



SENT PACKING

North Carolina beat N.C. State 74-55 without starter Dexter Strickland. Senior Tyler Zeller posted 21 points. See page 5.

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The Daily Tar Heel

Volume 119, Issue 140

dailytarheel.com

Friday, January 27, 2012

'AN EPIC JOURNEY'



DTH/ELIZABETH MENDOZA

John Dreher, who plays Mortimer in "Henry IV" and Gloucester in "Henry IV" and "Henry V," takes a break backstage with his iPad. Some rehearsals have gone as long as 14 hours this week.

'The Making of a King' was 20 years in the making for Joseph Haj, co-director of the plays.

By Grace Tatter
Staff Writer

The 24 cast members of PlayMakers Repertory Company's production of "Henry IV" and "Henry V" will more or less live in Paul Green Theatre until March.

In the final week before "The Making of a King" opens, some rehearsals call for 14 hours in the theater, keeping the cast and crew in the Center for Dramatic Art for most of the day.

Between scenes, a wooden table in the center of the stage becomes a spot for a quick nap.

Some evenings, the cast and crew gather for a "family" dinner, momentarily forgetting — or at least pretending to forget — the challenges posed by the magnitude of the production.

With each play lasting around three hours, a combined plot that spans more

than a decade and a production history lasting more than a year, every aspect of "The Making of a King" is epic.

"Let's do this slowly," Joseph Haj, PlayMakers' producing artistic director and co-director of the plays, instructed his cast as they began their first rehearsal on stage with the set — a skeletal iron frame, heavy iron panels and few props.

Actor Michael Winters began his lines with exaggerated slow motion before quickly snapping into the fast-paced witticisms his character Falstaff — Prince Hal's ne'er-do-well second-father figure — is known for.

If there's one thing that the production hinges on, it's this jovial but efficient approach to storytelling that is necessary to keep the audience engaged during the marathon theater event.

Haj has been engaged with the story since 1990, when he first worked on the three plays at Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis.

He has dreamed of a project that encompasses the plays since he came to PlayMakers in 2006.

SEE HENRYS, PAGE 4

'THE MAKING OF A KING'

Time: Tuesday through Friday from Jan. 28 to March 4 at 7:30 p.m. in rotating repertory; Saturday performances of both plays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday performances at 2 p.m.

Location: Paul Green Theatre

Info: www.playmakersrep.org

'HENRY': BY THE NUMBERS

2,724

lines in Shakespeare's unabridged scripts for "Henry IV" parts 1 and 2 and "Henry V"

85

characters in the two plays, played by 24 actors

6

hours of theater in "The Making of a King" between "Henry IV"'s three and a half hours and "Henry V"'s two and a half hours



Shawn Fagan plays Prince Hal, who eventually becomes King Henry V. The shows mark Fagan's debut at PlayMakers.

Gov. Bev Perdue will not seek re-election

Pat McCrory, who lost to Perdue in 2008, will run again for NC governor.

By Daniel Wiser
Assistant State & National Editor



Gov. Bev Perdue claims the GOP majority has "wrong priorities." She issued a record 16 vetoes and clashed with the party.

funds. Republican Pat McCrory, the former Charlotte mayor who narrowly lost to Perdue in 2008, will officially kick off his gubernatorial campaign Tuesday.

The Democratic governor has clashed repeatedly with the N.C. General Assembly's first Republican majority since 1898, issuing a record 16 vetoes and publicly sparring about the extension of a temporary sales tax and cuts to education spending.

"The thing I care about most right now is making sure that our

schools and schoolchildren do not continue to be the victims of shortsighted legislative actions and severe budget cuts inflicted by a legislative majority with the wrong priorities," Perdue said in a statement.

A poll released by Public Policy Polling, a Democratic firm based in Raleigh, earlier this month found McCrory leading Perdue by a 52 to 41 percent margin.

Ferrel Guillory, a UNC journalism professor and expert on Southern politics, said the

economy has loomed large in voters' assessment of Perdue's performance. The state's unemployment rate — currently 9.9 percent — has remained in double digits for much of Perdue's tenure.

"The sour economy and the clash over priorities with the legislature sapped her of the ability to win public support by a list of accomplishments," Guillory said.

Former members of Perdue's campaign staff were also indicted on charges of violating election laws recently, including false

campaign finance reports.

Perdue's campaign reported having \$1.34 million cash on hand as of mid-2011, compared to about \$940,000 for McCrory's campaign. Campaign finance reports for the second half of 2011 are due today.

Rep. Bill Faison, D-Orange, has hinted at a possible run to replace Perdue. He said he will make an announcement soon and isn't concerned about McCrory's early

SEE PERDUE, PAGE 4

Inside

ZUMBA ZEAL

Friday at the YMCA, dance to raise money for the We Build People campaign. **Page 3.**



A MUSICAL FOR A CAUSE

UNC sophomore Rachel Kaplan wrote a musical about the upcoming vote on the gay marriage ban. **Page 9.**



MARK TWAIN

Playwright Paul Newell imagines Mark Twain's reactions to contemporary issues this weekend at the ArtsCenter. Read more at www.dailytarheel.com/canvas.

This day in history

JAN. 27, 1911

In its first men's varsity basketball game, UNC defeated Virginia Christian 42-21. The team went on to finish the year 7-4.

Today's weather



Expect scantily-clad ladies
H 62, L 34

Saturday's weather



Perfect for picnics
H 62, L 31

“Come, gentlemen, I hope we shall drink down all unkindness.”

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE