This winter has been a rough one for Long Islanders. The amount of snow we’ve seen so far has been incredible and the temperatures have been bitterly cold.

It has snowed eight times since December, and winter isn’t over yet. During the first week of February alone it snowed twice. Schools have been forced to cancel classes, many stores closed their doors to customers, and traffic has been a nightmare.

A lot of people are getting frustrated with the weather and were hoping that the ground hog was right about an early spring.

January 2 and 3 was the first major snowstorm of the year. Totals generally ranged from 6 - 12 inches across the area. Then we took another hit on January 21 with 9 - 14 inches of snow across the Island. The most recent snowfalls were on February 3 with approximately 3 - 9 inches and February 5 totaling around 1 - 5 inches of snow.

Farmingdale State College closed twice due to the weather conditions. Most students weren’t upset about the missed days but are frustrated with the cold weather. “I hope we get more snow days,” said Daniel Sheehan.

Some students will be happy to see it melt. “I enjoyed the snow until now because it’s making things very inconvenient,” said Ashley Gambale.

The campus has done its best to plow the parking lots and make walkways clear for the students. “It’s hard to find parking because of piled mounds of snow,” said Rebecca Strickland.

However, students still have to be extra cautious when walking around campus because it is very icy.

Professor’s aren’t too excited for classes to be canceled. It is going to make the workload pile up.
unrepresentative middle school, high school and college students. It provides educational support to disadvantaged group or economically underrepresented students in grades 7-12, be enrolled in the program which has been substantially increasing every year.

To qualify, students must be in grades 7-12 be of a historically underrepresented or economically disadvantaged group and have a GPA of 75 or better. C-STEP offers Saturday academy workshops (A five week program in the fall and spring), a regional summit conference, and two statewide conferences where students compete. C-STEP offers workshops, financial aid night, college mentor night to high school students, where the C-Step students share their college experiences, award ceremonies, scholarship opportunities, and more.

Students in the Saturday program, dissect turtles in the biology lab. The children learned with hands-on experience in eight different classes in biology, robotics, forensics, renewable energy, SAT preparation courses, and nursing and more. Middle and high school students from specific districts such as Wyandanch, Copiague, Farmingdale, Amityville, and Huntington, came on buses to attend the program.

Zombies, survivors, and Nerf guns, oh my! The Humans vs. Zombies club offers an unusual and fun option for those looking to be active on campus, but don’t want to join the usual sports teams or clubs. Humans vs. Zombies started at Goucher College in 2005, and spread across the nation and the world, coming to Farmingdale in 2011. Dorming students were bored. There was not much on campus besides sports. So what ended up happening was we wanted to do something active and be social,” said Cassie Christian, president of the Humans vs. Zombies Club.

The very first Humans vs. Zombies club had over 150 students participating. “You really go all out for this,” said Christian.

“Trails is potentially boring campus life and really spices it up,” a handful of those students banded together into the HvZ club to plan and host the event every semester. However, the HvZ game isn’t all they do.

“We did have other events, typical sign ups. We had a Halloween party, boot camps for training and even a video game night,” said Alessandro Oliverio, secretary of the HvZ club. They also held a Nerf night in the multipurpose room at Roosevelt Hall, which was a game of capture the flag with Nerf guns.

The fast-paced and frantic looking game played a lot like a game of dodge ball, except instead of having to evade a ball, except instead of having to evade a large kickballs, you had to dodge dozens of Nerf darts and capture a flag at the same time; definitely a good workout.

The club members are a close group, fun loving and spontaneous. They are always very welcoming to anyone who would like to attend an event, join the club, or even just sit down and chat. This is the kind of club where you never really have to worry about fitting in. “You tend to put differences aside in the middle of a zombie takeover,” said Christian.

“MY first semester I sat alone in the library. I never expected to fit in [with the club],” said Oliverio. “I went from having no friends on campus to 50 in two days.”
The 1990’s brought in a new wave of fashion called Grunge. With fitted clothes out, and baggy clothes in, Grunge became a crazed style that consisted of plaid, flannels, and jeans. It was a cheap, vernacular style that was associated with musicians like Kurt Cobain and Courtney Love. Grunge was a fashion statement that derived from clothes worn by rock musicians and their fans. Unlike other fashion trends throughout the decade, it was mostly influenced by rock music. People saw it as hippies and punks merging their wardrobes together. The style as if it was slept in, picked off the floor, and scavenged from the ragbag.

The music of the 90’s consisted of part punk, part heavy metal, and guitar. The popularity of this alternative rock music was able to bring the simple, unkept grunge look mainstream. In 1990, Kurt Cobain was photographed performing live in a vintage floral-print dress, which little did he know at the time started a revolutionary movement. Cobain was the lead singer of Nirvana, which emerged in the Seattle area.

He struggled through drug addiction, illness, and depression. He was also known for saying that, “being famous is the last thing I want.” He became widely known as the king of grunge. He wore mostly thrift store items, which at the time, seemed to be the time-stamped look-forward movement. Cobain was the lead singer of Nirvana, which emerged in the Seattle area.

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Not many can say that they soar over oceans, towns, and cities as their daily job. Students have an opportunity to make this dream a reality. Flight training all takes place on the college’s specially built airspace and uses the school’s fleet.

Many of the school’s instructors are graduates of the aviation program. FSC is the largest collegiate flight school in the northeast region and the only SUNY School to offer a four-year degree program in aeronautical science.

Technology is advancing and so is the department of aviation. The aviation center, located at Republic Airport across Route 110, is making some upgrades within their aircraft. The 22,000 square foot aerospace facility was built in 1990 and is the primary hub for flight training. On average among the 100 students enrolled in the program, almost 250-300 flight lessons are conducted per week.

The primary training aircraft students use is the Piper PA-28-161 Warrior III. The cockpits are currently designed with an old instrument “6-Pack”. Basically there are six instruments that tell you different fundamentals of flight. With three instruments across, followed by another three directly below in this order: air speed indicator, altitude indicator, attitude indicator, turn coordinator, directional gyro, and vertical speed indicator. Instruments surround those but the six pack is the main focus of the pilot. These new Warriors feature the Garmin G500 glass cockpit instrumentation reflecting the type of cockpit instrumentation they will see in today’s regional and corporate jet aircraft. The glass will now show all of these instruments on one electrical LCD screen. Glass cockpits are the more dominant interface throughout aviation; FSC is keeping up with the latest modern technology. Three out of the 22 airplanes located at the center have already been switched. Over time more of the airplanes will be upgraded.

Lawrence Lopez is the director of operations or at the aviation center. Lopez is passionate about the program, what the program does, and the function of the airplanes. “We have a great program. We’re feeding the industry with pilots and its successful with pilots and its successful with the new technology.” said Lopez.

Flight instructor, Ray Castaldini, was once enrolled in the program. Now he works at the center. He has been flying for about six years, giving flight lessons, and some commercial flying. “I enjoy my job, it’s a great office. The glass is nicer, more reliable, and easier to maintain,” said Castaldini.

Junior, aeronautical science professional, Michael Timpano, knew he wanted to be an airline pilot ever since he was young. Being involved with airplanes his whole life, Timpano welcomes the switch so he can experience the new technology hands on. “I’m excited because I’m a commercial pilot who will soon be flying with larger aircraft that will have glass cockpits. It’s only going to get me more accustomed and prepared for what’s next,” said Timpano.

Junior, Michael Scarlato is enrolled in professional aviation. This is his second year flying. Having his family directly affected by the attacks of 9/11, Scarlato hopes to become a military pilot after graduating.

“Personally I welcome the switch, once I leave FSC all the aircraft I fly whether it be military, or civil, people from city to city here at home, those aircraft are all glass cockpits,” said Scarlato.

Junior, aviation administration major, Chris Breyfogle is currently in Air Force ROTC. Although Breyfogle is not currently flying he is excited for his friends and peers to experience the new technology.

“Since I just switched out of the flying program I am looking forward to hearing about the new systems, and hopefully flying backseat to see how they operate,” said Breyfogle.

During a brief survey, students at FSC voiced polarizing opinions about the new class schedule grid that made its debut at the beginning of the 2013 fall semester. Implementing the new schedule resulted in a host of changes; it condensed the intermission between classes to 10 minutes from the previous 15 minute break, removed one of the activity hours, and moved the other activity hour from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The administration felt that a new grid needed to be created to improve the college.

“It was necessary to change the class grid in order to increase the number of time slots we have available in which to schedule classes,” said Dr. Lucia Cepriano, Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Farmingdale. “Many of our students have other important obligations, such as family and full-time or part-time jobs. They need class schedules that can accommodate these other obligations.”

The change had other projected benefits as well, such as reducing the average class size by adding more classes, which would also result in more choices for students when planning their schedule.

“I love it,” said senior professional communications major Elizabeth Weinstein, “I come in, go to class, and go home. I don’t have to wait hours for that one required class that only meets at one time a semester.”

The new class grid had its desired effect of giving students more variability when choosing classes to meet their degree requirements, but some students are displeased with the change.

“The new system is awkward,” said Scott Callahan, a senior professional communications major. “The reduced time between classes made the difference between being able to eat on campus, or having to wait until I get home.”

Callahan isn’t the only student to voice his annoyance with the new format, many other full-time students who organized their classes back-to-back share his dilemma, although for different reasons.

“My classes are all over campus,” said Tom Elgort, another senior professional communications major. “I’m late every day because there isn’t enough time to get from Lupton [Hall] to Gleeson [Hall].”

Late because of the tighter schedule is a problem that the administration anticipated, but they feel that the positives of the new grid outweigh the negatives. Likewise, the removed activity hour was a necessary casualty in FSC’s war to improve the academic conditions for its students. Still, many students don’t see it that way.

“You wouldn’t believe the difference that five minutes can make,” said Mary Feminella, a senior professional communications major. “I’ve had to completely reorganize my work schedule because classes don’t start or end when they used to.” The plan was that the new grid would give students an easier time when balancing work and other commitments with their schooling, but for some it was not successful. Nonetheless, the administration at Farmingdale is receptive to criticisms of the change, and urges the students who are inconvenienced to express their specific issues to them so they can devise appropriate solutions for the future.
For the past year the athletic population at FSC has had to improvise. Both staff and athletes have been preparing for games and matches inside small compact trailers.

Seasons have passed while staff and athletes patiently await the reveal of the new renovations at Nold Hall.

According to the staff, this was no small renovation, for there are two phases to the process. Phase I was unveiled in mid-October which included revamping the gym. The new gym has new floors and a seating area.

Phase II is yet to be determined; it will take place in the future based on the financial status of the school.

In addition, staff and students will be able to train in a new fully equipped weight-room, and athletic facilities. Athletes will be able to change in the many locker rooms and bathrooms that this building will hold.

The financial upkeep of the pool was too much for the school; therefore it had to go. The old swimming pool area has been replaced by an auxiliary gym. Coach Timothy Tuttle said, the maintenance of the pool cost $40,000 per year, with a revenue of $12,000 per year in dues.

Athletic trainer Jessica Dautner is excited about the new training facilities filled with treatment tables, stimulation machines, and five whirlpools. This will allow for trainers to aid the athletes in a more conducive environment than in the trailers where they are currently working.

“We are all waiting for the day when we can run out of the trailers and into the new building,” said Dautner.

Everything old from the facilities will not be transferred into the revamped building.

Athletes like Timothy Kelly and Matthew Finn from the lacrosse team are very excited about the new renovations.

“We didn’t have a weight room last year, so my teammates and I can benefit from a new one,” said Kelly.

To Kelly this addition to the building can help improve their game and better prepare them for the season. In the eyes of the athletic population, this building stands as a glimmer of hope. “Nothing can be worse than last year,” said Finn.

Now dorm students, along with commuters, will have a place to play racquetball, take part in intramural sports, and more.

This building sets out to unify the athletic community at FSC. “The renovations of Nold Hall will not only improve the outlook of the campus, but help our sports team reach their athletic goals and beyond,” said Coach Tuttle.