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Emory University’s Rhinoceros News Story

*Start with breaking news report music.*

Anchor 1: Hello everyone, I am Jacob Robbins and this is WMRE, Emory’s Student Run Radio and the voice of our campus. Welcome to episode 64 on the 16th of February and thank you for listening in today, we have a very important broadcast about the record breaking snowfall. With me here today is my co-host, Lily Chow, reporting live from Asbury Circle. Lily?

*Static and tech noises*

Anchor 2: Thank you Jacob and hello all! It is currently 28 degrees with a wind-chill of 25 and a light half an inch of snow covers every surface of campus. Must say, it looks rather beautiful and it seems like just about everyone on campus is excited about the canceled classes. Lots of students have taken advantage by making hot chocolate, catching up on sleep and relaxing. I am here on Asbury Circle to get some insight from the students themselves, as many enjoy themselves sliding down the hill on DUC trays.

*Break with shuffling walking sounds and static from mics.*

*Sounding off in the distance* Anchor 2: Hi excuse me, would you mind if I interviewed you for our WMRE news broadcast?

*Brief inaudible conversation exchange*

Anchor 2: Okay, here I am with—

Student 1: John Kelly

Anchor 2: Thank you so much for agreeing to contribute, John. Now how have you been making use of your day?

Student 1: Well I was just got out here after breakfast with my DUC tray to go sledding down the hill with some friends. The half an inch of snow covering campus looks so nice and there were even some interesting designs in the middle of the freshmen quad when I walked by it this morning.

Anchor 2: Hmm, wow that’s sounds cool, we might check that out later. So tell us where you’re from? Is this weather a shock to you?

Student 1: Yeah, I’m from southern California so this snow is pretty sweet.

Anchor 2: Wow, yeah I can imagine it doesn’t get very cold there at all, huh?

Student 1: *laughs* the coldest day back home was probably in the fifties.

Anchor 2: *laughs and agrees,* well, it was so nice meeting you, thank you for the interview.

Student 1: No problem man, enjoy your day!

Anchor 2: Now for some questioning in the DUC itself! I am about to go see how the DUC workers feel about these tray disappearances.

*Snow crunching noises, distant conversations.*

*Insert background noise from the DUC*.

Anchor 2: Ok everyone, here I am with Angela, one of the DUC workers in charge of restocking trays.

Angela: Hello there!

Anchor 2: So Angela, how do you feel about the activity in the DUC today?

Angela: Well these rowdy students keep coming in here and walking out with all our trays! It has gotten so ridiculous we have stopped putting out trays for now. I mean we’ve always had a few disappearing bowls and cups, but this has been brought to a whole new level. Crazy kids!

Anchor 2: S*uppressing laughter.* Oh wow, well I’m so sorry for the horrid case of disappearing trays, ma’am!

Angela: Ts*k in disapproval.* Well if you see any more students with trays, tell them to bring them back!

Anchor 2: Alright, will do. Thank you so much for the interview.

Angela: You’re very welcome.

Anchor 2: Now we will switch back to Jacob in the studio for a report on the most recent studies—oh wait, hold on.

*Break with inaudible speech.*

Anchor 2: We have just received news from the studio of some strange things happening on the freshman quad! I’m heading there right now, please bear with me.

*Elevator/hold music.*

*Fade in noise of chattering and excited students*

Anchor 2: Hello everyone and welcome back! I am now standing by the freshman quad, where there is a large crowd of students gathered around to see the mysterious sight of animal footprints in the snow covered grass. I am currently navigating my way to the front. Oh my! The tracks are huge! They look like bear prints, no dinosaurs, no, but some sort of giant reptile for sure! I’ve never seen anything like it but they’re definitely from a large animal. It seems like no one knows for sure what they’re from right now, but there’s a lot of speculation. *Pause.*

Here I am with one of the students who first discovered the tracks. What’s your name?

Student 2: Hi, my name’s Aidan.

Anchor 2: Hi Aidan, could you tell us how you came across these animal prints?

Aidan: Well you see, I was just out here with a couple of friends this morning to play Frisbee as we usually do and we found these strange tracks. So of course, we were super hyped and took lots of snapchats and started telling everyone who walked by to come look at the tracks.

Anchor 2: Wow that’s awesome. Any idea what animal might have left them?

Aidan: Well at first I wanted to say a bear, but then my friend Joey, who said the tracks looked like the Rhinoceros ones he saw in Africa this past summer.

Anchor 2: But we all know that rhinoceros don’t live in Georgia, right? Or do they?

Aidan: I don’t know man, that’s what I thought but he insisted. Hey here he is right now. Joey!

Joey: Hey what’s up?

Anchor 2: Hi I’m just doing an interview about the animal tracks, would like to tell us about what you think they’re from?

Joey: They’re one hundred percent rhinoceros tracks, believe me I *just* know.

Anchor 2: Well there you have it, ladies and gentlemen, rhinoceros tracks right in the middle of our freshman quad. Now that’s an interesting theory, but is it true?

Anchor 2: We are now switching back to the studio, Jacob?

Anchor 1: Thanks Lily. It seems as though there’s quite a bit of commotion out on the quad stirred up by these tracks. I’ve just received reports from the administration that they will be fencing off the quad for now to prevent people from messing them up. They’re also calling in the Atlanta animal control and a zoologist to identify the type of animal that left the tracks. I guess it turns out this is a very exciting snow day! I mean this animal appearance is totally unheard of since Emory tends to only have a few squirrels or rabbits and such, but never anything as large as a bear or rhinoceroses. I can’t wait to find out more, we’re going to switch back to Lily to see what’s happening now.

Anchor 2: Hi everyone, I’m still standing right by the freshmen quad, the zoologist from the Atlanta Zoo has just arrived with some staff to determine the origin of these tracks.

*Pause with background noise.*

Anchor 2: Yup, it looks like they are rhinoceros tracks after all! Let’s get some insight from the zoologist, Dr. Vandriel.

*Footsteps, background talking noise.*

Anchor 2: Hello Dr. Vandriel, My name’s Lily Chow and I’m part of WMRE, Emory’s student run radio. Would you mind answering a couple questions?

Dr. Vandriel: I’d be happy to!

Anchor 2: How could you tell for sure these are rhinoceros tracks?

Dr. Vandriel: Well I could just tell from the short angled toes that point outwards at around twenty five degrees. Also, the shape of the heels are tell-tale signs of rhinoceros feet. Oh and of course the depth of footprint show the relative weight of the animal.

Anchor 2: Mm-hmm, that’s really interesting and how do you know so much about rhinoceroses?

Dr. Vandriel: I actually conducted a few studies on some African species during grad school and I got field work experience during the time I spent living in South Africa. Then after I was back in the States, I had a lot of experience working with them at a zoo in California.

Anchor 2: Sounds like you’re a bit of a rhinoceros expert then! How do you think these tracks got here? Are there really rhinoceroses wandering around campus?

Dr. Vandriel: Well my guess is that a local zoo must have had a security breach due to the power outage last night from the snow storm so the electric gates were probably malfunctioning.

Anchor 2: Alright, thank you so much for your input Dr. Vandriel.

Dr. Vandriel: You’re welcome.

Anchor 2: Well there you have it—the real truth, from students and experts alike. These tracks are truly from a loose rhinoceros wandering around the campus last night! How exactly did it get here? No one knows but this sighting sure brought a lot of publicity to campus. There is now double the number of people surrounding the quad and even CBS news has caught on. Their helicopter has been circling around the quad. Now back to you Jacob.

Anchor 1: Thanks for the report Lily. Well everyone, after seeing the evidence and validation from an expert zoologist I guess there must have been a rhinoceros walking around campus last night in the midst of the snowstorm. This event will definitely go down in history and it has just been documented by WMRE, Emory’s Student Run Radio. Thank you so much for listening in today and enjoy the snow day!

*Closing show music*

Audience:

The audience for my broadcast would be the students and staff of Emory University who listen to the student run radio show, WRME. Since the broadcasting is live on the internet, the audience may also include a smaller percentage of other non-Emory members who happen to enjoy listening to the show. The students who listen in will probably be interested in radio broadcasting or news media. They may also just be friends with the anchors or other involved members of the club and would like to show their support. This is a very specific audience, which makes it easier to create a convincing hoax because their interests and views about the school will be similar so creating a story believable to all won’t be as difficult as putting this story out through a larger news broadcaster with more listeners.