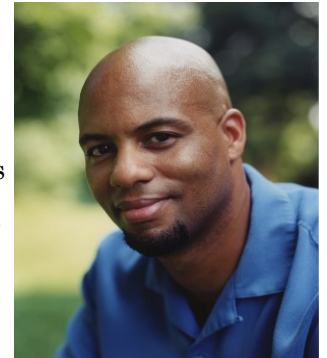
ly that, but Charles R. Smith Jr. is also a personal trainer to many and says that when you have writers block, all you have to do is move around, stop using your mind, and focus on your body. He uses his

favorite sport, basketball, as his topic of many of his books. He actually was taking pictures of street bas-

ketball for his own personal enjoyment when he showed them to a publisher and they turned it into his first book, *Rimshots: Basketball Pix, Rolls and Rhythms*. Charles R. Smith Jr. also agreed to have two workshops during the day for 6th graders who wanted to learn even more. There

was one where students learned easy tricks to make their photos even better and another where they had a chance to try making a poem with the author's help and then eat some pizza.

I think that Charles R. Smith Jr. is a really talented author, photographer, and poet and one of the few authors who made his visit entertaining and enjoyable.



Cell Phone Prank Adds Jingle to SMS Hallways



By Joseph Melillo
Tusker Tribune Staff

On April 1st, of April Fools Day, the students of Somers Middle School all got together as one and set their cell phone alarms to 10 A.M.

Most students turned their ringers to max and set an alarm to 10 A.M., or the end of period 2. There was a ton of suspense as the time slowly ticked down to 10. 9:55..... 9:56.....9:57.....9:58.....9:59.....10:00!!!

It couldn't be heard from the classrooms, but it could be heard clearly in the halls. One huge school alarm ringing in unison. The students



were celebrating; the teachers were not. To my surprise, and undoubtedly many others as well, some teachers actually believed that it was clever and cool how all the students worked together like they did.

Others were angry and felt that the alarms disrupted class and some even confiscated phones from lockers! Some students did only what was asked, others chickened out, some even brought speakers to amplify the alarm sounds.

This was a very safe and harmless prank, so it fits in with the spirit of April Fools Day. Just think of all the worse pranks that could've been played on the school.

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Somers Lacrosse Silver Team



By Nate Cohen
Tusker Tribune Staff

I play on the Somers Lacrosse Silver Team. Lacrosse is a very fun sport and I developed characteristics like leadership sportsman ship. Somers is a very competitive and has a good lacrosse program. The coach on the Silver Team played collage lacrosse and now plays men's competitive lacrosse.

Lacrosse is such a good sport because of the positions. Personally, I like defense because you use a longer stick and are a good reliable player. Another reason I like defense is because defense wins championships. But mid felid is good if you are fast and have a read of the field. Attack is another position where a lot of the scoring happens there.

Somers Lacrosse plays teams in Westchester in season games and a few tournaments. A lot of our practices are at the high school field but some of them are late. We practice 3 to 4 times a week.

Even though it is a big commitment the coaches understand it is late and you do not have to



go to every single practice.

Lacrosse is an amazing sport to play because you learn how to be a good team

mate and how to respect people even if they are not your best friend. Also, you learn how to have good sportsmanship when you win and lose. Also, it teaches that any team can beat anyone just from having a good friendship with your teammates. Another life season it shows is hard work pays off. What I mean by that if you put your mind to it, you will succeed and if you have a dream, keep dreaming about it and if you work for it, it will come true.

Jets Could Have Breakout Season



By Max Yates
Tusker Tribune Staff

How the Jets are going to be the next football season?

The Jets have the potential to be a power team going in to next year with the recent signing of Levon Bell of the Pittsburgh Steelers for around \$13 million a year and a four-year contract.

They also got an all pro offensive lineman from Oakland, Kelechi Osemele, for around \$10 million a year and a four-year contract.

Then there is rookie quarterback Sam Darnold and depth in the receiving department.

Their new head coach, Adam Gase, said that Sam Darnold and Robby Anderson have a chance to be the best receiving duo in the league. In the last month of the 2018 season, the duo caught a total of 341 yards and three touchdowns. Robby Anderson had 114 targets last year, the highest on the team.

Darnold will also have veteran receiver Quince Ennui coming back off back-to-back injuries last year and 2017. The Jets' defense will be one of the best in the league. They have safety Jamel Adam who ranked second among the rest of the NFL safeties.

Coach Gase added that he has the talent on this roster to turn this team into a deep playoff team.

The Jets also have the 3rd overall pick in the upcoming NFL draft. They can continue to stack their defense with Nick Bosa or Josh Allen. both edge rusher aspect to go earlier up in the draft.

They also have the option to trade back and draft a better offensive player and help give Sam Darnold more options and more support and maybe a player whoi has the chance to be good. Sam Darnold is number 14 Robby Anderson Jamal Adams number 33 Leonard Williams 92.



Cell Phone

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This whole idea started on Snapchat, where a student actually posted "Everyone set their alarms to 10 a.m. so the school has one huge alarm." Many students reposted it and ended up doing it. So it turns out that social media does have some benefits.

Well, this prank worked really well and was very funny. For those of you who didn't do it and regretted it, there is always next year!

A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with short, dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark bow tie. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a serious expression. The background is a plain, light color.

NEWSPAPER CLUB



TUSKER TRIBUNE

Soggy Sunday Sets Scene for Yankees Loss



**By Jesse Manginelli
Tusker Tribune Staff**

The Yankee game I went to this past weekend took a while to start. As the rain came down, the longer it took to start the game.

I was there so I could tell you how bad it was. It was very crowded inside and almost nobody was sitting in their seats. Many people stayed in the warm lounges located around the stadium. You do need special tickets for the lounges but luckily, we did. We got to eat free popcorn, peanuts and fruit candy.



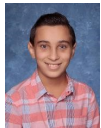
Many people left before the game even started. The game was supposed to start at 1:05. After about an hour and a half, the Yankees decided that a game needed to be played. Instead of baseball though, it was college basketball.

College basketball games were played live on the Jumbotron. After sitting and standing in the cold, people decided to go into packed stores to keep warm.

Finally, after 3 hours and 17 minutes the game started. The rain continued to fall. It was freezing and everyone was wearing hats, gloves, and even blankets.

Sadly, the Yankees lost 7-5 to the Baltimore Orioles.

R.I.P. Nipsey Hussle



**By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune Staff**

On March 31st, California MC, businessman and community activist Nipsey Hussle was shot and killed outside of his Marathon

Clothing store in Los Angeles. He was 33 years old. He is survived by two children and his partner, Lauren London. Tributes have poured in, from fellow West Coast rapper, Kendrick Lamar, Snoop Dogg, 21 Savage, J. Cole, Meek Mill, Pharrell Williams, and more. I gathered a few lyrics to celebrate the life and legacy of Nipsey Hussle.

Nip was serious about music ownership and took control of his craft in an industry that can often leave musicians struggling. "The industry wasn't built by artists so you can't even be mad at it for real.

You just gotta figure out how to use whatever leverage you got to become an exception to that rule," Hussle said on Hot 97 Radio. Nipsey started from the ground up, selling his music outside of LA supermarkets and other homegrown spots. He was determined to be his own man with an eye for longevity.

Later, he famously started his *Proud to Pay* program selling exclusive copies of his *Crenshaw* and *Mailbox Money* projects for \$100 and \$1,00 dollars apiece, respectively. "Just about giving our music catering to our people skipping the platforms not worrying about what radio need not worrying about what the A&Rs stressing, not worrying about what the label think they need because they 55 stories up," Nip explained.



Nip worked hard to give back to his community in South Central's Crenshaw District by providing better opportunities than he had growing up. "You know the goal is to create a bridge

between the inner cities and Silicon Valley. And especially it's important to LA because it's an hour away. There's minimal representation. And as a member of the Crips gang, he was also open about his pain, like on "Face the World, rapping, "365 here is like a dog year, no wonder why these these ***** 20 and got white hairs," and on "Hussle In the House," "and in my lifetime, I seen a lot of death a couple cold nights, it look like it was nothing left, but God got me so I got him tattooed on my flesh."

He often spoke of dead friends in his lyrics, like his late friend Fatts on "Racks In the Middle." He said that Fatts was his best friend; that they had a genuine friendship. Although he was in a gang, he had plans to help stop gang violence. The Los Angeles Police Commissioner recently tweeted that he and Hussle were slated to meet on Monday, April 1st, to discuss paths to peace. In addition to working with the people in power, he also held them accountable. And as Nipsey's groundswell grew on the heels of his first Grammy-nominated album, 2018's *Victory Lap* he will always be remembered as the consummate hustler and stand-up dude who motivated his fans. "It's really what you do with it. If you a hustler, you should find some way to capitalize off that and turn that into some money."