



# Achievement Post

## March Mental Math Madness

*By Jaylah Jackson*

At Achievement Prep, March Madness doesn't just refer to NCAA hoops anymore. This year Mr. Autin and other Platinum Teachers created the first mental math tournament and I'm sure this great school community event will become an annual favorite. I had an opportunity to interview a few of the math teachers and scholars that participated in the tournament. Here is what they had to share:

**JJ:** Ms. Lewis, how many people did you include in the M<sup>4</sup> tournament?

**Ms. Lewis:** I included 16 scholars, 8 from Hampton and 8 from UPENN.

**JJ:** How did you help them prepare to compete?

**Ms. Lewis:** I gave out extra work. It was really hard, but it helped them improve the speed of their mental math calculations. Our scholars did a wonderful job!

**JJ:** Ms. Gribetz, how did you help the 4th graders?

**Ms. Gribetz:** I helped them with harder equations and I wanted to make sure they had enough stamina and accuracy to be the champs!

As you can see, a lot of work and preparation went into the M<sup>4</sup> Tournament. There were many victories along the way. At the end of the three week tournament, Carlos Sandoval, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade scholar, emerged as the champion. Shannon Hall (7<sup>th</sup> grade) placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, Nikko Williams (4<sup>th</sup> grade) placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Jaynia Holbrook (6<sup>th</sup> grade) placed 4<sup>th</sup>.



# Sports & Entertainment

## Derrick Rose's Life and Career

*By Kenny Wright*

Derrick Rose was born on October 4, 1988. Derrick rose is 22 years old and lives in Chicago. He is 6'3" and weighs 205 pounds. Derrick played for the Memphis Tigers in college and is now a guard for the Chicago Bulls.

It seems that Derrick Rose is unstoppable in the lane. He makes impossible shots with incredible speed. He averages 16.5 points per game. Derrick Rose made it into the all star game and the 2011 skills challenge. Derrick has been an all star for 2 of his 3 seasons in the NBA.

In addition, Derrick had an excellent playoff run. He never stopped pushing himself to do better. Toward the end of the series against the Heat, he

started passing better but still kept pushing himself to shoot better. He said he wanted to shoot more floaters and draw more fouls.

His combined shot production in games 1 and 2 against the Heat was 15 of 42. After he watched film of his games against the Heat, he felt that he could have done a better job of penetrating their defense on fast breaks. Even though the Bulls playoff run came to a end in Miami, Rose can feel proud of his MVP caliber season.



## Serena Williams: On and Off the Court

*By Liulty Kiros*

Only 28 years old, Serena Williams has won 23 career grand slam titles including 11 singles, 2 mixed doubles, and 10 women's doubles. Her tennis ability combined with her off court activities has made her one of the most recognizable names and faces in the world. Serena was born on September 26, 1981 in Saginaw Michigan to Richard Williams and Oracene

Price. While still an infant, the family moved to Compton, CA where she began playing tennis at the age of four. At the age of nine, Serena and her family moved to West Palm Beach, FL.

In addition to dominating the women's tennis tour, Serena has many interests. Off the court fashion and acting are her passions. She was selected as one of People Magazine's "25 Most Intriguing People" (2002) and one of Essence Magazine's "50 Most Inspiring African-Americans." Her acting credits include an appearance on "ER," "My Wife and Kids," and voice overs on "The Simpsons." She also has her own clothing label, Aneres, which has been featured in In Style Magazine.

Serena is committed to the community and visits schools, hospitals, and conducts tennis clinics around the world. You might even catch her at in D.C. at the S.E. Tennis and Learning Center which she supports along with her big sister and tennis star, Venus.

# Comic & Creative Writing

## Unicorn Girl

flew with the mysterious villain downtown to jail.

*By Kyra Folarin*

One day a girl named Julie Williams who was 11 years old was wandering around eating forest apples. She was bored. She would do anything to make time go fast-forward. She was eating a regular forest apple when she came across a candied apple that was hanging by a wooden stick. Like any candy lover, she pulled it off the branch. She knew it was pretty creepy, but she was sure it would taste good! She took a deep bite and she started to float. She was freaked-out but felt awesome! Her body started to turn white, her nose and mouth started to get longer, and her hair turned pink and started to get longer. Her hands turned into hooves! She could shoot deadly rainbow lasers out of her hooves, mouth, and cone! She could change back into her human form at anytime. She could fly and speak every language in the universe! She vowed from now on to the day she died that she would fight crime as Unicorn Girl!

When she made it back home, she heard plates crashing in her mother's kitchen. She turned into Unicorn Girl and flew through her mother's chimney and peaked into the kitchen. Just then, she saw her mother tied up and saw a woman in a devilish red biker suit. The woman kept yelling at Julie's mother, "Where is the cash?" Julie's mother just smiled and said nothing. When the woman was about to slap her mother, Unicorn Girl took swift action and pounded the woman on the head with her rainbow lasers. The woman was out cold!

Unicorn Girl untied her mom, "you're welcome mo- I mean ma'am." She knew she had to keep her identify a secret to protect her mom. The mysterious lady began to wake up, "My name is Mrs. Calamity and we will have another play date soon I promise you that." "Well I'm Unicorn Girl and for now I think you are going to jail." Unicorn Girl scooped Mrs. Calamity up with her horn and



*Kyra Folarin (4th grade)*

## Science is Golden

*By Kevin Akers*

Once upon a time a scientist named Dr. Akers, who had four Ph.D's, was looking at the periodic table. He stopped at the transition metal called yttrium\*. He said, "what could I do with that?" He got the metal, melted it, and tested it on a dead body. And guess what! The skeleton began to vibrate and the bones slowly started to turn into gold. Dr. Akers always said, "science is golden!"

\*Yttrium is represented by the symbol Y on the periodic table and it's melting point is 2,773.4° F



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# Who Stole My Baby

*By Jamari Watson*

## Scene 1

Long ago there was a king named Zeus and he married Pandora. Pandora wanted babies so they had triplets. On their way home from the hospital after the birth of the triplets, Pandora was surprised. All three of the babies looked exactly like Zeus. She did not have names for the babies and spent the next several days thinking of just the perfect name for each baby. The first of the three babies was a girl, she called her Zeusarine, the middle baby was the only boy so she called him little Zeus, and the smallest of the three triplets she named Pandorarine.

## Scene 2

One night while the babies were sleeping, there came a thief. The thief was so jealous because she couldn't have any children of her own. She desperately wanted a baby and so she took Zeusarine. The next morning the mother was shocked to find her baby girl missing. She cried to Zeus and begged him to go and find her baby.

## Scene 3

Zeus organized a large group of people to help him look for Zeusarine. He spent all of his time searching the world for his baby girl. Pandorarine and little Zeus wanted to help but their father wouldn't allow it. He thought it would be too dangerous for the two young children. But Pandorarine and little Zeus decided for themselves that they would sneak out and join the search for their sister without their father knowing. The two little babies followed their father's giant footsteps through the woods. There they came upon a wolf.

## Scene 4

The babies began to cry out of fear that the wolf was going to eat them, but she didn't. Instead she put the small children on her back and carried them through the woods in search of Zeusarine. Far in the distance the wolf and babies saw an old house with a single candle glowing in the window. The wolf ran toward the tiny old house and inside found Zeusarine left alone wrapped in a blanket. Zeus and Pandorarine were so excited to find their sister that all three babies began to cheer and shout. They made such a loud noise that Zeus heard them on the other side of the world and immediately came to save them.

## Scene 5

After all three of the babies and their father, Zeus, return home safely they discovered that Zeus' sister had stolen Zeusarine. As a punishment she was no longer considered a goddess and had to walk the earth as a human woman for the rest of her life.



# APA News

## The APA Ball

*By Kiersten Burroughs*

The Achievement Prep Ball is coming up and I think that everyone is really looking forward to a great time. I am definitely excited about the ball! I interviewed fellow scholar Jorden Staton about this ball and she had some good information to share:

**Do you think that there will be a Ball King and Queen?**

Jorden: Yes we have a Ball King and Queen every year.

**Who are you going to the Ball with:**

Jorden: I'm looking forward to celebrating with all of the APA Scholars.

**Do you think the Ball will be more fun than ever this year?**

Jorden: Yes I really think that the ball will be off the chain this year.

Okay, well you heard it here first! The Ball will probably be off the chain. Until the Ball comes have fun and most important....MAKE SURE YOU GET IN!



*Carleton Advisory (5th grade)*

## Chant Off

*By Elijah Giles*

The scholars at Achievement Prep recently had a chant off. The chant off was when all the advisories made up a chant to show their school pride. The teachers let the scholars make-up their own chants and the best chant from each advisor was selected for the school wide competition. Each advisory practiced their chant for weeks because the winning advisory won a pizza and ice cream party.

Each advisory got to perform during Preppy & Proud and Mrs. Wright, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Cannon, and Ms. Watson were the judges. Carleton was the winning advisory and their chant was to the beat of "Cat Daddy" by Chris Brown.

### True Scholar-Winning Chant

Man I go to school, true scholar (scholar xi)

Getting paycheck, dream dollars  
We smart, we good, we come from the neighborhood

We're amazing scholars and we're amazingly good

Say I'm not smart, ya'll too wrong

When we're in SE going Akon

We got all this knowledge in our head

And when we come to school we don't go to bed

We got six classes a day, no time to play.

Because I get my green and blue all day.

I did such a blast on the DC-CAS even some other schools don't think we even pass

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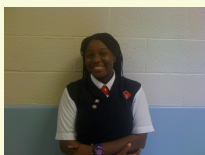
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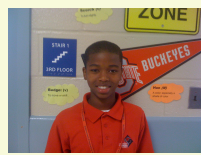
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