



RIDE NC 2010

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TIMES PHOTO/ERIN WILTGEN

Cyclist Chris Boone gives high-fives to a crowd of supporters as he makes his way through Lexington Wednesday afternoon in his attempt to break the time record of cycling across North Carolina.

Cyclist pedals toward record

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

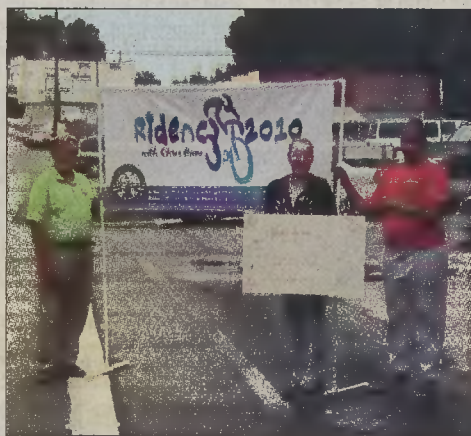
Editor's note: The last names of Baptist Children's Home residents have been eliminated for confidentiality.

LEXINGTON — The little bit of drizzle couldn't dampen the energy at Lexington's Farmer's Market Wednesday afternoon as children and staff from Baptist Children's Home of North Carolina (BCH), Mills Campus, in Thomasville,

gathered with members of the public to cheer on Chris Boone.

Boone, a biker from Bakersville, N.C., passed through Lexington about 16.5 hours after leaving the post office in Murphy, N.C., to embark on his cross-state ride. He plans to not only break the 15-year-held record of 40 hours but also raise money for BCH.

Boone left Tuesday at about 10 p.m. from the Murphy post office, heading for the post office in Montego, N.C., and aiming



to arrive at about 11:30 a.m. Wednesday. A crowd gathered to send him off, including children from BCH's west campus.

"The adrenaline is just flowing," said BCH President Dr. Michael Blackwell. "People are really pumped over this."

BCH campuses all across the state have worked to raise money and pray for a safe ride for Boone. RideNC2010 — as Boone's trip has been called — reached its goal of \$250,000 and continues

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Kisses4Kate to continue helping children with cancer

BY ELIOT DUKE
Staff Writer

Her story inspired a community. Kate Thornton's two-year battle against leukemia may have ended on Sunday, but her legacy will live on through others who are determined to help children suffering from terminal diseases.

"There's no way that this is going away, it can't" Kat Manzella, Kate's godmother and volunteer with Kisses4Kate, said. "This is bigger than any of us. This has tapped into the hearts of this community and beyond. We have girl scout troops from Florida sending us money so we can keep going. I can't make any sense of why Kate had to suffer for so long. I do know that she has a purpose and all of this has a purpose. Through her, we exposed everyone to this vicious disease and that it doesn't take that much to help."

In the past year, Davidson County residents have answered the call for help on two separate occasions involving a family coping with cancer. Extreme Makeover: Home Edition built a house for the Creasey family last November with the help of hundreds of volunteers. Tricia Creasey, a science teacher at Brown Middle School, is battling colon cancer and her home was too small to meet her medical needs. Last Friday, Kisses4Kate raised enough money for a down payment on a new house so the Thornton family could be together in Kate's final days. The Thornton's lived in a small Thomasville home where Kate was sleeping on the couch. Hopes are that the momentum from stories like these will continue and more families will get the help they so desperately need.

"Kate left a large legacy even though she was only 5 years old," said Caron Myers, executive di-

'Kate left a large legacy even though she was only 5 years old.'

— Caron Myers
Carolina Cancer Services

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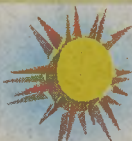
The Kisses4Kate organization will continue to help raise funds for children in the area battling cancer.



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Today's Weather



Sunny, 89/60



County schools off to strong start

BY ERIN WILTGEN
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON — Chatter and light laughter spread a jovial atmosphere over the first meeting of Davidson County Schools' Board of Education since school started. Board Chair Allan Thompson called to order a room filled with educators in high spirits Tuesday night.

"You really worry at the start of the new year — is it going to be safe, are some kids going to get left beside the road," Thompson said. "But everything seemed to get pulled together."

In addition to a smooth start to the 2010-11 year, of course, board members and county staff had much to celebrate — the acquisition of a grant, na-

tional recognition for a county academy, a positive hiring outlook, policy clarification and construction progress.

Davidson County Schools received \$1.3 million through the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant, a four-year grant designed to provide academic enrichment to students during non-school hours.

"We are extremely excited with receiving the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant," said Sandi Lee, assistant superintendent of public instruction. "This will provide all kinds of tutoring opportunities."

The grant is designated for students from Title I feeder schools and will be used specifically to serve Tyro, Central, Brown and South David-

son Middle schools as well as South Davidson High School.

Programs will operate after school from 3 to 6 p.m. and involve lessons focused around an atypical academic topic that will ultimately teach children the skills needed to meet state and local standards. For example, a teacher that has a passion for cooking might show her students how to read and follow recipes, working with fractions and reading skills.

Transportation home will be provided.

"It will allow us to do tutoring, enrichment activities, just a variety of things we couldn't do otherwise," Lee said. "We're really excited about this and the potential it

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Code of Ethics policy revised

Davidson County Board of Education addressed two policy changes at its Tuesday night meeting, though both will be put on hold for a vote in October.

The first policy change came in the Code of Ethics and Standards of Conduct. Revisions clarified guidelines for employee to employee relationships as well as staff to student relationships.

"This is something we've taken very seriously, and we're trying to make sure it's up to date with any clarifications our employees might need or any clarifications we might need as administrators," Peel said.

The change prohibits teachers from flirting with each other or otherwise interacting in an inappropriate and non-work-related manner and includes language from the system's sexual harassment policy regarding teacher-student relations.

"We all have to know — as adminis-

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