On March 1st, after months of cold weather, snow finally fell on Williamsburg. The rest of that night and during the next day power flicked on and off in dorm halls, academic buildings, and other major facilities. Classes and school activities were cancelled all day on Monday the 2nd. Students took advantage of the bonus day to get some rest, catch up on reading as midterm exams were fast approaching, or just play in the snow with friends.

On Monday morning, cell phones across campus buzzed in unison while cheers of joy rang out from dormitories. Through the College’s Emergency Notification System, morning text messages and phone calls announced that morning classes had been cancelled. Around noon, a second notification went out cancelling classes for the rest of the day. Although most of the snowfall had tapered off by noon, the chilly temperatures allowed for ice to accumulate on the paths and steps of campus making unnecessary traveling dangerous. Classes commenced the next day, however.

“I went to my friends’ room and moped about having to go to class, until the decision was made to cancel all classes,” Emily Wilson said. “My friends Kaley Horton and Annah Mackin and I got the call at the same time, at which point we screamed and hugged each other.” Wilson and her friends then chose to stay inside instead of going out to brave the cold. “We stayed in and watched a couple of movies and a few episodes of Designing Women, an eighties feminist sitcom,” Wilson said. “Then we ordered pizza and had a massive pizza party with a few other girls on our hall.” With an extra 24 hours of free time, some used the time to work. “I think the day was a godsend,” Catherine York said. “I hadn’t written an essay and because of the snow day, I got two more days to work on it.” Anna was studying in Swem Library when the power went out for 30 seconds before the generators kicked in. "People started to scream about not being able to get work done without power. It was really intense," York said.

Others took a more stress-free approach to the snow day and chose to play in the white stuff rather than study. “My big, Lydia Higgs, Devon Miller, and I had a snowball fight with snow gathered from the cars,” sophomore Kate Adams said. “I was excited because it was my first College snow day.”

Whether students chose to frolic on the Sunken Gardens, stay in and watch movies, or study in Swem, the rare snow day provided memories for the entire campus.