THE DAILY CLIPS

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Program uses food to teach science, math, nutrition

The Daily Reflector

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Students at Wintergreen Intermediate School will learn about nutrition, science and math by using food in a variety of ways in the classroom.

The Food, Math, and Science Teaching Enhancement Resource (FoodMASTER) program at East Carolina University provided Katie Shafer’s fourth-grade class with materials for hands-on learning through a variety of food-related activities.

“When there is food involved, their attention is focused,” said Virginia Carraway-Stage, associate director of the FoodMASTER program.

“We use food to engage all of their senses.”

The program provides all the materials for Shafer to lead activities like making cheese and cookies and preparing vegetables and meats. The activities incorporate math and science through measurements, mixing and following instructions.

“I’m excited about being able to try something new,” Shafer said. “This will integrate math and science and the kids love learning with food, so we try to do that as much as we can.”

The program kicked off Tuesday when the students measured each others’ body weight and height. The FoodMASTER program will gather the information and compare it to statistics gathered at the end of the school year to find ways to improve the program, Carraway-Stage said.

The students will begin the lessons in the program after the holidays, Shafer said.

FoodMASTER was developed in 2005 at Ohio University as a 45-lesson curriculum for third- through fifth-grade students to help increase math and science skills through food preparation and handling. The curriculum was developed by Melanie Duffrin, associate professor of nutrition and dietetics at ECU. It is now operational in North Carolina and Ohio and officials plan to spread the program across the country.

In 2008, FoodMASTER received a Science Education Partnership Award from the National Institute for Health for $504,000 to help researchers collect data on the impact of multi-media FoodMASTER materials and gather information about the best way to disseminate the curriculum and materials.

The award provides for workshops and start-up supplies for 100 teachers at regional and national teacher conferences, and it covers the cost of printing and disseminating the FoodMASTER curriculum for another 500 teachers and professionals throughout the nation.

“FoodMASTER has been watching children eagerly engaged in scientific processes such as measurement, data collection, critical thinking, and comparative analysis in very natural, self-directed ways and it’s exciting,” Duffrin said.

The program is hoping to expand with funding from President Obama’s “Educate to Innovate” program and the U.S. Department of Education’s “Race to the Top.”

The national programs are looking for new ways to help kids get excited about math, science, technology and engineering.
"Race to the Top" will disburse $4.3 billion to states to fund innovative programs.

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Letter: ECU athletics inviting with Holland, Holtz

Wednesday, December 16, 2009

The letter is written because of my reaction to East Carolina University's win on Dec. 5. I have always supported ECU in its endeavors to have a stronger athletic program in ways I could.

I was excited when I learned that ECU defeated Houston. The whole town seemed to have a warm glow. I realized that the athletics program at ECU is bigger than just having people run around a little field catching and throwing balls.

I have been particularly impressed with the athletics program that has been guided by Terry Holland. I am not one to be enthused about spectator sports but I have been very impressed by the coaches I have heard speak at my local Rotary Club in the past.

There are rumors about Skip Holtz being approached by different schools and possibly leaving Greenville. I hope this does not happen for several reasons.

Holtz works for a great boss. He has one of the most loyal, supportive and enthusiastic fan bases a coach could find in any city of the country on a per capita basis. Greenville is a wonderful place to live, shop, raise children and even work.

I don't think that any of the football coaches we have had in the past have been as positive an influence as Holtz. And I don't think we have had a football coach be able to cast ECU in a positive light to the entire country as Holtz has done during the time he has been here. As a friend of mine told me the other day, a college athletics program is like the front porch on a house. If the porch is inviting then the person will want to look at the rest of the house. Therefore we need to keep our athletics program as clean, honest, inviting and positive as we keep the rest of the house.

GARY SALT

Greenville
Johnson chasing history at ECU

It took a lot of looking to see anything really memorable during East Carolina's 2004 football season.

Most Pirates fans recall that 2-9 team as the flash point for John Thompson's exit and Skip Holtz's arrival as coach.

But late in the third quarter of the season's second game - a 31-17 loss in Greenville to Wake Forest - something very important happened.

Freshman running back Chris Johnson, whose college debut had produced 7 yards on two carries a week earlier in a 56-23 loss at West Virginia, bolted 86 yards for a touchdown before any of the Wake linebackers and most of its defensive backs could so much as even react.

In a program that had produced more than its share of speedsters over the years, Johnson's quickness soon became unrivaled.

Shortly thereafter, the Pirates completed their first round of offseason drills under Holtz, whose impression of Johnson couldn't have been more prophetic.

"That guy," Holtz said at the time, "has an absolutely unlimited ceiling."

All these years later, the most amazing thing about Johnson is that he almost slipped through the elaborate football talent nets twice.

As a high school player in Orlando, Fla., he was aggressively recruited by only ECU.

Then, even after four productive years in college, it wasn't until Johnson erupted for 223 yards in a Hawaii Bowl win over Boise State in his final game and later ran a 4.24-second 40-yard dash at NFL workouts that pro teams got seriously interested.

"All I need is just one chance, and I'll make it my job to do the rest," Johnson said before the 2008 draft.

The Titans used the 24th pick of the first round to give Johnson that chance. It'll go down as one of the all-time draft steals.

With three games left this season, Johnson is 374 yards short of becoming the sixth 2,000-yard single-season NFL rusher. He has a chance to break Eric Dickerson's league record of 2,105 yards. Even on a 6-7 team that may miss the playoffs, Johnson is in the discussion for player of the year.

Against the Dolphins at Miami this week, Johnson will try to rush for 100 yards for the ninth straight game.

"He's arguably the best in the league right now," Dolphins coach Tony Sparano said Monday at his weekly news conference. "He not only can run it, but he can catch it."
The ultimate description of Johnson's quickness and cutting ability came from teammate Kenny Britt after Sunday's 47-7 win over the St. Louis Rams.

"I'm done blocking down the field," the wide receiver told reporters. "I'm done chasing him."

In a bigger media market, Johnson would be a national story. But he's happy living in Nashville, Tenn., and recently signed five-year extension for $12 million, which is probably no more than a third of his market value as a free agent.

Always soft-spoken, Johnson has a team-first commitment that made him a popular figure in Greenville and now with the Titans. He's endorsing a T-shirt that advises young players to be "Every Coach's Dream."

When the NFL recently began a campaign to support breast cancer research, several players wore pink shoes during a few games. Johnson not only wore the shoes, he had his new BMW painted pink.

As for the record, Johnson understands the long odds.

"But I don't expect it be easy for me," he said.

It never has been.

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32nd Annual Frank Stick Memorial Art Show call for entries

Artists are invited to submit their artwork to the 32nd Annual Frank Stick Memorial Art Show.

This Call for Entry is open to all artists who are residents of Dare County or who are members of the Dare County Arts Council and are 18 years of age or older. Artists can join the Dare County Arts Council at the time of delivery. A non-refundable fee of $20 per artist ($35 for Non-Arts Council Members) is due upon delivery of work. Make check or money order payable to Dare County Arts Council.

All artwork must be received at Glenn Eure's Ghost Fleet Gallery between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. from Tuesday, Jan. 26 through Thursday, Jan. 28. Glenn Eure's Ghost Fleet Gallery is located at 210 E. Driftwood Street in Nags Head.

This year, $2,000 in cash awards will be offered. A $100 "People's Choice" award winner will be selected by public ballot during the opening reception. All other cash award winners will be selected by the judges based solely on merit without regard to media and will receive "Excellence" awards of $150 or "Merit" awards of $50.

Two internationally known artists will be judging the 32nd Annual Frank Stick Memorial Art Show, Michael Dorsey and Mark Phillips. Dorsey is a professor from East Carolina University. He received his Masters of Arts and Masters of Fine Arts in Painting from Bowling Green State University in 1972. Dorsey has been the Chair of the Department of Art at Mississippi State University and Dean of the School of Art at East Carolina University. He was a founding member and first president of the Mississippi Watercolor Society and is a signature member of the Watercolor Society of North Carolina. Dorsey has exhibited his work in more than 350 art exhibitions with numerous awards. His work is included in public and private collections in the United States, Scotland, Wales, France, Italy, Japan, and New Zealand.

Phillips, who attended East Carolina University's School of Art and Design, is both a printmaker and painter. Phillips has lived in Chicago since 1999, where he is both a studio artist and signmaker. In 2003, Phillips co-founded Studio 935 where he teaches printmaking, painting and drawing. He currently exhibits in and around the Chicago area and select shows throughout the country, including New York and Minneapolis. Phillips' work is in Private Collections throughout the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Belgium, Australia and England.

Entry Guidelines:

Each artist may submit one (1) entry in any visual arts media.

Entries must be original, executed within the last two years without any supervision and not previously exhibited in the Frank Stick Memorial Art Show.

All works must be dry and ready to show. Framable pieces must be framed. Works on paper must also be under glass or Plexiglas.

Necessary hardware must be attached to hanging pieces.

All work must be signed by the artist.

Two-dimensional pieces must not exceed 50 inches in height or width (including frame).

Three-dimensional pieces must not exceed 6 feet in height (including base) or six feet in diameter and must not weigh more than 100 pounds.

Artists are invited to bring a copy of their artist biography to be included in a gallery portfolio for display.
during the show.

The opening reception and awards ceremony for the 32nd Annual Frank Stick Memorial Art Show will be Jan. 30, 2010 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Glenn Eure’s Ghost Fleet Gallery. The Exhibition dates are Sunday, Jan. 31, through Friday, Feb. 26, 2010, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Artists must pick up their artwork by Feb. 28, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The Dare County Arts Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization committed to supporting the arts in Dare County. For more information about the Dare County Arts Council, call 473-5558 or visit www.darearts.org.
10 minutes to go crazy

CHAPEL HILL -- High above the madness, UNC-Chapel Hill sophomore Meleah Faucette looked down at all the sweaty students slowly untangling themselves from each other at Davis Library early Tuesday morning and shook her head.

"It was fun," she said of watching, from one floor up, the crazed, 10-minute dance party. "But I would not want to be down there."

Down there was the middle of the UNC Flash Rave, techno-music-fueled frenzy aimed at breaking the stress of final exams. This week's rave was the third in the last three semesters, and it was the largest by far. Police estimate about 3,000 students attended.

Now, some campus officials are getting queasy about a once-underground event that has morphed into massive, public mosh pit.

"We are concerned about it," said Judy Panitch, a spokeswoman for the university's libraries. "We know the students are doing it in a sense of fun, and we know they stayed to try to clean it up. But we also know it's a very large crowd and can be unpredictable."

At midnight, student organizers turned the lights down as music blasted through speakers set up around a second-floor railing where hundreds of students perched to watch.

Students jumped, gyrated, screamed, danced and slammed into each other. Some surfed the crowd, passed hand-to-outstretched-hand across the room.

There's some trust involved in crowd surfing, and in at least one instance, a student slipped through the hands and slammed to the floor. Others had close calls.

"I got nearly dropped twice," sophomore Elena Fenu said. "But it was worth it."

Minor damage done

Campus police were present and reported no injuries. An 18-year-old student was charged with assault after getting in a fight after the rave, police said. A glass panel on the library's front doors was shattered and a table was broken, Panitch said.

When the music stopped, most students left the library, while others helped clean up.

The rave was somewhat clandestine when it started a year ago. This year organizers created a public page for it on Facebook, the popular social networking site, and 5,600 students had pledged their participation. The student newspaper, The Daily Tar Heel, wrote about it a few days ago.

Still, UNC-CH's student affairs office didn't send a representative, though staff there did watch the many YouTube videos available soon after the event, said Winston Crisp, assistant vice chancellor for student
Should it be stopped?

Like the library staff, Crisp's office worries about safety if the rave gets any bigger and said campus officials plan to talk about the issue soon. But he and others say it may be difficult to intervene.

"You don't know how many people are coming," Crisp said. "If they are going to gather like that, how do you stop it?"

Randy Young, a spokesman for the campus police department, said crowd control might be a problem.

"We try to weigh whether it's prudent to stop it or whether it's better to just let it run its course," he said.

Billy Mitchell, the campus fire marshal, said he did not attend, had not received any complaints and was unconcerned.

In an interview before this week's rave, junior Bobby Nieland, one of the organizers, said he hopes the rave becomes a regular campus event.

But some students wonder whether it has become too big.

"We went to the first one, and it was much tamer," said Arielle Wright, a sophomore. This week's rave "wasn't fun. It was dangerous."

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UNC says dogs, hogs won't cause trouble

CHAPEL HILL -- UNC-Chapel Hill researchers and administrators say a major expansion of their animal holding center in western Orange County will not harm rural neighbors or the environment.

The university plans a $27 million expansion of the Research Resources Facility, known as "The Farm," off Orange Chapel Clover Garden Road in Bingham Township.

The 57-acre site has about 60 research dogs. A building under construction will add 100 dogs that are now housed near Hillsborough. The building has been designed to add 100 more when funding is found.

At the same time, the university has applied for federal stimulus money for buildings to move dogs and pigs now housed at the Frances Owen Blood Research Laboratory near University Lake in Carrboro, said Gene Bober, assistant dean for resource planning in the School of Medicine.

If the money comes through - the university could find out next month - those buildings could house up to 150 additional dogs, for a total of between 400 and 450, and up to 150 hogs.

The animals are vital to research on heart disease, blood clotting and Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The latter affects one in 5,000 male births. Most patients are in wheelchairs in their teens and die in their 20s, said Joe Kornegay, a veterinarian and professor of pathology and laboratory medicine.

"This is wonderful information but really not germane," resident Tom Schopler said between presentations Monday night at the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center.

"The issue is not whether research is necessary," he said. "The question is how is the facility going to be operated, how are animals going to be moved hither and yon, how is the wastewater going to be handled?"

The university's speakers said the kennels are being built so residents won't hear barking. The pigs will remain indoors.

A wastewater treatment system will disinfect the animal waste, store the treated effluent in holding ponds and spray it in woods on the property, civil engineer John Phillips said. The spray heads will be low to the ground, and the water pressure will be low, forming large droplets that should not drift off the site, he said.

Residents said they worry that water needed for the expansion could drain their wells. They also asked about an incinerator on the site they said emits toxins. The incinerator is rarely used but "probably getting close to its lifespan," said Mary Beth Koza, UNC-CH's director of environment, health and safety.

"People are reassured about certain things," resident Laura Streitfeld said Tuesday. But she said the meeting was the first time she had heard specific numbers of animals and other details.

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Beaufort County Schools
News Release

AURORA — S.W. Snowden School's eighth-grade class had a great time at the East Carolina University football game Nov. 21.

Students started the adventure with a picnic style lunch on campus around ECU's beautiful fountain plaza. Lunch was followed by a question answer session with Tarriek Cox, senior associate director for special populations and Events and two student ambassadors.

The trip concluded with a guided campus tour and complementary tickets to the ECU versus University of Alabama-Birmingham football game. The eighth-graders were particularly interested in learning about college life from current college students. Questions about class schedules, finding financial aid, affordable campus resources and discussions about inquiries on how to choose a major or focus on a particular course of study were favorite topics.

Students were also treated to a free verse poetry performance by one of the ECU ambassadors, Johnny Alfredo Martinez II, who recently placed seventh in a national competition for performance artists. The poem was especially poignant for S.W.S students seeking to be among the first in their family to seek a college or university level degree.

Following the admissions information session and tour, the eighth-graders made their way to the stadium to watch the Pirates and Blazers do battle on the football field. For several students, this was the first experience in a full-size stadium. This also marked Military Appreciation Day at ECU. The football game began with a breathtaking three-jet fly-over. Students were treated to a patriotic halftime show by the ECU Marching Pirates and showed their support for active and retired armed-services personnel throughout the game. The celebration ended with the Pirates beating the Blazers 37 - 21.

Energized by the game and encouraged by the support and warmth of the ECU faculty and student body, the students are taking a closer look at their academic futures and have a new perspective on what college life might be like for them, especially at ECU.