

# Exam time ripe with horror stories

## Love, weather hinder studying

BY MATT HANSON  
SENIOR WRITER

Exams: Quite possibly the worst part of school — the time to stand up and be accountable for all the facts you've stuffed into your head for the last four months.

Everyone has their favorite exam horror story: mining library shelves, pulling all-nighters, broken calculators and alarm clocks, and missed buses.

But some deserve to go down in history for the degree to which we cringe at their retelling.

On Dec. 4, the last day of classes last fall, a layer of wintry mix powdered the UNC campus, and as the sun set it paralyzed functions of the town and University in a icy glaze.

Off-campus students lived without power and water for as long as a week.

"I slept at (University Presbyterian Church) for a couple nights, and then I ended up sharing a sofa bed at a friend's house," said Kim McNeil, who graduated in May. "I remember one day that I basically cried all day because I was so stressed out.

"Of course there were a couple days when you didn't get a shower, and you smelled and you didn't know if you could sleep in the same place you slept the night before," she said. "And then you had to concentrate on studying for exams."

McNeil, who had avoided studying in the library for 3 1/2 years of college, was forced to log late hours in Davis Library because the campus had power. "The one time I went out of the library to get a break, I got in a wreck."

By the time spring exams came

## ENTERTAINMENT

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Studdard releases his allegedly anticipated debut, *Soulful*.

Of course, if manufactured pop isn't your bag, you might take solace in the prolific and derivative crooner Ryan Adams, who releases the sequel to his *Love is Hell* EP the same day.

Remember, entertainment is not only an important diversion from tedious studying, but often beneficial as well.

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around, the ice long since had melted. Students again were able to concentrate.

But junior Tim Swain was distracted by relationship troubles with his girlfriend in New Jersey.

"My girlfriend and I had been having issues, and she decided the time to break (up) would be during our exam period," he said.

"She called while I was studying for an anatomy test, and I talked to her for about 15 minutes. Then I

went back to studying — after breaking up with the girl I had been dating for four years.

"My roommate's only consolation was, 'Damn, man, that sucks.'" Swain's story did have a happy ending: He got an A- in anatomy.

While most know someone with an unbelievable horror story, many have experienced a few themselves. Some classes are notorious for their torturous exams, said Corbin Graves, a junior business major.

*"My girlfriend and I had been having issues, and she decided the time to break (up) would be during our exam period,"*

TIM SWAIN, JUNIOR

No matter how well the week, day and morning before these exams go, students in the classes are in for a battle. Graves said, "Everyone that took Business 24 will tell you that was the worst three hours of their life."

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