



The Tusker Tribune

SOMERS MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

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Check out
two classic
Super Bowl
ads on
Page 4!

By Allison Posadas
Tusker Tribune Staff

For people reading this, thank you, and I'm glad you are. I wrote this poem so you guys get inspired to write poems like this as well. I wrote this poem to prove that no matter what happens, every day can end beautifully. So, here is the poem about the sunset.

The sunset.
A beautiful,
And inspiring sight;
The colors yellow and pink
meet together,
The clouds are fluffy,
And white;
The day begins slow,
And the sun is going down,
And it fades slowly into the
night.

The sunset
Is a peaceful moment we can
catch;
We watch the colors shift
down,
and blend;
The sunset is always,
A quiet pause before the
dark,
Before this quiet pause,
We must cherish the
moment,
Of a peaceful moment, calm,
and sweet.

The sunset,
As day and night begin to
meet,
The little stars begin to
blink.
The sun dives down,
And soon says its goodbyes,
Always remember the colors
of the beautiful sky.



By Noah Samuel
Tusker Tribune Staff

February is Black History Month, also known as African American History Month. But why do we celebrate this – and why for a full month? How did Black History Month come about?

Negro History Week

The celebration of the history of African Americans started in 1926, with the creation of Negro History Week. This was celebrated in the second week of February, because it coincided with Abraham Lincoln's birthday on the 12th, as well as the birthday of Frederick Douglass on the 14th. Lincoln, the 16th president of the U.S, was the one who abolished slavery in all parts of the country. Douglass was an important Black civil rights leader in the 1900's, an abolitionist, and a writer/orator.

Month-Long Extension

The celebration was then extended to a month with the proposal of Black History Month by Kent State University, in 1969. The first celebration took place at KSU the following year, from January 2nd to February 28th, 1970. By the time six years had passed, Black History Month was being celebrated across the country in community centers, educational institutions, and Black culture centers, both big and small. President Gerald Ford recognized Black History Month in 1976 during the U.S. Bicentennial.

Around the World

Many countries around the world celebrate Black History Month. In 2005, the Senate officially celebrated February as Black History Month. In 1995, Canada's House of Commons recognized February as Black History Month. Black History Month was first celebrated in France in Bordeaux in 2018, and since then France, Guadeloupe, and a few other cities have followed suit. In October 1987, Black History Month was first celebrated in London, United Kingdom. In 2010, Black History Month was started in Cork, Ireland. In 2020, seven African Countries celebrated the month, including Senegal and Ivory Coast.

So now you know the full history behind Black History Month. I hope you learned something new about this celebration. And when next February comes around, maybe you can take some time to remember all the ways that Black people play a crucial role in American history and culture.

2026 Winter Olympics Overview

By Noah Samuel
Tusker Tribune Staff

Today marks the official start of the 2026 Milano Cortina Winter Olympics. But what happens during this time? What sports are played? Keep reading to learn more about this special event.

Sports

The Winter Olympics offer 16 sports this year, all of which have a men's and women's event except Nordic Combined, in which only men compete. The sports are: Alpine skiing, Biathlon, Bobsleigh, Cross-country skiing, Curling, Figure skating, Freestyle skiing, Ice hockey, Luge, Nordic combined, Short-track speed skating, Skeleton, Ski jumping, Ski mountaineering, Snowboarding, and Speed skating.

Countries

This year, there are 92 different countries competing in the Olympics! Russia and Belarus remain suspended from the Games because of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Instead, certain individual athletes who are cleared by the Olympic Committee can participate as an "Individual Neutral Athlete," without affiliation to their country of nationality. In addition, Benin, Guinea-Bissau and the United Arab Emirates are expected to make their Winter Olympics debuts.

Events

The Games first started on Wednesday with curling, and then there was hockey and snowboarding yesterday. The opening ceremony is today, with curling, hockey, and figure skating. The events then continue over the next 16 days, with the closing ceremony on Sunday the 22nd. In total, there will be 116 events over the 19 days. The events will all take place in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, and in the surrounding clusters of Valtellina, Verona, and Val di Fiemme.

So now you know a little bit more about the Milano Cortina Winter Olympics this year. Hopefully Team USA does well this year! What sport is your favorite?

The Origin of the Olympic Games Goes Back Thousands of Years

By Noah Samuel
Tusker Tribune Staff

This past Wednesday, February 4th, was the start of a very special event – the Winter Olympics. They seem to have been going on forever, but have you ever wondered when and how they started? Keep reading to learn more about this historical event – you might be surprised.

History

The Olympic Games were first inspired by the Ancient Olympic Games, which were held in Olympia, Greece from the 8th century BCE to the 4th century CE! The origin of these games is unknown, although there are popular legends and myths explaining it. However, inscriptions have been found of footrace winners at Olympia starting in 776 BCE. These games eventually evolved to include boxing, wrestling, equestrian, and pentathlon events. However, with the Romans gaining power in Greece, the Olympics eventually decreased in popularity and importance. The Games officially ended sometime around 400 BCE, at the feet of the Romans.

Revival

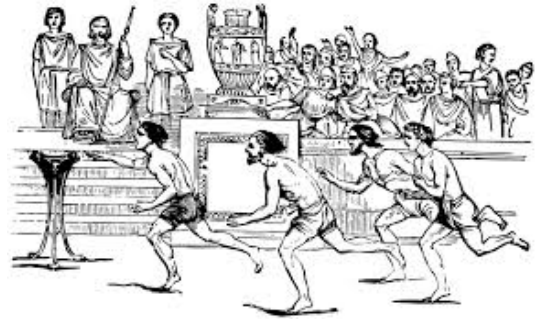
The International Olympics Committee was founded by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in 1894, which led to the first official modern Olympic Games in Athens, in 1896. Coubertin got the idea after watching the Wenlock Olympian Games, founded by Dr. William Penny Brookes in England. There was also an ongoing Olympic Games event in Greece, sponsored by Evangelos Zappas, after Greece's independence from the Ottoman Empire. With these two events as inspiration, Coubertin proposed his idea of an international Olympic Games to be held every four years.

Modern Games

The first Olympic Games were officially held by the IOC in Athens, Greece in 1896. It brought 14 nations and 241 athletes who competed in 43 events. The Games have been held subsequently every four years. In 1921, it was decided to hold a winter version of the Olympics, as it was not practical to hold events on snow and ice in the summer across the world. The IOC mandated that it be celebrated every four years, and in a different host city than its summer counterpart.

In 1948, events were held to promote rehabilitation of soldiers after WWII, and in 1960, the first “Parallel Olympics,” later known as Paralympics, were held in synchrony with the regular games.

So now you know a little bit more about the Olympic Games. Fun fact - this will be the first time NHL players are returning to the Olympics since 2014! Hopefully Team USA can come out on top with the most medals and golds. Which winter sport is your favorite?



Everyone Knows the Super Bowl is About the Commercials!

By Alden Heinkel
Tusker Tribune Staff

Commercials in the Super Bowl have been a major thing in every modern Super Bowl. Now it is Super Bowl LX (60), and time to break down why commercials in the Super Bowl are more important and special than regular commercials.

The reason for the better commercials during the Super Bowl is because companies know that a lot of people watch the Super Bowl with families and that it will be a good time to advertise their products. They also know that when you are with your family, it will be easier to make memories so they assume that you make memories of everybody laughing at a commercial. Finally, the commercials are funny and are exciting.

For example, Volkswagen's 2012 "The Force" commercial was Volkswagen's first Super Bowl commercial in more than a decade. A child in a Darth Vader costume tries in vain to use "The Force" to perform various household tasks. Eventually, to his shock, he manages to start the family's Volkswagen 2012 Passat—unaware that his father is actually controlling it via a remote key fob.

Then there is McDonald's 1993 "The Showdown" featuring Michael Jordan and Larry Bird, who appeared together in this memorable McDonald's Spot. Battling for a Big Mac and fries, the two athletes play a heated game of HORSE, devising increasingly preposterous shots. They feel relatable and enticing.

This is why Super Bowl commercials are a major part of every Super Bowl.

Citation:

Microsoft Copilot and History website



McDonald's 1993 Super Bowl Ad. Click to watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IshK-j_u6LI

Volkswagen's 2012 Super Bowl Ad. Click to watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eGZNocni6zE>

Reporters and Contributors

Alden Heinkel
William Mifsud
Isabella Nevsky
Allison Posadas
Noah Samuel

NEWSPAPER CLUB



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To visit the Tusker Tribune Website, click here: [Tusker Tribune School Newspaper](#)



Entdecken Sie Ganz Deutschland

By Isabella Nevsky
Tusker Tribune Staff

Germany is a scenic country with many landscapes and landmarks. Germany is located in western Europe and has land bordered by Denmark, Poland, Czechia, Austria, Switzerland, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

Major cities include the capital, Berlin, Munich, Hamburg, and Frankfurt. Germany holds many popular landmarks like The Brandenburg Gate, Neuschwanstein Castle, Cologne Cathedral, Berlin Cathedral, Nymphenburg Palace, Heidelberg Castel, and the Reichstag building.

Here are some facts about Germany and its history! Germany is the seventh largest European country, covering 138,102 square miles. Fun fact: Germany could fit into the U.S. more than 27 times. The population of Germany is approximately 83,270,140 people and the 13th most visited country in the world. Germany has over 20,000 castles, the most popular including Neuschwanstein Castle, the Hohenzollern Castel, and the Heidelberg Castle.

German, in addition to being the official language of Germany, is also an official language of Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Liechtenstein. Germany is a country you should definitely add to your bucket list!



From Backpack Crisis to a New Friendship

By William Mifsud
Tusker Tribune Staff



I was on the bus, and I decided to look in my backpack for some reason. I unzipped my bag and . . . oh no. I did not expect this! My Braxien plush got into my backpack! This was not good. I don't think they allow people to bring a plush from home in my grade now!

I walked up the steps and . . . oops! I fell over! All my stuff had scattered around me, including my Braxien plush. So embarrassing. I was packing up my stuff until this happened: "Hey," a kid said, "Wanna be friends with me?"

"Sure." I said back.

He came closer to me and asked me this: "You like Pokémon?"

"Yeah," I said. "I like it."

"That's sick, dude!" he told me. "I watched it when I was five years old!" He helped me get my stuff into my backpack. "Wait a minute," he said.

"Yeah?" I asked.

"I don't mean this in a threatening way, but what's your name?"

"Daniel," I said. "That's my name."

"Name's Eddie."

Eddie. I thought to myself. What a nice name.

"But if you want to," Eddie continued. I jerked my head up. "You could call me Ed."

"Okay," I said. "I'll do a mix of the two."

"Fair enough," Eddie said to me.

We walked into our first period. Science. I kept my Braxien plush tucked in away, hidden in my backpack so what happened wouldn't happen again.

