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Rain Doesn't Dampen 'Music in the Park'



By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune
Staff

The band, chorus, and orchestra went on a field trip on Friday, May 9th and today I'm going to be talking about how it went.

It was bright and early, around 4 AM that I woke up just to get ready for the day. Yes, I know that's early, but we had to arrive at school at 5:45 AM. (I take my time to get ready . . .)

Once I was all ready, I got dropped off at the back of SMS to wait for the coach buses with my group. While we were waiting, it was drizzling but we didn't think much about it, (Keep on reading to see what happens).

Around 6:15 or 6:20, the coach buses have arrived. My friends and I got on the bus, and we were on our way to Massachusetts! It was a long drive (only two hours, but it felt longer).

After those two hours, we arrived at Westfield State University so the band and chorus could perform. Apparently we were judged, so I



We all got ponchos and took group photos until we could go and have fun. Fun fact: the poncho still made everyone soaked.

Once we took our group photos all the students gathered up with their groups, then we were walking to the theme park. It was a really long walk just to get to the park. Once we arrived, my group and I were already soaked, not surprised.

A few minutes later, the craziness started to happen. Everyone needed to go to the bathroom, everyone was

freezing, and I started to feel sick due to the cold. Yeah crazy.

After all of that, we finally walked to find a ride to go on. We finally found a ride to go on and we went on a ride called Sky Screamer, which is basically one of those swing rides that go in circles but higher. Personally, it was one of my favorite rides except the rain ruined the whole experience but it was still my favorite.

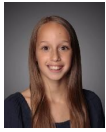
After that one ride, we all were soaked (yeahhhh mostly me..). I'm not going to list all the rides my group and I went on, but we surprisingly went on a lot!

Finally, we started walking to our bus and it was a long walk. When we got to the bus, we changed out of our soaking clothes, then we were off to the school. Two hours later, we arrived and our parents picked us up! The trip was fun but I don't recommend going out in the rain!



this craziness, we departed for Six Flags and everyone was so excited! Until . . . it started raining.

Anne Hall: The Edenton Tea Party



By Olivia Pelhank
Tusker Tribune Staff

Editor's Note: This is Olivia Pelhank's entry for the Daughters of the American Revolution Essay Contest.

Somers Middle School
Mrs. Mangone, Principal
7th Grade- Mr. Mullaney, Teacher

Hello, I am Anne Hall. I participated in the Edenton tea party. I am writing this to future generations to be inspired by me. I am writing this to future generations to be better than mine is.

The Edenton tea party took place on a Tuesday in 1774. We sent a letter to King George himself, stating our intentions. England laughed at us but that won't stop us. We want freedom.

I was born in Chowan County, North Carolina in 1755. My parents are Reverend Clement Hall and Frances Hall, who also are big on opposing to Britain's rules and taxes. I have many siblings, and a supportive husband named James Blount who is a soldier from North Carolina in the American Revolution. James Blount and I have many children, Fredrick, Roger, Sarah, and Clement. But this isn't about me, my husband, kids, or siblings, it's about future generations.

I want young females to be able to get education that many girls in my generation can't get. I enjoyed an education as a female that kids can't afford. I signed this at 20 years old, one of the youngest signers, to inspire others. Some children might not have education, but I am positive all future children will.

The Edenton tea party was in North Carolina on October 25th, 1774. It was one of the first protests organized by women in the United States. I must say though, I do not take full credit for this. Penelope Barker organized this political protest, and 50 other women, including my mother and two of my sisters, participated in it. Penelope Barker led the protest. Her husband Thomas was taken away for 13 years during the time of the sign-

ing and spent most of that time working as an agent for the colony's interests in Britain. Penelope was a kind and a natural leader, despite her sister dying when she was only 17, along with two of her husbands dying, and all five of her biological children dying, all before the day of the signing, and after her sister's death, married her sister's widower, becoming the stepmom of her nephews and nieces. She and many more women had a life far from perfect but will stand up for what they believe in, no matter the risk.

My father passed away when I was only four, but I followed in my mother and oldest sister Mary's footsteps, who both also participated in the Edenton tea party.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel did not support me and my family after my father passed, but that did not stop us from signing the resolves. I then married the colonel of the Chowan County Regiment of the North Carolina Militia, who is also the son of William Blount. My brother also became an officer in the Continental Army.

Besides myself, many other women risked a lot by signing it. Like the Boston tea party in Massachusetts, there are harsh consequences for protests. But this didn't stop us from signing. Even though we risked a lot by putting our names on the petition, I do not regret it. England can laugh all they want but we proved some-

thing that day. Just because we are female doesn't mean we can't stand up for what we believe in. Even if I had to face consequences for my signature, I would never regret it. I signed it because Britain has put us in a box, a box we can't escape. We are stuck following whatever they say.

I, along with the 50 other women, used our signatures to reach a step towards freedom from the box. Once we escape it, we can work on exiting more boxes we women have been put in. Women will vote. Girls will be properly educated.

Some might say that I signed a petition. My husband and kids say that I inspired women, especially in these years, to fight against Britain and use your voice for good. To stand up for what you believe in, no matter the risk or the consequence. Our lives are far from perfect, but we will keep going until we escape the boxes our generation has put us in, instead of hoping for less from the next generation. We can make a difference, female or not.

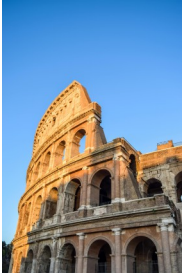


Thinking of Summer? Here Are Three Possible Vaca Spots



**By Jacob DiPasquale
Tusker Tribune Staff**
Here's a ranking of three of the best places to visit.

Italy



Italy has amazing places to visit, like the Colosseum. It was built in 72AD. It was a gift to the Roman people. It provides 100 days per year of games like animals fighting and gladiatorial combat. Over time, two out of the four stories of the original stadium have been destroyed. But it is still a great place to visit.

Japan

Japan has some of the nicest mountains in the world, like Mount Fuji. This mountain was



formed by volcanic eruptions 100,000 years ago. About 300,000 people visit the great mountain each year. It is amazing.

France



France have some of the coolest art and rich history. You could visit the Louvre Museum with its amazing art, like the Mona Lisa, Venus de Milo, and a lot of other amazing exhibits. Outside the Louvre is a sculpture that is called The Louvre Pyramid. It's a large glass skylight design in front of which people love to take pictures.

Are 'Robo Umpires' the Future of Baseball?



**By Cole Dolan
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Baseball might be getting a big change soon—robot umpires! Major League Baseball is testing something called an "automated strike zone," which uses cameras and computers to decide if a pitch is a ball or a strike. That means a robot, not a person, could call the game from behind the plate.

Some people think this is a great idea. Robots will not miss calls like humans do. They could make the game more fair and help batters and pitchers know exactly what to expect. That could make games faster and more exciting.



But not everyone agrees. Some players and fans like the human umpires because they add personality to the game. Sometimes umpires make mistakes, but that's part of what makes baseball fun and full of surprises. Right now, robot umpires are being tested in the minor leagues while still using real umpires but batters and pitchers have the option to challenge if they think the umpire made a bad call. If things go well, we might see them in the major leagues soon just like we did in spring training. Would you want a robot to call your game?

Tiger Sharks are Curious Predators



**By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Tiger sharks are also known as *Galeocerdo Cuvier*, which is a tiger shark's scientific name!

These tiger sharks weigh between 385-635 kg and their length is 3.5-4.7 meters.

These sharks have a specific diet and eat a lot of underwater animals, which include small sharks, rays, skates, turtles, porpoises, marine birds, mammals, crabs and squid. Wow, that is a lot!

These sharks are bold and curious. They often investigate unfamiliar objects or potential food sources. These sharks have stripes on their



body like a tiger! I mean maybe that's why is called a tiger shark, lol. These sharks have these stripes because the stripes on a tiger shark are used to camouflage these sharks, because they usually stay close to the coast directly below the water surface and with their stripes, they resemble the shadows of waves in the water.

Here are some fun facts about these fascinating sharks! Did you know they live in water ranging from 1 meter to 150 meters deep? In addition, Tiger sharks' teeth are typically about 2.5 cm long, but they can sometimes be as long as 3.8-5.1 cm long.

1 kilogram = about 2 pounds. 1 cm = 0.4 inches. 1 meter = 3.2 feet.

What Happened to Devin Williams?



**By Cole Dolan
Tusker Tribune Staff**

This off-season, the New York Yankees signed the best closer in baseball . . . or at least was the best, known for his elite pitching. He even has been given a name for one of his pitches—the air bender—a changeup with movement that makes it untouchable.

Everyone is happy after losing a lot of our bullpen. We get the best bullpen pitcher in the league until the Yankees had their first game, and they brought Williams to get the save and it definitely wasn't a straight flat road. It was more like a steep incline with bumps.

Williams loaded the bases before he got

an out and even though he got the save, it definitely gave a scare to all Yankee fans.



Since that rough close, Williams has not had a good outing, with his ERA at a 9.00 this season. He has not lived up to the reputation at all. What make this even weirder is a few of the top closers last year are not doing any better. Let's take Ryan Presley. He was traded from the Astros to the Cubs with the Cubs hoping they could fill a long needed closer spot, but that didn't happen. He is doing a slight bit better than Williams but by a slim margin.

I feel that this could be jitters for Williams, being under the brightest lights and being a Yankee, but who knows? Do you think Williams can find his way again?

Some Interesting Facts About Moon Jellies



**By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Moon jellies are fascinating creatures found in oceans worldwide. These jellyfish are easily recognized by their translucent bell-shaped bodies, often with four horseshoe shaped gonads visible inside. They are gelatinous, meaning their bodies are mostly water, and they drift with ocean currents.

A Moon jelly's body is a simple structure. The bell, or medusa, is its main body part, containing a digestive system and other



organs. Trailing beneath are long, thin tentacles called oral arms, used for capturing food.

Moon jellies have a unique life cycle involving both a polyp stage and the medusa stage. They reproduce bisexually, releasing both eggs and sperm into the water. Moon jellies are carnivores, primarily feeding on plankton and small crustaceans. They capture their prey using stinging cells called nematocysts located on their tentacles.

While their sting is generally harmless to humans, causing only a mild irritation, other marine animals, like sea turtles and some fish, are known to prey on moon jellies.

Sea Lions Are Actually Seals



**By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Sea lions are fascinating marine mammals found in coastal regions around the world. They belong to the family *Otariidae*, which also includes fur seals. These highly intelligent creatures are known for their abilities. There are several species, each with unique characteristics and adaptations to their environment.

Sea lions possess a streamlined body perfectly suited for life in water. Their powerful flippers allow for efficient swimming and maneuvering, while their thick layer of blubber provides



insulation against the cold ocean temperatures. Their sharp teeth are used for catching their prey, such as fish and squid, and their sensitive noses help them navigate.

Sea lions are social animals, often forming large colonies known as rookeries. They exhibit complex social structures, with males engaging in competitive displays for dominance and mating opportunities. Their social interactions include vocalizations such as barks and roars, used for communication and territorial defense. These interactions can be quite noisy, especially during

ing breeding season.

Britney Spears' Impressive Accomplishments



**By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Who is Britney Spears? When did Britney Spears become famous? Where is she from? How did she start her career? That's a lot of questions, and there are a lot more where those came from! Let's begin!

Britney Jean Spears is an American singer, who can often be known as "Princess Pop", who has sold over 150 million records. Worldwide. Unbelievable right? Which makes her the best-selling music artist.

At just 16 years old Britney became one of the most famous people on the planet earth. In other words she became famous in 1998, which apparently isn't that bad when



growing up in Kentwood, Louisiana. Six out of her first seven albums reached an insane number of Billboard charts.

Britney Spears began her career by competing in talent shows. She first showed off her vocal skills on the singing competition Star Search at 10 years old in 1992. Following a stint on The Mickey Mouse Club, she signed a record deal with Jive Records in 1997 and created chart-topping hits. She was also hired for her first professional role as the understudy for the lead role of Tina Denmark in the off-Broadway musical Ruthless! She appeared as a contestant on the popular television show Star Search and was cast in a number of commercials.

Misfortune Doesn't Detract from Marilyn Monroe's Talent



**By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff**

Who is Marilyn Monroe? Where is Marilyn Monroe from and how did she start her career? Well, if you didn't know these questions, I'm about to inform you and get you on the fact train. Let's get started!

Marilyn Monroe was an American actress and model who became a cultural icon in the 1950s and 1960s. She starred in many popular movies. She had three marriages and unfortunately passed away



from a drug overdose (don't use drugs!) She was found dead August 4, 1962.

Marilyn Monroe was born June 1st, 1926, and grew up in Los Angeles, California. Marilyn Monroe's real name is Norma Jeane Mortensen. As a child, Norma Jean Baker (originally spelled as Norma Jeane) was in and out of foster homes, state care, and the guardianship of various family friends. She never knew her father, and her mother had been sent to a psychiatric facility, which is very unfortunate.

Marilyn Monroe was a wonderful person overall.

Music Spans Thousands of Years



**By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff**

What is music? Let's find out together.

Music is the art of arranging sounds, involving melody, harmony, rhythm, and expressive elements. It is a universal language connecting people emotionally across cultures. Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven are regarded as the greatest composers in history.

Music scientifically boosts mood, reduces stress, and promotes relaxation. Modern music is heard in a bewildering profusion of styles. The recording industry is valued at \$28.6 billion.



Pop musicians have shorter lifespans than everyday people. The average pop song is 3 minutes and 15 seconds long. Musicians earn an average of \$39.14 an hour.

Music is believed to have started around 40,000 years ago, as evidenced by the discovery of bone flutes from prehistoric cultures.

The first written piece of music dates back approximately 3,400 years, indicating that music was not only performed but also composed and notated. This development marks a significant milestone in the history of music. I love

music, especially the orchestra and chorus!

Like Hurricanes, Tsunamis Pose a Big Threat



By Elizabeth Alonzo Javier
Tusker Tribune Staff

Have you ever wondered why tsunamis occur? Well, I have! Today, I am going to fill you in, in some tsunami facts. Make sure to be buckled up because I'm about to blow you away!

Tsunami waves can reach heights of over 100 ft. About 80% of tsunamis happen within the Pacific Ocean's "Ring of Fire," where earthquakes and volcano eruptions frequently happen. A tsunami is a series of ocean waves caused by an underwater earthquake, landslide, or volcanic eruption. More rarely, a tsunami can be generated by a giant me-

teor impacting the ocean.



A tsunami can reach speeds of 500 miles per hour, which is almost the speed of a jet airplane. Because of their speed, a tsunami could cross the Pacific Ocean in only one day. A tsunami is not just one big wave, but a series of waves called a "wave train." The time between waves is called the "wave period" and can be between a few minutes and two

hours.

In the deepest part of the ocean, tsunami waves are often only 1 to 3 feet tall. They reach their major size as the water gets more shallow.

How Have Torpedo Bats Changed Baseball?



By Cole Dolan
Tusker Tribune Staff

On March 29th, the New York Yankees played the Milwaukee Brewers and after getting through the top of the first now the Yankees are up to bat.

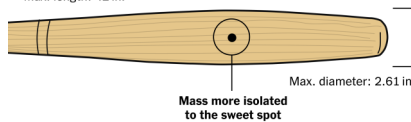
The first pitch is delt to Goldschmidt. "WHAM". Out of the park. The next batter is Bellinger. "SMACK"! Right into the bleachers. Then the big man, Aaron Judge, steps up to the plate, and you guessed it— "BAM"! A second deck home run.

How could this be possible—back-to-back-to-back home runs on the first three pitches? Then Yankees announcer Micheal Kay starts saying something about a bat and it turns out they are using

MLB Bats: Standard vs. "torpedo"

"Torpedo" bat

Max. length: 42 in.

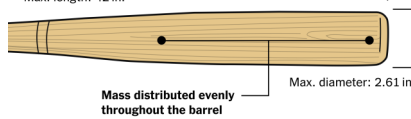


Max. diameter: 2.61 in.

Mass more isolated to the sweet spot

MLB standard bat

Max. length: 42 in.



Max. diameter: 2.61 in.

Mass distributed evenly throughout the barrel

torpedo bats, which push the barrel down on the bat so players who are hitting the ball inside on their hands are getting more "pop" from the bat.

Ever since the demolition of the Brewers that day, the torpedo bats took the league by storm with almost every team having players using them. These bats give more home runs, which is more entertaining for fans especially with MLB viewership slowly dropping.

I feel these bats changed the game in a great way and it could be the next best thing to happen in the MLB. Do you think

torpedo bats changed the game in a good or bad way?

What is it that Makes Ducks Interesting?



By Allison Posdadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

Ducks are a common name for numerous species of waterfowl in the family *Anatidae*. Did you know ducks are generally smaller and shorter-necked than swans and geese, which are members of the same family? Ducks are mostly aquatic birds and may be found in both fresh water and sea water. Ducks are sometimes confused with several types of unrelated water birds with similar forms, such as loons or divers, grebes' gallinules and coots.



The word *duck* comes from Old English *Duce*, or "diver", a derivative of the verb *Ducan*, which means "to duck, bend down low as if to get under something, or dive". This may be because of the way many species in the dabbling duck group feed by upending; compare with Dutch *duiken* and German *tauchen*, which means *to dive*.

What are ducks' eating behaviors like? Ducks eat various food sources such as grasses, aquatic plants, fish, insects, small amphibians, worms, and small mollusks.