

MISS NELSON HAS A FIELD DAY!

Another wacky musical for the entire family

Based on the book *Miss Nelson Has a Field Day* by Harry
Allard and James Marshall

Adapted by
Joan Cushing

Book, music, and lyrics by Joan Cushing

© August 7, 2003



October 5, 2005
Final script, with cues

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Based on the book
Miss Nelson Has a Field Day
by Harry Allard & James Marshall

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Running time: 65 minutes
Taped Orchestral Score
Cast of Six

**Originally commissioned and produced by
Imagination Stage, Bethesda, MD**

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SCENE

TIME

A school day, between 9:00AM and 3:00PM,
and afterwards
Weekend football game

PLACE

The Horace B. Smedley Elementary School
The Horace B. Smedley Football Field
Lulu's Ice Cream Parlor

Cast of Characters (Six)

Lead Female – 2 roles

Miss Nelson
Coach Viola Swamp

Lead Male – 2 roles

Coach Armstrong
Principal Blandsworth

Four Kids (3 Males & 1 Female)

Miss Nelson's Students:

Kenny (Quarterback, #30)
*Daniel (Wide Receiver, #88)
Patrick (Defensive Tackle #63)
Lauren (Cheerleader)

*Daniel doubles as Mabel, the Cafeteria Lady

Football positions:

QB Quarterback
WR Wide Receiver
DT (Defensive Tackle)

Coach Swamp compares them to:

Johnny Unitas – Baltimore Colts
Jerry Rice – San Francisco Forty-niners
William “the Refrigerator” Perry – Chicago Bears

Voice Parts

Lauren Alto
Kenny Tenor
Daniel Baritone
Patrick Baritone

Personalities

Leader, smart, miss goody two shoes
Smart, but lazy, can be a leader
Class clown, mischievous, unfocused
New kid, timid, a follower, a hard worker

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

THE HORACE B. SMEDLEY FIGHT SONG! Cheerleader & Ensemble
DOOM AND GLOOM! Ensemble
CALYPSO HOLIDAY! Miss Nelson, Cafeteria Lady & Coach Armstrong
THE LEGEND OF VIOLA SWAMP Kids & Mr. Blandsworth
MORE! MORE! MORE! Viola Swamp

ACT II

THE DRILL Viola Swamp & Tornadoes
IMAGINE! Principal Blandsworth & Kids of 207
THE HISTORY LESSON! Miss Nelson & Kids of 207
THE TORNADO BALLETT! (Instrumental version of “Imagine”)..... Tornadoes
THE HORACE B. SMEDLEY FIGHT SONG!Reprise Cheerleader
DOOM AND GLOOM Reprise/Finale Ensemble

*Can be performed straight through with no Intermission - 65 minutes

ACT I

SCENE 1.

THE HORACE B. SMEDLEY FOOTBALL FIELD

When the audience enters the theatre, it is half-time. The stage is half of the football field, from the 50 yard line back to the Tornado end zone, so that the audience is looking down the field. The front of the stage is the Line of Scrimmage, where the Smedley Tornadoes line up, facing the audience, and wait for the kick, or the snap. The opponent's end zone is behind the audience, so that when the Tornadoes have the ball, they run in place facing the audience. There should be a goal post, in the distance, upstage, and a banner displayed prominently which says "Go, Tornadoes." A scoreboard is optional. If used, suggestions are included for what to change the numbers to in each game. For the opening scene, the scoreboard would read: Tigers 35, Tornadoes 0.

SOUND CUE #1 - Preshow announcement. Announcement ends with:

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

... And now, enjoy "Miss Nelson Has a Field Day!"

(SOUND CUE #2 - Crowd noise.

LAUREN enters dressed as a cheerleader, and warms up the audience.)

LAUREN	AUDIENCE
<i>(Spoken)</i>	
READY?	
OKAY.	
GIVE ME A "T!"	
	"T!"
GIVE ME AN "O!"	
	"O!"
GIVE ME AN "R, N, A, D, O!"	
COME ON, EVERYBODY!	
	"R, N, A, D, O!"
OKAY!	
WHAT HAVE WE GOT?	
	TORNADOES!
WHAT HAVE WE GOT?	
	TORNADOES!

ONE MORE TIME!
WHAT HAVE WE GOT?

TORNADOES!

(Fade out SOUND CUE #2 - General crowd noise...and

Bring up SOUND CUE #3. - The SPORTS COMMENTATOR welcomes the PLAYERS onto the field over drumbeat underscoring. It goes directly into "The Tornado Fight Song" interspersed with Sports Announcer comments and football sound effects.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention please? It's time to welcome the Smedley Tornadoes back onto the field for the second half of this football game.

(The THREE SMEDLEY TORNADO FOOTBALL PLAYERS saunter onto the field, looking like a bunch of losers.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Coming up behind them is Coach Armstrong.

(COACH ARMSTRONG enters.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

And here they come, folks, the Bethany Tigers, who lead by a whopping 35 points! The big question here is: Will the Tornadoes dig themselves out of the hole?

(SOUND CUE continues with music to "The Smedley Tornado Fight Song!")

LAUREN & TORNADOES

(Sing)

OOH, TORNADOES! *(while spinning around like tornadoes)*

Thud! (One TORNADO falls down.)

OOH, TORNADOES! *(while spinning around in the other direction)*

Thud! (A second TORNADO falls down.)

OOH - - - -

OOH - - - -

(The TORNADOES go into a huddle, with the COACH, putting their hands in the center, and pulling them out on the word "Tornadoes!")

OOH - - - - - TORNADOES!

(SOUND CUE continues, switching to drumbeat underscoring.

The TORNADOES line up, facing the AUDIENCE, to receive the kick.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

The players are lined up at the Line of Scrimmage.

(The whistle sounds - contained in sound cue.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

Here comes the kick! *[Pop!]*

(Sound of football being kicked - contained in sound cue

EVERYONE watches the imaginary ball sail through the air.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

And the ball goes deep into Tornado territory. Number 88 goes back to catch the ball and he *MISSES!* *[Thwack!]*

(Sound of ball hitting the ground - contained in sound cue)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

The ball is picked up by Number 30, and he *FUMBLES!* The ball is picked up again by Number 63, and he runs the *WRONG WAY!* And he is brought down *[Thwack!]* at the Tornadoes' 20 yard line!

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

A definite setback for the Tornadoes!

(Drumbeat goes into fight song music.

LAUREN sings the school fight song, as the TORNADOES play ball and do everything wrong .)

THE SMEDLEY TORNADO FIGHT SONG!

Spirited march tempo/band music

LAUREN

(Shouts)

Hey!

(Sings)

GO, TORNADOES.

FIGHT FOR HORACE B!

Smack!

LEAD YOUR TEAMMATES

ON TO VICTORY!

Thwack!

GO OUT AND SHOW THEM
YOU'LL NEVER YIELD!

Thud! (A TORNADO hits the dust!)

BE PREPARED TO BLOW THEM
DOWN! THE! FIELD!

Thud! Thud! Thud!

HEAR THE RAFTERS
SHOUTING OUT YOUR NAME.
COACH ARMSTRONG

(Shouts)

Morons!

LAUREN

(Sings)

BE BRAVE AND BE TRUE AND BOLD.
WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU TO
GO OUT AND WIN IT
FOR THE GREEN AND GOLD!

(Shouts)

Hey!

(Scoreboard reads: Tigers 42, Tornadoes 0.)

(Scoreboard reads: Tigers 48, Tornadoes 0.)

(SOUND CUE continues, with drumbeat underscoring.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

It is second down and ten. The Tornadoes come out of their huddle. The quarterback calls the play.

KENNY - QB

27!....Ready....set....hut hut hike!

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

There's the snap. *[Snap!]*

(Sound of snap - contained in sound cue.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

The quarterback drops back to throw. And... he... OH! ... *[Smack!]*

(Smacking sound - contained in sound cue.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

.....is *SACKED!*

(SOUND CUE continues.

MISS NELSON enters, maybe carrying a pennant she can wave.)

LAUREN

(Waving to her TEACHER)

Miss Nelson!

(MISS NELSON joins COACH ARMSTRONG and cheers on the TEAM.)

LAUREN

(Shouts)

Hey!

(Sings)

GO, TORNADOES.

FIGHT WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!

GO, TORNADOES,

'TIL YOU GET IT RIGHT!

TACKLE THE TIGERS

WHO WEIGH A TON!

AND IF THEY COME TOWARD YOU,

(Yell) RUN! RUN! RUN!

MISS NELSON & COACH A.

(Sing)

YOU FIGHT!

GET IT RIGHT!

A TON!

(Yell) RUN! RUN! RUN!

(The TORNADO with the ball runs with it, upstage towards his own goal post, the wrong way. The other TWO TORNADOES follow him.)

COACH ARMSTRONG

(Frantically yelling)

Not *that* way, you knucklebrains! That's the wrong end zone!

(The TORNADO runs into the end zone for a touchdown! Thinking HE scored, HE jumps up and down and gets high fives from the other TWO, then realizes his mistake.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

And it's a TOUCHDOWN! *(big pause)* For the WRONG TEAM!

*(The scoreboard changes, giving 6 points to the Tigers.
The scoreboard now reads: Tigers 49, Tornadoes 0.)*

LAUREN

(Sings)

DON'T GIVE UP
NO MATTER WHAT THE SCORE.

A MIRACLE MAY UNFOLD!

LAUREN & MISS NELSON

WE'RE WAITING FOR YOU
TO SCORE ANY MINUTE

(The Scoreboard changes, reflecting one more point for the Tigers.)

(Scoreboard reads: Tigers 50, Tornadoes 0.)

FOR THE GREEN

Grunt! (as one TORNADO drops)

AND

Grunt! (as another TORNADO drops)

GOLD!

MISS NELSON & COACH A.

(Sing)

DON'T GIVE UP!

COACH

WE'RE WAITING FOR YOU
TO SCORE!

GREEN AND GOLD!

SPORTS ANNOUNCER

(Over drumbeat underscoring)

A big disappointment for the Smedley Tornadoes, who, so far, have not managed to score a single point! Of course, we all know anything can happen in this game of football, and the Tornadoes could just make a comeback!

(Music starts back up again.)

Bridge

LAUREN

(Sings)

SHOW THOSE BOYS
THE STUFF YOU'RE MADE OF!

COACH ARMSTRONG

WHACK 'EM!

MISS NELSON

SMACK 'EM!

ALL THREE (Cheerleader, Miss Nelson, Coach A.)

ANYWAY YOU CAN!

Thwack! (A TORNADO takes a hit.)

LAUREN & MISS NELSON

MAKE SOME NOISE!
DON'T BE AFRAID OF
Whack! (A TORNADO gets whacked!)
Smack! (A TORNADO gets smacked!)
COACH ARMSTRONG
TAKE IT LIKE A MAN!

LAUREN
OOH - - - - TORNADOES!

OOH - - - - TORNADOES!

OOOH - - - -

OOOH - - - -

OOOH - - - - - TORNADOES!

Thud! (Sound of ball hitting the ground.)

MISS NELSON & COACH A.

OOH, TORNADOES!

OOH, TORNADOES!

OOOH - - - -

OOOO - - - - - TORNDAOES!

(COACH ARMSTRONG cries, and the pitiful TORNADOES get up and try once again.)

LAUREN
(Shouts)
Hey!

ALL THREE (Lauren, Miss N., Coach A.)

(Sing)
GO, TORNADOES!
SMASH THE MIGHTY FOE!
Smack! (A TORNADO gets smacked!)
GET BACK UP AND
LASH A MIGHTY BLOW!
Whack! (A TORNADO gets whacked!)

LAUREN
TRY NOT TO STUMBLE! *(A TORNADO stumbles!)*
MISS NELSON
TRY NOT TO FALL! *(A TORNADO falls!)*
COACH ARMSTRONG
IF NUMBER THIRTY THROWS IT, *(KENNY throws the ball.)*
ALL THREE

(Yell)
CATCH! THE! BALL! *(DANIEL misses the catch.) (Pop!)*

(SOUND of ball being caught - contained in sound cue.)

SPORTS ANNOUNCER