

The Tusker Tribune

The Student Newspaper of Somers Middle School



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Tennis: Don't Judge It 'Til You've Tried It



**By Natalia Tellez
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Have you ever heard someone say that tennis is not a real sport or isn't really hard to do?

I have and I always tell the person that if you actually know what tennis is about and how to play it, their opinion would definitely change. There are multiple ways of tennis which might give the impression that it isn't challenging and a lazy sport to play. But, of course, a couple of old and easily tired people playing a tennis game will definitely not require skill, just a small swing from the players.

I'm talking about the tennis where you have to be in extreme shape, have great skill, and intense concentration.

First of all, to be a good tennis player you need to have good stamina and have good fitness. To play a good game, you have to be able to run quickly up, down, and side to side. This makes you need endurance and speed and usually not for a few minutes since tennis doesn't have a time limit and can go on for a long time.

The running portion of tennis can be compared to doing suicides (an exercise where you sprint back and forth across a field) while carrying a racket and thinking of technique and placing without a break. Sound easy right? Well.....no.

Also, tennis works out almost every muscle in your body and can cause the player to be sore in your legs, arms, and more. It has been proven that you burn more calories playing tennis than most other sports and can burn up to 200 calories in a 30-minute match. Overall, tennis certainly demands the exercise and fitness part that other sports may have.

In addition, to having a good tennis match you need have great skill in multiple ways. To get all the technique needed you must attend various practices and train hard. Also, to

win a point, you can't just swing at the ball and hope your opponent can't return it. You need to be able to swing a tennis racket properly and with enough force to place it on the spot you want on the court. Not enough and it doesn't go over the net and too much causes the ball to either go in the double's alley or out of bounds.

One of the hardest skills to master in tennis is serving. To get a good serve, you first have to toss a good ball above your head, far away that you can hit it comfortable but close enough that you can lean into it. Then, you must place it in the right position on the court, with the right amount of spin, use the right movement, and do it all without making a mistake.

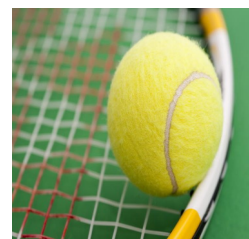
Another super hard technique in tennis is knowing when to put spin on a ball and when to use what stroke. This can include hitting a lob, cross-court hit, volley, serve, a drop shot, backhand, forehand and driving hit. Moreover, tennis is not as simple as you may think and requires lots of practice to learn all the different types of shots and the right technique.

Not only that, but to be win in tennis, you must have very good concentration and more. You always have to be

paying attention to the shot and where it landed, whether it's out or is going out. If you get distracted for even a small second, you will miss the ball and lose a point and in tennis that can either make or break a set. Furthermore, you have to pay attention to your placing and the opponents place on the court.

Tennis isn't just hitting the ball and hoping the other player will make a mistake, but actually setting up your opponent to mess up. For example, if they are close to a net, you might hit it over their head or if they are staying on one side you place it on the other half of the court. This also applies if they are far away from the net, you might do a soft hit so they can't reach it in time.

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A War For First Place



**By Jesse Manginelli
Tusker Tribune Staff**

In my last article I talked about Cody Bellinger and his amazing season with his most home runs. Although he was outshining every one a new face has come up to take his reign.

Christian Yelich now has the most home runs. Yelich has 22 home runs and Bellinger has 20.

Although Bellinger has more RBIs and a higher batting average, Yelich took a first place away and took it for himself. Yelich is 27 years old. Yelich is a center fielder for the Milwaukee Brewers. Yelich has a .309 batting average this season and a career average of .298. He also has 117 career homeruns and 452 career RBIs.



Yelich is signed to a 7-year contract that pays \$49.57M. Yelich is one of many players who was drafted out of high school. He was chosen by the Miami Marlins in the first round in 2010.

Yelich made it to the majors in 2013. Yelich has also won a Golden Glove Award and a Silver Slugger Award. Yelich has played most of his days on the Marlins but was traded to Milwaukee Brewers in early 2018.

Christian Yelich went to Westlake High School. That is all for today. I think Yelich is going to have a great season because of him being at the top of almost every stat this season. Do you think he will live up to these expectations?

NEWSPAPER CLUB



TUSKER TRIBUNE

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:

**Somers Middle School
250 Route 202
Somers, NY, USA.**

Any SMS student is eligible to write stories. If interested, please e-mail Advisor Dean

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Tennis

From Page 1

Also, during your serve you can't mess up more than once or else you will have given away an easy point which can ruin your chances at winning the game. To sum it up, tennis certainly includes the mental

part that many have said it doesn't.

In conclusion, tennis is a sport where you have to be in great shape, have extreme concentration, and be very skilled. It's a game where you have no one to fall back on

but your partner if in doubles, and all with short breaks in between each match. Next time someone says that tennis is an old ladies sport or not hard to play make sure to say otherwise.

Now you tell me, is tennis hard? I definitely think so.



End of Year Calendar!

June 7th:

Mentoring Breakfast

June 12th:

ALP Trip to NYC

June 13th:

8th Grade Dinner Dance

June 14th:

8th Lake Compounce Trip

June 17th:

6th Grade Field Trip

June 18th:

Rain date for Splashdown Trip

June 19th:

Algebra Regents

June 20th:

Earth Science Regents

June 21st:

Geometry Regents

June 21st:

7th Grade Splashdown Trip

June 21st:

8th Grade Graduation Practice

June 24th-26th:

1/2 day of school for students

June 24th:

FLACS Exam

June 24th:

6th & 7th Grades SS and Science Final exams

June 25th:

6th Grade ELA and Math exam

June 25th:

7th Grade Math and WorldLanguage exams

June 25th:

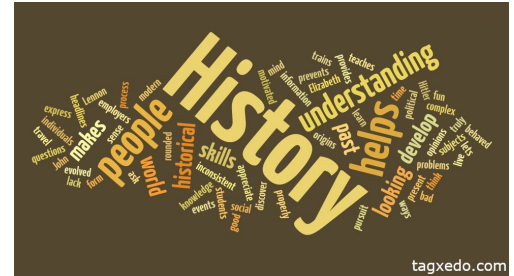
8th Grade Graduation @ 2:00pm

June 26th:

Last Day of School – ½ day (11:30am dismissal)

A portrait of a young woman with long, wavy brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark, patterned top. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

 Have you ever wondered what happened today ten years ago? Twenty years ago? Fifty? 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.

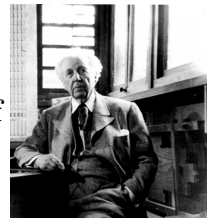


D-DAY

JUNE 6, 1944

American troops landed on Omaha and Utah beaches, while British and Canadian troops landed on Gold, Juno, and Sword beaches. By the time the allies has successfully finished the invasion, 150,000 allied soldiers had been landed, at a cost of about 40,000 lives.

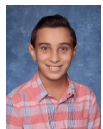
American Architect Frank Lloyd Wright was born on this day in Richland Center, Wisconsin. During his career he has created over 1,000 structures. He used a style commonly known as the “Prairie School”, with houses that featured low pitched roofs and lines that appeared to blend into the landscape. He is considered to be one of the most influential architects of his time. Wright died in 1959 in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 92.



Actress Judy Garland was born on this date in Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Her birth name was Frances Gumm. Garland was an immensely popular performer and is most well known for her role as Dorothy Gale in the *Wizard of Oz* in 1939. She soon after became one of the most well known concert performers in New York and broke box office records in New York City and London.

Reporters
Natalia Tellez
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Lucas Fry

Tyler, The Creator's *IGOR*: Good or Bad?

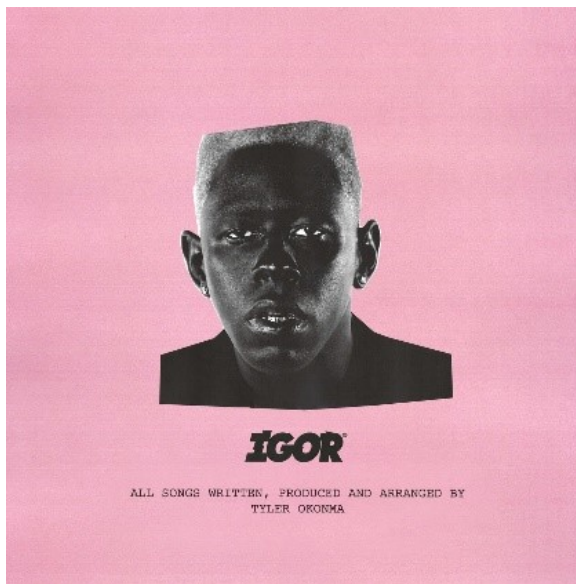


By Noah Volkman
Tusker Tribune
Staff

More than a decade since made an *earthquake* in the music industry, Tyler, The Creator finally has his first No. 1 album on the Billboard 200 with *IGOR*. The record, which was entirely produced and arranged by Tyler, moved 165,000 total units in its first week according to Forbes, besting DJ Khaled's long-awaited *Father of Asahd* and The National's *I Am Easy to Find*.

Tyler came close to topping the charts with 2017's *Flower Boy*, which peaked at No. 2 after moving 160,000 album-equivalent units in its inaugural week. He's also had three other studio albums debut within the top five, dating back to 2011's *Goblin*. The rapper posted a reaction video soon after learning the news.

After *IGOR*'s release Tyler shared an Instagram post explaining that the album was a deliberate departure from both traditional hip-hop and all his previous studio records, imploring fans to give it their undivided attention on first listen and share with him their favorite moments, writing: "Igor. This is not B*****. This is not Goblin. This is not Wolf. This is not Cherry Bomb. This is not Flower Boy. This is Igor. Pronounced Eee-Gore. Don't go into this expecting a rap album. Don't go into this expecting any album. Just go, jump into it. I believe the first listen works best all the way through, no skips. Front to back. No distractions either. No checking your phone no watching TV no holding convo, full attn. towards the sounds where you can form your own opinions and feelings towards the album. Some go on walks, some drive, some lay in bed and sponge it all up. Whatever it is you choose, fully indulge. With volume. As much as I would like to paint a picture and tell you my favorite moments, I would rather you form your own. If we ever cross paths, feel free to articulate what those moments were for you, keep it timely tho I'm not tryna have an Oprah episode. Stank you smelly mucho. *IGOR*. All songs written, produced and arranged by Tyler Okanma."



Unlike Tyler, DJ Khaled had been atop the charts before with 2017's *Grateful* and 2016's *Major Key*. *Father of Asahd* had an impressive first week, buoyed in part by the streaming success on songs like "Wish Wish" with Cardi B and 21 Savage and "Higher" with John Legend and Nipsey Hussle. Khaled's latest album moved 136,000 units. I explored the many surprise collaborators on *IGOR*, including Playboi Carti, Solange and Kanye West. But the interesting thing is, Tyler, The Creator's highly anticipated fifth solo album was released listed features prompting an Easter egg hunt of sorts for its collaborators.

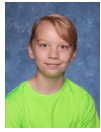
To make things both easier and harder at the same time, two days after *IGOR*'s release, Tyler posted a photo with the names of the people on the project – and that's where the fun began.

So far, this is what I've gathered:

- *IGOR'S THEME* features Lil Uzi Vert and Solange
- *EARTHQUAKE* features Playboi Carti and Charlie Wilson
- *I THINK* features Solange
- *EXACTLY WHAT YOU RUN FROM YOU END UP CHASING* is said by Jerrod Carmichael
- *RUNNING OUT OF TIME* is a solo track
- *NEW MAGIC WAND* features Jerrod Carmichael and Santigold
- *A BOY IS A GUN** is a solo track
- *PUPPET* features Kanye West and Jerrod Carmichael
- *WHAT'S GOOD* features slowthai
- *GONE, GONE / THANK YOU* features CeeLo Green and Jerrod Carmichael
- *I DON'T LOVE YOU ANYMORE* is a solo track
- *ARE WE STILL FRIENDS?* features Al Green and Pharrell Williams

What's your favorite song?

Why So Much Waste? Have Reusable Trays!



**By Lucas Fry
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Every day, during periods 4, 5 and 6, kids in Somers Middle School kids buy a hot lunch.

The school gives hot lunches on paper trays that kids throw since there isn't any designated recycling and because you can't. Hundreds are being thrown out each day and thousands each week. Over time, this becomes a large contributor to filling landfills.

As a school, we have worked to become eco-friendlier and more efficient. For example, we were one of the first schools to receive solar panels from New York State. We have also stopped using paper in some of our classes and instead, use our tablets to do our work.

This year, the technology class made bins for recycling outside and there is a huge bin in the cafeteria, so that each grade can recycle their bottles. However, we can't recycle the paper trays that you get lunch on when eating cafeteria food because they have food on them. Using reusable

plastic or metal trays are a simple fix.

Kids can use their trays and then put them somewhere where people in the kitchen can come and get them. They do not require much work to be washed and with a few people working they could be cleaned easily. Also, you can get a basic lunch tray with different sections for around three dollars. If you estimate there's around 750-



800 kids in the school and you round up to 800, that's about \$2,400 not including that companies will probably give a discount when the school buys a large amount of a certain product.

If we do this with all the schools, the total amount of buying all these trays would be around \$10,400 which would eventually make it a cost-effective decision.

Considering that all kids in 5th Grade up to 12th Grade have tablets and those tablets get better every year, getting plastic trays would not be lots of money for the district. This could stop our school from producing so much waste and it could point us in a direction where, as a district we keep increasing our effort to become more environmentally friendly.

The Somers Slam is a Memorable and Fun Event



**By Aidan Brinn
Tusker Tribune Staff**

So, what is the Somers Slam all about? Well, it was an all-day boy's lacrosse tournament on the 2nd of June. This well-organized event was so big, it hosted 76 teams from all over. Some teams were from as far away as Brooklyn, NY, Ossining, NY, and even Greenwich, CT. Teams that entered the tournament stretched from Kindergarten to 8th grade.

As a player on the Somers 7th and 8th Red team, this event was a lot of fun. This was because we played very talented and skilled teams, that we would not play during the regular season. We really lucked out because the thunderstorms stayed away that day and we had great weather.



There were many vendors selling food, such as Pow Burgers, Mario's Wood Fired Pizza and Ice Cream from the Snack Shack.

Apparel and lacrosse equipment were also sold. Some of these vendors were: Grass Slides, and Twin Lacrosse. There were also fun activities and games where kids could win prizes. There was a radar gun shooting contest where a player from every grade who shot fastest won some free lacrosse apparel. There was also a sling shot water balloon launcher (no prizes)

but still very fun!) Players would load the sling shot and fire at the opposing player. The person who was hit lost.

Remember, this is an annual event. It happens the 1st weekend in June. Be sure to come next year to support the Somers Youth Lacrosse at the Somers Slam.