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## Hurricane Floyd spares Meredith

□ **Eastern North Carolina is flooded.**

LESLIE MAXWELL  
Editor in chief

After Hurricane Fran hit Raleigh in September 1996, Meredith College wasted no time preparing for Hurricane Floyd three years later.

After Floyd's threatening North Carolina's coast during the beginning of last week, Meredith College officials watched the storm very carefully. Tuesday afternoon, the Incident Management Team met to discuss procedures.

Wednesday morning, September 15, students were notified through signs in their dorms and through their morning-class professors that college officials canceled Wednesday afternoon classes. All college activities and classes ended at noon. At that same time, college officials notified students that Thursday's classes would also be canceled, but

they gave no word on Friday's classes at that time.

Dr. Allen Page, dean of academics, determines whether classes will be held.

Thursday morning, officials decided that Friday's classes would also be canceled, along with the weekend's Open House and Sunday's Family Day. Dr. Jean Jackson, vice president for student development, said that canceling Fam-

ily Day and Open House were "hard calls."

Students who were staying on campus for the hurricane were required to attend a dorm-wide meeting at 2 p.m. At this meeting, Residence Directors explained the procedures that would be taken if the hurricane were to become dangerous. If the storm was bad enough, students would have to sleep in the hall of the first floor in each

residence hall. RDs also advised unplugging computers and covering them with plastic.

Dean of Students Ann Gleason and Residence Life Director Charlene Gaines stayed in the residence halls with students, according to Jackson. In addition, Thad O'Briant, director of Campus Dining, and Paula O'Briant, Continuing Education office, stayed in Carroll Hall to ensure that students would have meal services.

Many students, however, went home for the storm. Junior Kaley Redmond went to her hometown of Statesville, NC. Redmond said that the drive that usually takes two hours took over four hours. She went home, she said, because her sister, a freshman, and her father were nervous. But she said that the other students' leaving is what "scared me the most." Redmond said, "I'm glad I went home," adding that

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A downed limb from a crepe myrtle was a result of Floyd.

PHOTO BY LESLIE MAXWELL

## New classroom equipment aids all

□ **Projectors and screens added to aid teachers, students.**

AMANDA FLETCHER  
Staff Writer

In an effort to meet the needs of the Meredith student body, Media Services has begun implementing new types of technology. Classrooms and other meeting areas have been equipped with different devices that will aid professors in teaching, according to John Kincheloe in Media Services.

One of these devices is the data projector, a machine that will let professors project a computer or video screen onto a larger screen. A box mounted on the ceiling projects the image off of the smaller screen (the computer or the television) onto a larger one. According to Kincheloe, this is beneficial because it allows an entire class to see a presentation. Students can see the six-foot

screen more easily than the thirteen-inch one.

There are, however, some

problems with the data projectors. One problem is that the classroom must be kept very

dark in order for the image to show up. In an effort to combat this problem, many classrooms have been equipped with blackout shades. Other classrooms have lights that can be turned off at the front and be kept on in the back, allowing the students enough

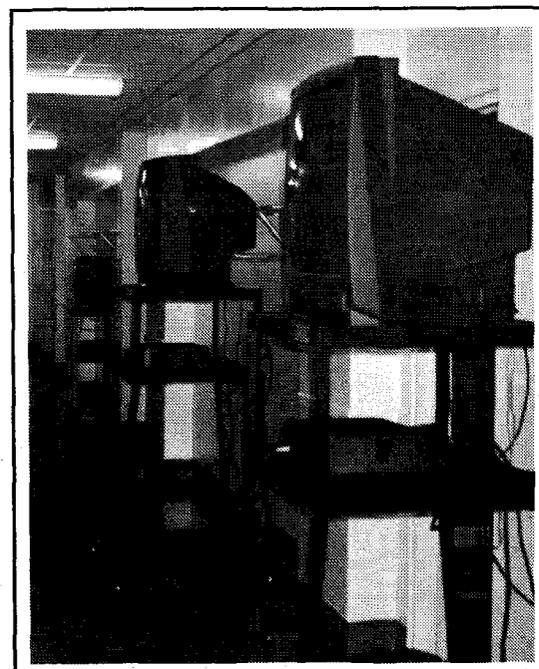
light to take notes and to see the screen.

An alternative to data projectors is an information station. Media Services built 20 of these over the summer, Kincheloe said. Information stations consist of 27-inch computers or television monitors, S-VHS VCRs and a scan converter, which are all mounted on a cart.

Kincheloe describes a scan converter as a "device that lets you take a computer signal and change it into a television resolution." This is done because "a television monitor is less expensive than a big computer monitor," said Kincheloe. Scan converters give a smaller but brighter picture than a data projector. The converters are also portable, allowing for a more mobile, versatile use.

Kincheloe said that informa-

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Current classroom projection equipment will soon be replaced with new devices.

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