

CHEAT SHEET: HURRICANE MATTHEW

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NEWS BRIEFS

Elon, ABSS in informal talks about Elon Elementary land

Elon University President Leo Lambert and ABSS Superintendent Bill Harrison have informally discussed a deal where the university would acquire Elon Elementary School, Harrison admitted after being accused of secrecy at an Oct. 10 Alamance-Burlington Board of Education meeting, according to the Burlington Times-News.

As part of the deal, Elon would give ABSS land to build a new elementary school.

Dan Anderson, vice president of University Communications, confirmed the informal talks had taken place.

"We have been having informal talks with the school system ... about the potential acquisition of the land for the elementary school," Anderson said.

The deal came to light when The Alamance News accused Harrison and members of the board of discussing it during a closed session without listing the proper statute on the motion to open a closed session or address it publicly.

Harrison then admitted the informal talks have occurred, and the Board of Education approved an amendment to the agenda of the Sept. 26 meeting.

Harrison said no details of the proposed deal are finalized.

Acorn Coffee Shop to stay open until 1 a.m. after Fall Break

Acorn Coffee Shop is switching back to its old hours, pushing its current closing time of 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. daily.

According to Elon Dining, the shop is tentatively scheduled to begin after Fall Break, but is subject to change depending on staffing.

Recently, Varsity Sports Grill unveiled new hours after closing for a week because of maintenance issues. Varsity is now open from noon to 8 p.m. daily after starting the semester open daily from 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. daily.

When the change to the new hours occurred, Topio's Pizza became the only on-campus dining facility to be open from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Sundays through Wednesdays.

Acorn had been previously open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m., but moved its closing time up to 8 p.m. at the start of the 2016-2017 school year.

InterVarsity ministry asks pro-LGBTQIA staffers to quit

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, a national campus ministry, has asked members who support same-sex relationships to quit.

This national policy was announced this summer because the organization wants its employees to "believe and behave in accordance with InterVarsity's stand on sexuality, including not engaging in immoral sexual behavior or promoting positions that conflict with the group's beliefs," according to the Associated Press.

Elon's chapter has said it will follow the national policy. When asked for a comment, they referenced the national statement and declined further comment.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Hurricane Matthew caused a lot of damage when it made contact with the United States over the weekend. Florida, Georgia and South Carolina suffered the most damage.

Hurricane Matthew has killed at least 20 people in the United States, according to CNN. North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory said recently that 10 people have died in this state alone. Five people remain missing as of Monday. Close to 900 water rescues have been reported, and McCrory said that number is expected to grow because there are still people trapped in their houses.

"As the sun rises in North Carolina and the blue skies return, our state is facing massive destruction and sadly, the loss of life," McCrory said during a press conference Sunday.

McCrory said he asked President Barack Obama for federal help, including grants for people who don't have flood insurance. The governor said the aid will help repair bridges and roads damaged by the hurricane. As of Monday, 500,000 structures in North Carolina don't have power.

"That's probably well over 1 million people without power," McCrory said. "That's 10 percent of our population in North Carolina — all in a very small area."

Record-breaking floods impacted North Carolina, and eastern cities such as Greenville and Goldsboro were hit the hardest. Torrential rain hit most of North Carolina

and South Carolina and many high school and college football games were either canceled or played a day earlier because of the storm.

According to CNN, at least 336 people have died in Haiti, but other news outlets such as Reuters have reported at least 800 deaths. Aside from the loss of life, USA Today reports the estimated economical hit is in the upwards of \$4 billion. CNN also reports that 60,000 people are displaced because of Hurricane Matthew. United Nations officials said the hurricane is Haiti's worst humanitarian crisis since the 2010 earthquake.

Elon's emergency plans prepare for the worst

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Though the biggest effect of Hurricane Matthew at Elon University was heavy rain over the weekend, Jana Lynn Patterson, dean of Student Health and Wellness said that the school was prepared for an emergency situation.

"You've got to be prepared because you don't have a lot of time," Patterson said. "One [of the major things to do] is to be aware of your surroundings and not to be frightened."

According to Patterson, Elon is equipped for many types of emergencies, including an armed intruder on campus or a contagious sickness such as anthrax. Hurricane Matthew was just another reminder that an emergency can be spontaneous.

"There are certain things that you are going to do that are standard at any time for any kind of disaster that would be disruptive," Patterson said. "Where are we going to house people if we can't keep them on campus? How are we going to feed them?"

Patterson said if the hurricane had hit harder, Elon was ready to feed students for up to a week. The university also secured transportation in the event of an evacuation.

Other things the university planned for were keeping students safe and occupied

if the power went out and maintaining contact with senior administrators. Patterson said at least one senior staff member would be on campus at all times in case of an emergency.

Patterson said the university accounted for the emotional impact of a natural disaster as well. The same applies if an armed intruder were to enter Elon grounds. According to EveryTownResearch.org, there have been at least 197 school shootings in the United States since 2013, an average of nearly one a week. Most recently, a shooting occurred in Townsville, South Carolina, Sept. 28.

Earlier in the year, Patterson showed SGA a video explaining new ways to deal with an active shooter on campus, to remind them of the ever-present need of preparation. She said every angle of the situation, ranging from communication during the event to physiological effects afterwards, was considered in advance.

"That video is important because it represents the change and best practices to responding if you are in a classroom and a shooting happens," Patterson said. "The video showed some of the things that you can do ahead of time to mitigate the problem."

The beginning of the video showed how to organize a plan in advance to be prepared. Patterson said the same mindset is applicable if a viral contagion spread throughout campus.

She said the school would be prepared

BY THE NUMBERS

1 WEEK

TIME THE UNIVERSITY IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE FOOD TO STUDENTS IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

1

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS THAT WOULD BE ON CAMPUS IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

6,000

NUMBER OF PEOPLE THAT COULD BE VACCINATED IN FOUR HOURS IN EVENT OF A CONTAGIOUS SICKNESS

to vaccinate almost 6,000 people in four hours if an outbreak like anthrax were to occur. Anthrax is a rare but serious bacterial illness that is easily spread and only treated with certain antibiotics. The university would "act as its own dispensing site," and has an agreement with the state to have the vaccine brought to campus to alleviate the threat.

Patterson said in any and all situations, the best thing is to trust the university because it has prepared extensively.

"My role is to assure that operations keep going," Patterson said. "We prepare a lot."