School Briefs

Youth Leadership Institute adopts **Merritt Mill Road**

The Blue Ribbon Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) recently adopted Merritt Mill Road as part of North Carolina's Adopt-A-Highway program.

YLI made a two-year commitment to keep the road clean as part of the group's efforts to care for the historic Lincoln Center, the school district's black high school before inte-

Summer camps registration

Registration for Community Schools summer camps begins Monday. The camps emphasize field trips and other activities related to weekly themes that include fitness, science, water and creativity.

The camps are open to rising first-through sixth-graders and will operate June 27-Aug. 5 at Carrboro, Glenwood and Scroggs elementary schools.

The weekly fee is \$165. Registration is \$40 plus a \$55-per-week deposit. For more information, visit www2. chccs.k12.nc.us/education/components/scrapbook/default. php?sectiondetailid=41773&

Glenwood featured on BBC America

Glenwood Elementary School's Mandarin dual-language program was featured on BBC America last week.

Reporter Ben Bevington visited the school earlier this month and the segment was aired on the BBC as an introduction to President Hu Jintao's state visit to the U.S.

The story is available online at news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/programmes/world_news_america/9365953.stm

Parent forum

Community Parent Forum will present the first in a series of discussions on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Extraordinary Ventures.

Participants will discuss finding solutions to reduce the black male dropout rate, understanding educational survival tools for the 21st century, bridging children's needs with their education and developing topics for future parent

Extraordinary Ventures is located at 200 Elliot Road. Child care and food will be provided. For more information, contact Lalanii Sangode at losenterprises@hotmail.

Students visited by soldier

Lt. Cmdr. Eric Gryn recently visited students in Nichole Bell and Stephanie Dimac's fourth-grade class at Mary Scroggs Elementary School to thank the students for letters they wrote for him to take on his deployment to Afghani-

The students recently read Andrew Clements' book Extra Credit, about two children from Illinois and Afghanistan who become pen pals. When Gryn, Dimac's nephew, received orders to deploy to Afghanistan, the students wrote letters expressing their appreciation of the soldiers and asked the troops to return a letter to them.

A Skype session is planned with Gryn when he arrives in Afghanistan.

Tar Heels headed north or south?

BY EDDY LANDRETH Staff Writer

The most effective implement in a coach's toolbox is often the

bench. In a world of summer club teams; egos overinflated by friends, family and recruiting coverage; and parents blind to their children's flaws, today's players can have a sense of en-

titlement that far exceeds reality. All the yelling, screaming and cursing in the world can sail over a player's head when one postgame phone call home can reinforce the idea that the player's poor play was not his fault, but that of ineffectual teammates and coaches.

The bench often has to be a tool of last resort. As cocky and self-assured as some players appear, they may well be showing such traits to camouflage insecurities. And there are insecurities galore in adolescents who are still trying to discover their true identities and self-worth.

So when UNC Tar Heel coach Roy Williams finally used the bench as a way to jumpstart a team falling well short of its potential, he made a smart move

by being as positive as possible with his players, rather than beating them down further by criticizing them publicly or chewing them out in front of the crowd as they came off the floor after making mistakes.

There is no reason to believe this approach won't continue to be the ideal one for the 2011 Tar Heels, given the talent they possess alongside the

inconsistencies in their play.

The fact that this strategy worked with Larry Drew in a victory against Clemson is the best evidence that Williams can continue to squeeze more from all his players using this approach. Tyler Zeller and Drew appeared to be the two biggest enigmas on the roster. Both possess more talent than they have shown, but watching their body language and facial expressions one could not help wondering, at times, whether either one really cared.

After the debacle of a game against Georgia Tech in Atlan-

players on this team cared enough to play with some passion, to play through their mistakes and perform as if winning mattered.

The fact that this is a young team still learning how to

play together and how to play Williams' system in concert remains as true as it was on the first day of practice. But at some point, a team has to replace worries with pure effort.

If Zeller will run the court the way he can, box out opponents and rebound, the rest of his game will fall in line.

If Drew will play from the depths of his heart on defense, use his athleticism to attack on offense and play the game north-to-south rather than eastto-west, people will begin to see what Williams saw in the young man when he recruited him out of Southern California.

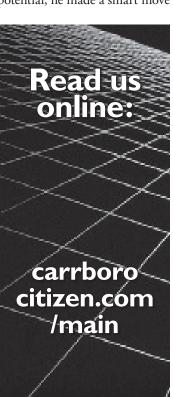
There is a truism about all team sports. No team sits idle. Teams are either progressing, ta, the time had clearly arrived even if at an excruciating rate,

to find out which or they are slipping. The key is to get as many of the parts working together as possible and keep advancing.

At this point, it would sound crazy to say the 2011 Tar Heels could play in the Final Four in late March, but it is not insanity. College basketball is like a bottle of whiskey that has been watered down so often that little of the flavor remains.

Look at what the 2009 Carolina team did to the tournament on its way to the title. UNC destroyed everything in its path and could easily have done so again last season if the juniors had returned for their senior seasons rather than turning pro.

There are few teams in the country with more raw talent than what Williams has on his team this season. Inexperience and the lack of a strong individual to take charge are Williams' biggest hurdles to overcome. This team's ultimate accomplishments in 2011 will be limited only by its capacity for unselfishness and willingness to listen genuinely to Williams, and the effort it can find to give every day in practice and in games.



OBITUARIES

Bernice Whitefield

Bernice Cornelia Sanford Whitefield, 86, passed away on Friday Jan. 14 at UNC Hospitals following a brief illness. A native of Person County, N.C.,

she was the daughter of the late Longfellow Floyd Sanford and Elizabeth Sue Stegall Sanford.

Bernice is predeceased by her husband, John J. Whitefield; her brother, Lennie Sanford; and one grandchild, Justin Andrew Elliott.

Bernice is survived by two daughters, Joan Whitefield of Chapel Hill, N.C., and Linda Whitefield Kloosterman and her husband, Ron, of Indian Trail, N.C.; her brother, Charles Sanford, and his wife, Helen, of Roxboro, N.C.; two sisters, Hasseltine Sanford of Bahama, N.C., and Minnie Mae Martin of Colonial Heights, Va.; her grandson, Vann Whitefield Elliott, and his wife, Lisa; two great granddaughters, Sydney

and Aspen; and many loved nieces and nephews.

Bernice was a member of Farrington Road Baptist Church and was the #1 Tar Heel fan when it came to Carolina basketball. We will all miss her humor, her good food and her outgoing personality, because she never met a stranger. Bernice loved her life at The Stratford, her cornbread and buttermilk and putting puzzles together.

Flowers will be accepted or donations can be made in Bernice's honor to Farrington Road Baptist Church, 5936 Farrington Rd., Chapel Hill, NC 27517. Walker's Funeral Home of Chapel Hill is assisting the Whitefield family.

