

Recent Winter Weather Gives Students Break

By Garrett N. James
Editor-In-Chief

Many students at FSU had their eyes glued to the television screen on the morning of Jan. 23 in hopes of seeing their school's name. With fingers crossed, they were hoping that classes would be canceled for the day.

It was a wish that many knew would come true. With two inches of snow covering everything in sight and being a town that practically shuts down at the first sight of snow, students were sleeping late and just cooling...literally.

Jermaine Howard, a sophomore in Bryant Hall, says that he stayed in his room all day except from when he walked to the cafeteria.

"I used to go out and play in the snow, but I just didn't feel like it yesterday," he says.

Outside of Vance and New Residence Halls, students could be found enjoying the city's first snow of the year. "Hit the girls," and "Stop playing, stop playing," could be heard right before seeing snowballs hurled at unforeseen targets.

Aleta Green is a junior in the University Apartments. She and her friends spent the day studying, watching TV and listening to the radio.

"We only went out to get some bread and that's it," she says. "We saw some slick spots, but no accidents."

Green and her friends were fortunate to reach their destinations safely and return



home with no problems. Many others in the city were not so blessed.

In Fayetteville alone, 151 reports of accidents involving property damage were received by Thursday afternoon. In addition, there were approximately 400 wrecks in the county.

One police spokesman said that the department was behind in responding to 98 calls for help from people who were stranded or who had crashed their cars on the icy and snow-covered streets.

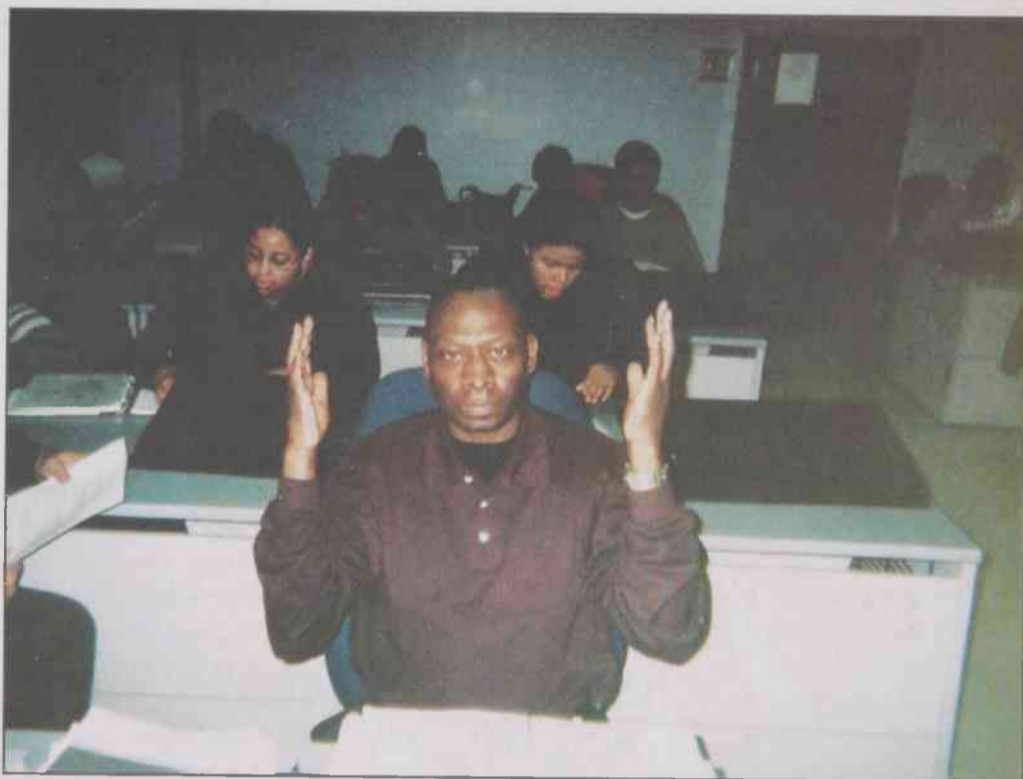
Some people were told to find their way home and file an accident report this morning. Governor Mike Easley made a statewide plea urging NC resident to stay off the roads.

The state Highway Patrol responded to 2,450 accidents across the state from midnight through about 3:30 p.m., said patrol spokesman Frank Pierce.

The Raleigh area recorded the most wrecks with 442, followed by Troop B in the Fayetteville area with 427.

Although some fingers never uncrossed, FSU opened the next day with a two-hour delay.

One day off is enough sometimes because cancelled days may mean a shorter spring break for students. Compromise is good.



Victor Robinson wonders what took FSU officials so long to notify students.

Students Complain About Late Weather Notice

By Garrett N. James
Editor-In-Chief

It snowed in many parts of North Carolina on Jan 23. There were only two or three inches in Fayetteville, but for a town where snow is uncommon, two inches is enough to shut down businesses, stores, and of course, schools.

While many FSU students were laughing and throwing snowballs that day, several others were frowning and hurling insults.

The insults were not directed at the snow, but toward FSU's administration.

Why?
"They are just inconsiderate," said Deidra

Mainor, an off-campus senior from Fayetteville. "They had me coming out here with all of those wrecks outside!"

Mainor was frustrated that the notification of FSU being closed was posted hours after other local schools. Many did not receive the message until 9:30 am.

Lauren Cook, University Public Relations and Communications Director, said Chancellor McLeod makes decisions concerning FSU's delays and closings. Once the decision is made, McLeod then would call Cook and she would then begin to notify the necessary media.

Necessary media is local TV and radio stations, FSU Webmaster Bill Gibson, FSU telecommunications, and any others needed.

Cook said she received a call from McLeod around 6 a.m. on the morning of Jan. 23. McLeod told her that FSU would be on a two-hour delay. She then began making calls to the necessary media.

She said she received a second call from McLeod around 6:15 a.m. saying that the school would be closed for the day.

It was two hours later before many students were notified of the happenings.

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Concert Celebrates Life Of Martin Luther King, Jr.

By Talia Higgs
Staff Writer

Fayetteville State University's Department of Performing and Fine Arts honored Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at the 6th Annual "In Celebration of a Life" concert, held in Seabrook Auditorium last month.

The concert showcased some of Fayetteville State's talented students as well as featuring performances from the local community and abroad.

Dr. Brooksie Harrington directed the Brother's Keeper Ensemble in a musical medley, which he also arranged. The Ensemble featured young boys from local area schools and is in direct association with the Brother's Keeper Organization.

Douglas Blake, senior, read an excerpt from King's famous *Letter from Birmingham City Jail*. Aisha Brooks, senior, read from *Our God is Marching On*.

Other guests included the Cumberland County Youth Orchestra and the Fayetteville State University Concert Choir, under the direction on Dr. Marvin Curtis.

Valerie Johnson, winner of the *Women In the Arts* achievement award, and Wayne Sheppard, a soloist in Handel's *Messiah*, were also on hand to give tribute to Dr. King.

The program closed with a *Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

United Voices of Praise

FSU Gospel Choir
Anniversary Concert

6 pm February 22

Parks Chapel FWB