



THE GUILFORDIAN

Greensboro, N.C.

Volume 91, Issue 15

January 21, 2005

www.guilfordian.com

Guilford celebrates Martin Luther King holiday

Charlie McAlpin & Deidre Rhim

Staff Writers

On Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. in Dana auditorium, Alma Adams hobbled to the podium, crutch under one shoulder, red flower pinned to the other, and reminded her audience that Martin Luther King's struggle will never end.

Over 100 people arrived to learn about initiative and compassion from Adams, the State House representative for Guilford County since '94 and professor of visual arts at Bennett College. "Your commitment must be to pursue King's principles of compassion for humankind," said Adams.

Though temporarily crippled recently from surgery, Adams exhibited a kinetic energy that she urged upon her audience.

"Service is the rent that you pay for living on this earth," she said.

James Shields, director of community learning, embodied the theme "Reflections: Past, Present and Future" in his introduction to the event by saying "we must remember our ancestors, all of our ancestors, and their shoulders that we stand on."

Among others from the Guilford community, Holly Wilson, Africana Community Coordinator, and Sekinah

Hamlin, Director of Multicultural Education, organized and facilitated the event.

Wilson, a '96 Guilford graduate, explained that MLK Day is not a "day off" but a "day on"

because campus is brimming with anticipation for all of the events for students and the public.

"It's a day that not only celebrates Dr. King but enlightens us of his accomplishments," Wilson said.

She went on to explain the importance of MLK for the college and the day's significance as one of the only holidays celebrating a person whose principles of peace and equality align with those of the college, thereby setting MLK day apart from any other.

"Dr. King fought for equal rights for all and it is only fitting that we here at the college celebrate him and what he died for," said Wilson.

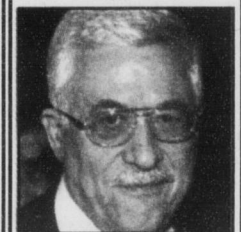
The celebration began on Jan. 15 with a gospel concert



WWW.MRSDEWSONHATS.COM

Guilford county state representative Alma Adams

Continued on Page 4



Abbas elected Palestinian President

Page 5



Review of The Life Aquatic

Page 6



Video games: To play, or not to play

Page 8



NFL playoffs update

Page 12

Panel highlights effects of tsunami disaster

Kristie Parmenter

Staff Writer

Seats filled and doorways became crowded on Jan. 11 as over 100 students and members of the community attended a panel about the earthquake/tsunami that devastated several eastern countries on Dec. 26.

The 7:30 panel consisted of five faculty and staff members. Organized by Professor Eric Mortensen, who spoke on the situation in the Adaman and Nicobar

Islands, the panel raised awareness of the disaster and its implications and briefed students on the scientific aspects of such occurrences.

Other members who gave presentations were moderator Dottie Borei, Professor of Geology and Earth Sciences Marlene McCauley, Professor of Religious Studies Shelini Harris, and Campus Ministry Coordinator Max Carter.

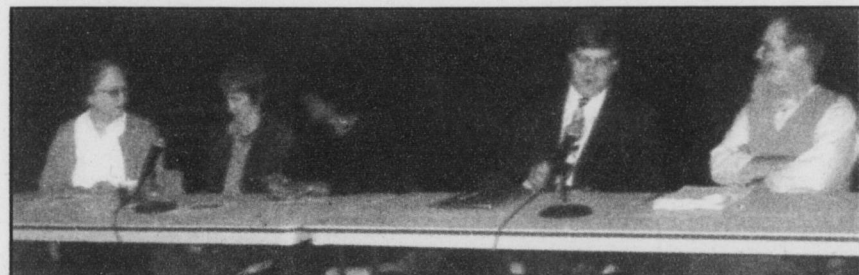
As moderator, Borei introduced the panel and summarized the topics each person was to discuss. Borei also answered several questions from the audience at the end of the evening and compared last month's tsunami to other catastrophes. For example, this natural disaster has

not left as many dead as epidemics such as AIDS.

McCauley explained the scientific perspective of oceanic disturbances. Any undersea disturbance, such as earthquakes or volcanoes, causes so much force upward that the water begins to ripple outward in a circle. These waves grow in size and have a much longer wavelength than wind-waves do. The waves are farther apart and carry much more energy when they hit the shore.

This particular tsunami, the source of which was a 9.0 earthquake at the bottom of the Indian Ocean, was "in scientific terms... what we would call a whopper," said McCauley. "An earthquake of this caliber occurs with the energy of roughly 30,000 Hiroshima bombs. It only took 15 minutes in some areas for the first wave to hit after the 'quake, while for countries like Somalia and Thailand, it was nearly seven hours after that. This raises the unanswerable question of why there was

Continued on Page 4



KRISTIE PARMENTER/GUILFORDIAN

Members of the tsunami panel in discussion