

Multiple Snow Days Leave Parents Wondering What to Do With Kids

Students of Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools have missed 10 days this semester.

BY HILARY SPARROW
STAFF WRITER

Seth Pomerantz, 12, passed his tenth day off from school since winter break playing soccer in the Pit on Wednesday. As recent winter storms have forced extended closings of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, many parents have had to find alternative daytime care for their children. Pomerantz's father, Marty Pomerantz, is the Intramural/Recreational Sports Director. On snow days, Pomerantz, a student at Culbreth Middle School, typically has chosen between going to work with his

father or finding a friend to play with. Not all parents can consider taking their child to work as an option, thus increasing the burden of finding child care on snow days. Some children must stay at home by themselves or stay with neighbors. Some parents have to leave work, while others are able to find some form of day care. "Some people are fortunate enough to have grandmothers to take care of the children," said Tashey Pulliam, Director of Ashlee's Day Care in Chapel Hill. "Most (parents) have been off or take turns being off; the dad works one day, the mom works another." While Ashlee's Day Care typically closes when the Chapel Hill/Carrboro City Schools close, some area day cares have managed to stay open despite recent winter storms. Nancy Taylor, director of the Chapel

Hill Day Care Center, said her center has only been closed for a half day. "When my parents come in the morning they say, 'thank you, thank you, thank you for being open,'" Taylor said. Carrboro United Methodist Church also strives to keep its day care center open as much as possible. "We close if the roads are very icy and the staff can't get here," said Director Ethel Lindley. "We do try to stay open with a skeletal staff." But while finding care seems to present a problem for parents, most day care center directors said their enrollment typically dropped while public schools are closed. Taylor said the Chapel Hill Day Care Center only had 22 of 60 enrolled students attend Monday. Lindley said three-fourths of the Carrboro United Methodist Church day care's enrolled students attended this week.

Students Gain Colorful Work Experience

Colorworks Company provides a head start in the business world.

BY LOU RUTIGLIANO
STAFF WRITER

UNC students looking for a slightly more demanding summer job than pumping gas or working the fry machine at McDonald's might find all the challenge they could want running their own business for the Colorworks Company. The usual summer job offers little beyond the daily routine of punching in, getting hassled by the boss, lunch, getting hassled some more and clocking out. Colorworks provides an alternative for students to work with their company rather than for it, after being placed in charge of a large business. More importantly to some, it also provides the opportunity to earn as much as \$6,000. The business in this case is house-painting. Colorworks sets up summer employees as individual managers responsible for the marketing, sales and successful completion of painting jobs throughout the summer. The company has recruited 20 UNC students over the past few weeks and is still

looking for more. "It takes a leader," said David Helfrich, the vice president of the North Carolina Division of Colorworks and a former Colorworks manager. "It was the toughest thing I ever did in college. You can't get this level of responsibility anywhere else." No prior painting experience is necessary. So even if all the experience students have had is to stir the paint and watch dad do the work, they're eligible. "We're looking for business managers, not painters," Helfrich said. Eventually, students can learn the secrets behind the painting business — and businesses in general — through training and assistance from previous managers. Formal training sessions take place during February and April. Informal advice from students who have gone through the experience adds to the education. "The best thing is that I just didn't get a job for the summer, I got a business!" said Colin Sullivan, a senior business management major. "It wasn't like anyone else's little summer job or internship. It really differentiates you." Sullivan, like the other students who signed up with Colorworks, said he was lured by the challenge. He said he was relieved by the fact that there was no out-of-pocket investment required to get started,

because Colorworks provided all the resources the students would need. This can bring added pressure to the job, however, since the managers must work hard enough to ensure the company gets a return on its investment. Therefore, managers usually work 40 to 50 hours a week to keep things running smoothly. Some admitted the hours were a strain, but said the work was rewarding. "It prepares you for the real world," said Russell Bryant, a senior from Warsaw. "I grew up a lot, and learned a lot about myself." Andrew Smith, a student at UNC-Greensboro, agreed the Colorworks managing jobs had rewards. "If a person is really willing to work hard during the summer, then this is an unbeatable position," he said. "You are running the business yourself, where in other internships you file things or read memos. The only disadvantage is that it is very challenging." But Helfrich said the benefits outweighed any disadvantages. "You get a little headache and a lot of rewards," said Helfrich. Colorworks also makes an impressive addition to a student's resume. As Bryant said, "The first question interviewers ask is 'What is this Colorworks?' They're just amazed."

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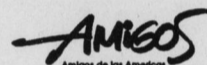
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Campus Calendar

THURSDAY
8 a.m. UNDERGRADUATES can pick up FSU basketball tickets at Dean E. Smith Center until 5 p.m. Bring your student ID.
10 a.m. ACC TICKET SIGN-UP in the Pit (or Union if bad weather) until 2 p.m. Winning lists will be announced at Georgia Tech game on Saturday.
12:30 p.m. BROWN BAG FORUM ON TEACHING with Elizabeth Mann (associate dean for Admissions, School of Medicine), Physics and Medical School: Admissions, Training and the MCAT in 258 Phillips Hall.
6:30 p.m. CUAB FILM COMMITTEE Critic's Choice Movie: "Dead Presidents" starring Larenz Tate in the Student Union Auditorium, also showing at 9 p.m. Admission \$2.
7 p.m. EXTERN PROGRAM, which allows students to spend Spring Break with UNC Alumni and to learn about careers, information meeting in Union 226.
8:30 p.m. COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK planning meeting in the Alexander Residence Hall first-floor lounge.

For the Record

In Wednesday's story, "Joint Forum Yields No SBP Endorsement," student body president candidate Aaron Nelson should have been quoted as saying: "I'm not embarrassed to say I'm a feminist. That's not a swear word. It's an important word."
The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

FORUM

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they would try to implement if elected. Robbins and Bruce said they would put on a "Senior Week" and donate the proceeds to local charities. Thrasher and his running mate Jen Marcus said they wanted to continue the Senior Corps program and possibly work with Habitat for Humanity. Bryan Pruitt and Josh Eaton said they hoped to implement a highway cleanup program. McNerney and Mistry said they planned a program that would give students the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of community service programs, much like the Senior Outreach project planned by McNairy and Harty. CAA presidential candidates Seth Nore and Ian Walsh said they wanted to improve CAA's publicity and accessibility. Walsh discussed plans to re-examine the process by which Homecoming Queens were selected with the help of student groups. Nore said he planned to set up an advisory board composed of both faculty and students to improve CAA's communication with the campus. RHA president candidates Latoya Porterfield and Matthew Leggett also agreed on several issues, including the idea of continuing the resident assistant liaison program and improving the traditionally RHA-sponsored spring concert, Springfest.

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