

School Briefs

Inclement weather make-up days

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools will be in session on Monday, Feb. 21 and Friday, April 22 to make up for the Jan. 11-12 snow day cancellations.

Carrboro seeks poetry submissions

All Carrboro and ETJ (Extra Territorial Jurisdiction) residents who will be no older than 18 on April 1 are invited to submit poems to the 2011 Carrboro Centennial Poetry Contest.

The contest will be divided into elementary, middle and high school levels, and poems can be written in any style. Winners will read their poems and be honored in a ceremony on Carrboro Day, May 1. Poems will also be published in *The Carrboro Citizen*.

Send your poem by April 1 by mail to: Carrboro Youth Poetry Contest, ATTN: Kim Andrews, 100 N. Greensboro St., Carrboro, NC 27510. Please include the name of your school and teacher, your birth date, address, phone number, email address and two or three sentences about yourself.

Poems must be signed and must include, in your own handwriting, "I pledge that this is my original poem."

National Achievement finalists

Three Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools students have been named as finalists in the National Achievement Scholarship Program. Helena Archer and Kyle Grant of Chapel Hill High School and Cedric Duquene of East Chapel Hill High School were among the 1,200 students selected nationwide.

All finalists will be considered for the 800 National Achievement Scholarships that will be offered to outstanding black students in 2011. Scholarship notifications are expected later this month.

Rashkis participates in career day

Fifth-graders at Rashkis Elementary School participated in the school's annual Career Exploration Day on Feb. 1.

Thirteen presenters with careers ranging from naval captain to Tae Kwan Do instructor shared information about their jobs in 20-minute presentations. Students chose five presentations to watch and asked questions about how to excel in each field.

Students will follow up their experiences with classroom activities focusing on skills necessary to be successful in school and work.

Students visit School of Science and Math

Members of the Rashkis Math Olympiads team visited the N.C. School of Science and Math in Durham last week.

About 45 fourth- and fifth-graders met with NCSSM students who have volunteered with the Rashkis team this year. The Rashkis students were able to see the campus, including the science labs, athletic facilities and art room, and learned about admissions at the school.

CHCCS honored with publication awards

The N.C. School Public Relations Association presented Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools with two Blue Ribbon Publication Awards on Friday.

The district's parent calendar, which is published in Spanish and English, was honored for the fifth consecutive year. The Learning Links publication, curriculum guides that are published in Spanish and English, was also honored for the fifth consecutive year.

Publications assistant Robin Nucilli coordinates the parent calendar and Learning Links. Theresa Grywalski, Kathi Breweur, Karyn Gloden, Priscilla Dennison and Jean Parrish contributed content to Learning Links.

School Lunch

Friday 2/11 Chicken Tenders, Wheat Roll, Oven Fries, Herbed Broccoli & Cauliflower	Glazed Carrots, Fortune Cookie	Wednesday 2/16 BBQ Chicken, Wheat Roll, Mashed Sweet Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans
Monday 2/14 Mandarin Orange Chicken, Oriental Brown Rice, Oriental Vegetable Blend,	Tuesday 2/15 Taco Bar – Fajita Chicken, Beef Taco Meat, Southwest Black Beans, Refried Beans, Brown Rice, WV Tortillas, Mexican Corn	Thursday 2/17 WV Rotini w/ Three Cheeses, Roasted Italian Vegetables, Seasoned Peas

Roy has a team

BY EDDY LANDRETH
Staff Writer

After its reputation as one of the nation's preeminent basketball programs went slip-sliding away in 2010, Carolina once again shows the sticky resistance of tar on its heels.

With this team, it seems the more it loses, the greater its gains are.

"I think team chemistry is at an all-time high," sophomore guard Dexter Strickland said after UNC defeated Florida State, 89-69, on Sunday to improve to 17-5, 7-1 in its first trip through the conference schedule. "We lost the twins; we lost Larry. For us to play this way, our actions speak for us. We're a team and we love each other. We're playing like it. We have to continue to play like this."

UNC lost 17 games in 2010 and had to play in the postseason NIT, but the losses did not stop with the end of the tournament.

Soon after the season, the Wear twins, David and Travis, left the program and delivered

one of the biggest broadside blows to ever strike Coach Roy Williams.

Not long after that, Will Graves, who would have been the lone senior leader on this team, was dismissed for unspecified reasons.

Then on Feb. 4, midway through the conference season, junior point guard Larry Drew II caught the jet stream in reverse and returned home to California, leaving without talking to his teammates or the coaching staff. His father, Larry I, phoned Williams and told him of the decision.

There was no negotiation. The Tar Heels responded to Drew's departure with two of their best practices of the year and then dismantled Florida State and its No. 1 field goal-percentage defense.

Carolina shot 64.3 percent in the second half of that game and 55.7 from the field for the game.

Freshman Kendall Marshall,



whose replacement of Drew in the starting lineup may well have led to the Californian quitting, responded by setting a school record for the most assists in an ACC game with 16 against FSU.

"The story in this game was our inability to handle Marshall and his ability to create easy opportunities for his teammates," Florida State coach Leonard Hamilton said. "He seemed to be extremely clever with the ball. He has his head up, which is almost a throw-back to those guys who seem to always know where his teammates are. Even when we thought we had him under control, he had an awareness of who the drop-off guy and who the kick-out guy was. He found them with ease."

The team as a whole responded in a similar manner.

"I thought that last Friday afternoon and Saturday morning,"

Williams said of the days preceding the game against FSU, "we had two really good practices. Everybody emotionally was into it, enthusiastically working as hard as they could work."

"I'm hoping we can maintain that kind of thing. We've lost some guys that were surprises to us. At the same time, I loved coaching the guys that we have left."

UNC's next game came on Wednesday at Duke in Durham, but it occurred after the publication deadline for this column. Regardless of that outcome, there is little doubt that injuries appear to be the sole obstacle that could derail this team.

"You have to be healthy," Williams said. "You have to have the guys that you think are your best players playing their best. They can't play their best if they're not healthy."

A coach also needs a roster of players who want to be together and on the team. After nearly a year of shifting through possibilities, Williams looks to finally have that.

The doctor's in the house

BY WILL BRYANT
Staff Writer

Walking into Deb Lederer's art classroom at Carrboro Elementary School, you'd think you had found a portal to another world.

On one side of the room stand half a dozen gigantic refrigerator boxes, painted on all sides with vibrant scenes of a make-believe world. On a table next to the scenery is a mountain of green glittery hats, which looks small in comparison to the enormous face of the cartoon elephant that leans against the concrete wall. Giant fluorescent paper mache fish are scattered all over the paint-splattered floor and a large, smiling cat, sporting a red-striped hat, stands quietly in the corner, grinning from whisker to whisker.

Welcome to backstage at Carrboro Elementary's performance of *Seussical Junior*, a musical based on the classic books of Dr. Seuss, to be staged Thursday at 1:15 and 6:30 p.m. and Friday at 1:15 p.m. in the school's auditorium.

The cast of 150 students, comprised mostly of fourth- and fifth-graders, is taking responsibility for all of the production's singing, dancing, puppeteering, sound, lighting and backstage responsibilities.



Gillie Weeks, 10, a narrator in Carrboro Elementary's *The Seussical*, prepares for her upcoming scene during a dress rehearsal on Tuesday afternoon. PHOTO BY ALLISON RUSSELL

"I'm excited and a bit nervous at the same time," said 10-year-old cast member Alec Caruana. "I mean, everyone is going to be watching you."

Caruana says the production has been in the works for

nearly six months and that the cast is more than prepared.

"It should be a blast if everything goes perfectly fine," Caruana said.

Those attending the show can expect to rediscover the

classic Dr. Seuss tales that have been read aloud to children for generations.

Green Eggs and Ham, *Horton Hears a Who* and, of course, *The Cat in the Hat* are among the titles featured in the show.

Acting as both set designer and director, Lederer says the show has really brought the school together.

"I think we've learned collaboration is a huge key and that you need to be a team player, work together, listen to each other and know that you have something to offer," Lederer said. "Every single person has some bit of creativity."

The production comes at a time when state school boards are beginning to question the need for fine arts programs in public schools.

"In today's budget cuts, we hear all the time what we don't have time for and what we don't have money for," said Lederer. *Seussical* is all about getting kids interested in the arts and giving them an outlet for their creativity, she said.

"Some of these kids, if they didn't have this experience, might not go on to audition for shows in middle school, high school or college," Lederer said. "Now we've got some kids that have the theater bug in them."

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