



Maddy Elliott's Hurricane Helene story

Brevard College student's Henderson County home severely flooded by storm

Amy Clyburn
Copy Editor

Hurricane Helene, a catastrophic category 4 hurricane, wreaked havoc on the southeastern United States from Sept. 24 to Sept. 29, 2024.

Western North Carolina (WNC) experienced significant devastation and destruction in its wake. Maddy Elliott, a senior biology major at Brevard College, shares her personal account of the hurricane's impact on her family, offering a glimpse into the challenges faced by many in the region.

Elliott, a native to North Carolina, described the day Hurricane Helene struck the family home: "When the hurricane hit around midday, the water started slowly rising. We all knew the storm was going to come through, but we had no idea it was going to hit as hard as it did."

Elliott said she and her family were initially expecting three feet of water to flood their property, stating that they were mildly prepared not knowing what was about to happen next.

Rainwater flooded the basement, growing higher as the day lingered on, almost reaching the ceiling of the basement- just a few feet away from the main floor. "We were all becoming really scared, and evacuated immediately to a camper parked outside," she said.

"It was scary hearing the furniture toppling over in the basement as the water began to rise," she continued, "and we lost many meaningful belongings, such as different things from my childhood like our Christmas decorations and so many memories. My grandma lives in our basement, and she lost everything she had. It was really rough just knowing that the flood was going to ruin everything."

"I texted my cousin right before I lost phone service, and he told me that he was cornered by the floodwaters that invaded his home. After the storm I was so relieved when he texted me, and let me know that he was okay," Elliott said.

Her family received immense support from family that was out of state, and many close friends, she said.

When the water receded, everything was covered in mud. Every piece of furniture fell, taking them two whole days to drag all of the debris out of their basement. That wasn't the only project the Elliott's had to undertake. The cleanup process took 8 days of continuous labor: pressure washing, shoveling and mopping the disastrous mess.

Elliott is truly grateful that her home wasn't fully destroyed and is very thankful to be safe. She mentioned that Hurricane Helene made her family stronger. Despite the raging emotions of being overwhelmed, fearful and grieving over what was lost, everyone was able to come together, empathize, and develop a strong love for one another.



Maddy and her sister, Allison Elliott, stand on a flooded road in their Henderson County neighborhood. (Photos courtesy of Maddy Elliott)



Murky brown flood waters fill the basement of Maddy's home.

Students get outside in aftermath of the storm

Brevard's bond grows stronger after Helene

Zoe Hughes
Staff Writer

A historic storm hit Brevard last week, and post-storm, students were getting out and about.

Hurricane Helene disabled cell service and caused power outages on the lower Brevard campus. Students were left with little to do without service and power for five days.

The day after Helene hit Brevard, students were getting out in impromptu get-togethers.

Some students were playing sand volleyball, throwing a football, and kicking a soccer ball in the Village Quad. Others were watching the fun from the breezeway or from hammocks. Dog owners brought their canine friends to come and out and play, too!

Because of slight flooding and excessive rainfall, there were a number of pools that formed. Students

could be seen with flippers and snorkeling gear jumping into the newly formed ponds.

When service was out, students had to improvise communication—some students left sticky notes on doors to let others know where they were, others left messages on whiteboards with markers provided by RA's.

Students suddenly realized that they now couldn't just text their friends and ask if they wanted to hangout or get dinner at the caf, they now had to go to their rooms and ask!

"Not having my cell phone forced me to go and find people," Mary Vallentine said. "It led to me being closer to my friends and building meaningful bonds."

From picking up books to playing pickup basketball in the "Bosh," students were filling the downtime by socializing and growing closer with one another.



Soulja Boy hangs out with Mikayla Rubin near the Villages.



Students playing in flooded volleyball court. (Photos by Zoe Hughes)

THE CLARION

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Storm stories

From panic and stress to love and hope

Mari Carter
Staff Writer

Helene hit harder than anyone thought it would. I woke up to no power and merely sat in silence realizing it was real.

Hysteria started on campus, there was panic, and stress. I felt it especially with rumors spreading of our inevitable downfall on campus. It was becoming an increasingly worrisome situation throughout the day—especially when I tried to contact my family and could not because cell service was down.

I had no idea if my family was safe, or even if anything was going to be the same. I was lucky enough to be taken in by a friend and stay at their place while I figured things out.

Their place was lucky enough to have service

and power so I eventually did manage to get in contact with family and ensure their safety.

The rest of the week I got to bond and get closer with my two suitemates and friends, which was amazing. I met their family and we played board games and I even got to visit the church where my friend's father is the pastor. I got to see what they are doing to help after the hurricane.

There were many people from the community coming by to get free food, wifi, showers, and more offered by the church. Some places like Papa John's even sent over free pizzas to help.

It was incredible to see how strong our community is as well as how fast people were able to jump into action for those in need.

Despite Helene's terror, I saw love and hope blossom from its reign.

Giving back in Brevard

BC student volunteer opportunities help relieve suffering communities

Olivia Hyde
Editor in Chief

After Hurricane Helene, the damages to Brevard and the surrounding areas were tragic. Many people's homes were flooded or destroyed. Fallen trees could be found on top of roofs and powerlines. Many people are still without power or running water. Many still need food, household essentials, and many other basic needs.

This is the time to get out and help.

The Sharing House is a place that provides disaster relief for residents of Transylvania County. Brevard College alum Bunny Frost is now working for the Sharing House as their Empowerment Programs Manager.

Helping to give back to your community is very fulfilling. Bunny says, "My community has expanded dramatically! I am driven by connection, and learning more about the people in Brevard and the surrounding areas has been a source of constant inspiration. I find myself driving and biking more often to meet people."

Since working at the Sharing House, Bunny says he has "become much more aware of the struggles many people face here. There is a lot of hardship impacting people's lives in ways that I was pretty unaware of, and this has been a profound learning experience for me."

Bunny says the mission of the Sharing House is to "connect with the residents of Transylvania County, providing crisis assistance and developing programs that offer sustainable solutions to hunger and poverty. We are dedicated to uplifting our community and fostering resilience."

The Sharing House provides essential services into trauma-informed environments. According to Bunny, this includes "food and fresh produce, gently used clothing, rent and utility assistance, household goods, and camping equipment. Our facility offers hot showers, a safe space for sharing stories of struggle, and a refuge of belonging."

The Sharing House has been a lifeline for many after hurricane Helene.

"We have continued offering regular services and added a few new things," Bunny said. "We have streamlined our food pantry service to accommodate the increased need and volume of food we have on hand. Usually, we receive and distribute about 336,000 pounds of food a year. In just the past two weeks, we have received almost 80,000 pounds, so that's nearly ¼ of what we get in the year."

Bunny says the Sharing House is shifting to support people as they rebuild. They are looking for tarps, tents, cooking stoves, propane, and other things people will need to rebuild. If you have any of these supplies please donate to the Sharing House.

For those in need of financial help, the Sharing House has also been helping people fill out FEMA applications. FEMA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is for preparing for, preventing, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters. FEMA is now accepting applications for money grants to those whose homes and property was damaged by Hurricane Helene.

"Now that we're past the shock of the first impact, I'm trying to return my focus to fostering community," Bunny said. "I believe it's the most important thing to help people pull through times like this, so I don't want to neglect it."

For those looking to find community, dinner, or get to see other people, the Sharing House is hosting a community dinner on Nov. 1, 2024.

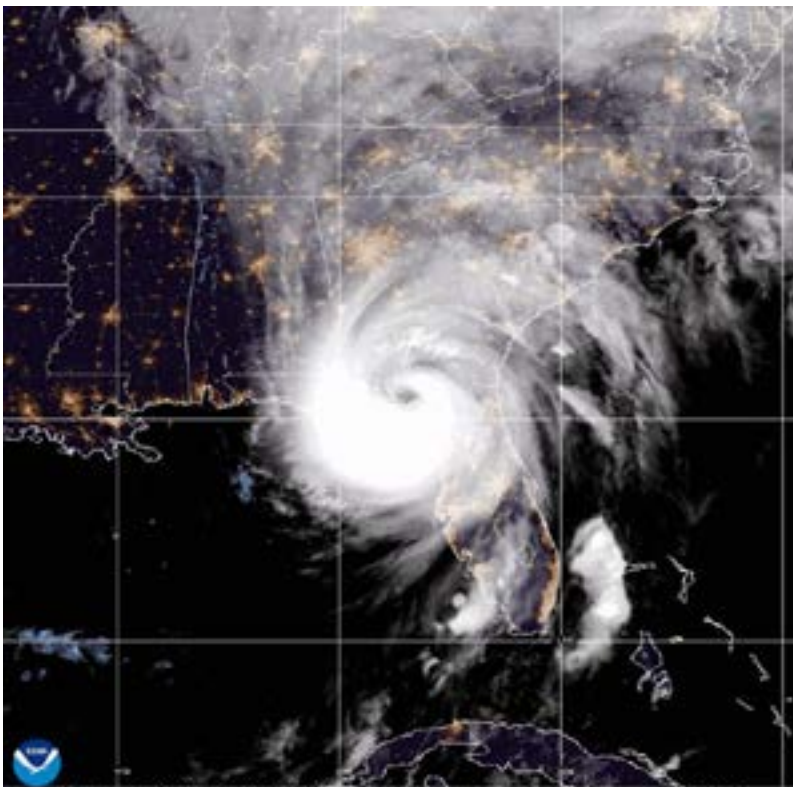
The Sharing House is always looking for volunteers to help out. Many Brevard College students have already visited and volunteered after the hurricane.

There are many more volunteer opportunities like this all over Brevard. For example, you can pick out weeds at the community garden, where all of their food goes to the Sharing House. As well as volunteering at local churches, there are many within a 15 minute drive that need help.

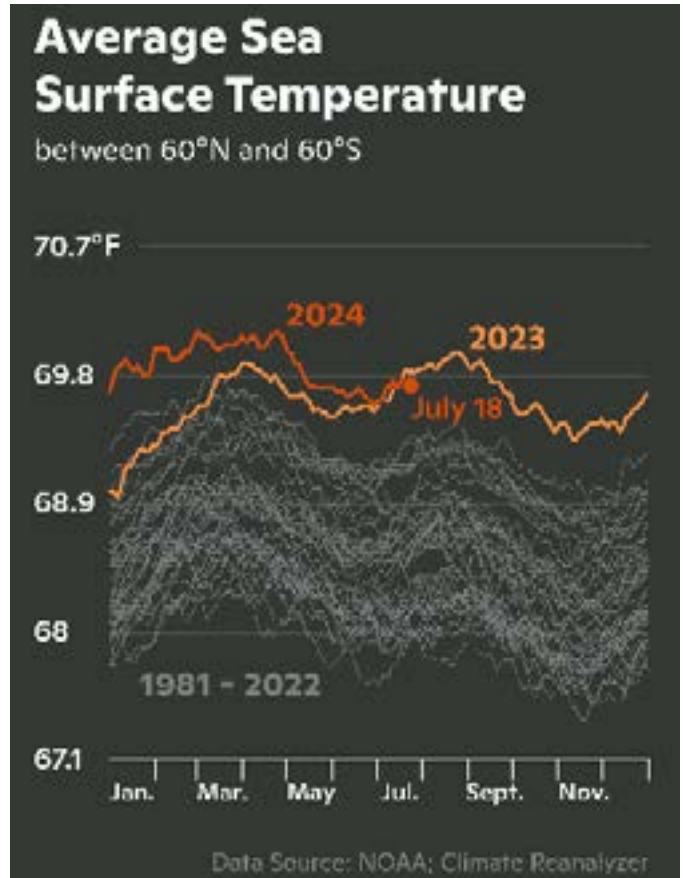
Some members of Brevard teams like cycling, softball, and volleyball were able to help a family just off of Asheville Highway to help recover their furniture after their first floor was flooded.



Brevard College student athletes help local families move their belongings in the aftermath of storm damage from Helene.



27 Sep 2024 04:00Z - NOAA/NESDIS/STAR - GOES-East - GEOCOLOR Composite - AL092024
 Right: A NOAA chart shows how much average sea surface temperatures have risen since 1981, with record highs for 2023 and 2024. Warmer seas mean bigger, more dangerous hurricanes, such as Helene (left), which made landfall Sept. 27 in Florida.



Why climate change is linked to the devastation of Helene

Autumn Jones
 Managing Editor

As I began writing this, Hurricane Milton was making its way toward Florida. Even though Florida is used to hurricanes and their animosity, people were terrified.

Not even two weeks after Hurricane Helene made landfall and caused severe damage in almost all of Western North Carolina along with parts of Georgia, Tennessee, and South Carolina, Hurricane Milton was barreling towards Florida. As of Oct. 8, Milton was a category 5 hurricane at sea; and as it hit Florida it was still a dangerous category 3. So, why are we seeing these major storms back to back? Climate change.

The climate is actively changing, just as it always has. In history professor Jordan Kuck's "Climate Change in Global History" class, we learned that the fear of the changing climate is not new, and this fear has been around as long as humans have. It's usually in the form of religious-centered thoughts, like we are being punished by the "gods."

We now know the weather is not based on a god's wrath. Weather is based on temperature,

atmospheric pressure, air movement, sun angle and friction.

Everyday activities like energy consumption and transportation contribute to climate change, changing the intensity and frequency of these devastating storms.

As the storms pass over oceans, they collect more of the heated water, which results in stronger winds, heavier rains and significantly more flooding. The severity of these storms can also be linked to the size of the storms. Larger storms cause more damage once they make landfall. Large hurricanes are "slow moving" grinding away the land as they pass.

As reported by the Environmental Defense

Fund, ongoing research and discussions among scientists are examining the link between slower-moving tropical storms like Hurricane Milton and climate change.

One prominent theory gaining traction suggests that steering winds responsible for guiding hurricanes tend to weaken in a warmer climate, resulting in slower storm movement.

In a recent viral TikTok video, a visibly emotional hurricane specialist describes the rapid growth of Hurricane Milton as "horrific." The video serves as a stark reminder of the impact humans have on the Earth, our only home. As well as meteorologists being brought to tears on the news.

Today is the deadline to register to vote on Nov. 5 in North Carolina (but you may still register during early voting, which starts Oct. 17)

If you are planning to vote on Election Day in North Carolina, today is the last day to register to vote. College students have the choice of voting where they go to school or wherever they call home (but not both, obviously).

To register in North Carolina, you can do so by mail or even online under certain circum-

stances. Note too that you will need to show a valid photo ID to vote in the Tarheel State this year. A BC student ID card will work, so long as it is a physical card (i.e., not on a phone).

Visit the NC State Board of Elections website for more information on all things related to voting: <https://www.ncsbe.gov/>.

Play review

Shakespeare FINALLY gets his due in 3-person play of 'complete' works

John B. Padgett

Associate Professor of English

As William Shakespeare said in one of his more famous lyrics, “The waiting is the hardest part.”

OK, maybe that was Tom Petty, not Shakespeare, but the sentiment is the same: for BC Theatre’s production of “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] [Again],” the third time was the charm ... or was it the fourth?

Whatever, it was worth the wait.

The show was supposed to premiere on Sept. 26, but the first two shows were postponed because a hurricane was coming. Then the next two shows were canceled because the hurricane had come, and then the postponed dates were canceled too, for good measure (for measure).

It was delayed so many times that there was ALMOST enough time to add a fourth parenthetical disclaimer to the show’s title, perhaps something like {For Real!}.

But as they say, where there’s a “will” (see what I did there? “Will” Shakespeare?), there’s a way, and the much-delayed production finally premiered on campus Tuesday evening in the Morrison Playhouse of the Porter Center for Performing Arts.



Starring the Reduced Shakespeare Company players—or to be more precise, Ava Bonner, Sierethene Chepes and Naomi Firebaugh, who play fictionalized versions of themselves playing all or most of Shakespeare’s 1200+ characters—the play is, as its title suggests, an attempt to present the “complete” works of Shakespeare in a single performance.

Of course, Shakespeare wrote ... um, I’m going to say, 38 plays, along with 154 sonnets and a few other things that have been preserved (which, alas, do not include any first-person diaries, program “statements” for plays he wrote or directed, or pissy reviews of shows by other playwrights), so cramming all that into a 97-minute show is a tad challenging.

Hence, the disclaimer “Abridged.”

Directed by theatre professor Dan Toot, BC’s production was a category 5 on the SouthPark-Simpsons Hilarity Scale (loosely based on the similarly named hurricane rating system), deluging the audience with at least 15 laughs per minute, with sustained wind (and vomit) speeds in excess of ... but you probably get the idea: it was farcical, it was irreverent, and it was very, very funny. With lots of cross dressing.

Or to repurpose a line from “Hamlet,” which dominated the show immediately before and for the entirety after the intermission, there was a madness to the method (acting).

The show, written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer and Jess Winfield (and also, it must be stated, by William Shakespeare—like Rodney Dangerfield, he gets no respect here), originated in the 1980s as a hilariously reduced parody of Shakespeare, first at a renaissance festival in California and later at the Criterion Theatre in London, where it ran for nine years.

It has been updated periodically over the years, mainly to add or change topical and pop culture references. An example: A joke about misunderstanding the title “The Two Noble Kinsmen” as “The T-Mobile Kinsmen” would likely not have made much sense to audiences in the 1980s, nor would the shameless plug that follows promoting something called, cryptically and perhaps egotistically, an “I”-phone.

(Shameless plug of my own: For a slightly less irreverent study of Shakespeare’s work, I will be teaching ENG 322: Shakespeare in the spring semester; it has no prerequisites, and it will even count for Gen Ed credit. {For real!})

Though a scripted play, “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] [Again]” does allow for several improv or unscripted moments. Tuesday’s performance, for instance, featured impromptu impressions by Firebaugh of Cher, Taylor Swift, Kermit the Frog and most impressively of all, Dan Toot.

The audience gets to contribute to the show as well, giving new meaning to the famous lines (from “As You Like It”) that “All the world’s a stage, / And all the men and women merely players.” In this production, at least, words were never more true.

The final performance is tonight at 7 p.m. at the Porter Center for Performing Arts. No tickets are needed; in the spirit of community, it is being offered to anyone who comes as a pay-what-you-can performance.

Dan Toot speaks to the audience prior to Tuesday’s opening night of “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) [Revised] [Again].” The BC theatre professor and director of the production waxed philosophical about this show, whose premiere had been delayed several times because of the disruptions caused by Hurricane Helene. He spoke also about the power of theatre in general, and how audiences have come together for thousands of years in the theater as a means of empathy and human connection. The final performance for this production is tonight at 7 p.m. in the Porter Center.

Fall colors altered due to Hurricane Helene

Abigail Callahan
Staff Writer

Fall is here! In September and the beginning of October, over the next four to six weeks the leaves on the trees change into colorful shades of yellow, orange, and red.

This year, however, it might be a little different for anyone wanting to see the fall colors.

Hurricane Helene affected the area with harsh wind and rain causing most of the leaves in the Brevard-Transylvania area to fall off or die. For many people, watching the leaves change is their favorite fall activity.

Dr. Erasme Uyizeye, an environmental studies professor at BC, explained how Hurricane Helene’s impact on the health and timing of leaf color changes. “The onset of leaf color change and abscission is governed by the shortening of daylight and cooler ambient temperatures,” Uyizeye said. “However, this process can be significantly disrupted by extreme weather events, such as hurricanes, which may induce premature and sudden leaf drop.

“In light of the timing of Hurricane Helene, it is highly probable that the seasonal peak of vibrant autumn foliage will be diminished or altered compared to its usual pattern in undisturbed conditions.”

One of the issues with the hurricane was whether the trees could recover from losing their leaves early, and how this might affect their long-term health. According to Uyizeye explained, trees’ health is typically not significantly affected by a single short-term event such as a hurricane. “Trees are often able to recover and return to their normal foliage cycle within the same season or the following one, depending on the timing of the environmental disturbance,” he said.

Beyond the visual aspect, the loss of fall leaves may have a broader environmental effect. “The sudden mass shedding of green leaves can disrupt the typical processes of decomposition and nutrient cycling, leading to a slower and less efficient breakdown of organic material compared to normal conditions,” Uyizeye said. “Additionally, this rapid influx of organic matter into aquatic ecosystems can result in an excess of organic inputs, which may reduce dissolved oxygen levels and consequently have adverse effects on aquatic life.”

Though this year’s fall colors may not be as vibrant as past years, nature is resilient and offers hope that the beauty will return once more next autumn. In the meantime, our community is reminded of the delicate balance in nature and how Hurricane Helene left her mark.



Trees by King’s Creek damaged by Helene’s winds.

Blue Ridge Parkway, western NC state parks closed

But Great Smoky Mountains reopens Newfound Gap Rd and key highways undergo repairs

Here is a roundup of news about area parks and roads.

The National Park Service announced nearly 200 miles of the **Blue Ridge Parkway** in Virginia would re-open today, but all of the parkway in North Carolina remains closed until crews can assess the damage and begin making repairs.

According to a Park Service press release, crews in North Carolina have so far encountered tens of thousands of trees across the roadway and nearly three dozen rock and mud slides. The slides have occurred above and below the road and have also severely damaged or swept away the roadbed in numerous places.

All North Carolina state parks west of Interstate 77 are closed through at least Oct. 31, according to the Division of Parks and Recreation. In our area, these include **Gorges**, **Chimney Rock** and **Mt. Mitchell** state parks.

In addition, **DuPont State Recreational Forest** and **Holmes Educational State Forest** remain closed, according to the NC State Forest Service. No re-opening dates have yet been announced.

Pisgah National Forest remains closed, including all campgrounds, recreation areas, trails and Forest Service roads. US 276 is also closed in the forest past the road to the fish hatchery (near Looking Glass Falls), according to DriveNC.gov. However, the National Forest Service announced portions of **Nantahala National Forest** would reopen today.

US 276 south of Brevard has been reopened to traffic at least as far as Cedar Mountain, but a section of roadway that had to be rebuilt is now

Hurricane Helene 2024 Park Closings



gravel only near Connetsee Falls. Motorists are asked to drive slowly in this area as workers continue to make repairs.

Interstates 40 and 26 near the Tennessee border will be closed for perhaps a year or more, closing off a major artery between Asheville and Knoxville. However, the **Great Smoky Mountains National Park** has reopened US 441 (Newfound Gap Road) connecting Cherokee with Gatlinburg, Tennessee, alleviating at least some of the travel woes between the two states. This route through the Smokies is closed to all commercial traffic.

As of early this morning, DriveNC.gov is still reporting hundreds of roads and highways closed in western North Carolina. Much of the region is classified as “Essential Travel Only,” but Transylvania County is no longer in that category.

Tornados blow out Southern Virginia

De'Von Taylor
Staff Writer

With another week of conference play in the USA South, the Tornado football team stayed perfect against conference opponents with a 55-21 triumph against Southern Virginia on Saturday, Oct. 5.

During this game, as a team we put up the most points since 2017—a Brevard College record.

Our starting quarterback, Ethan Beamish, matches his record for passing touchdowns; which he set last year, after transferring to Brevard. Another record was also broken with Zachary Orr, as he set the longest punt return record with an 88 yard return.

The Tornados outpaced SVU 596-373 in total offense, holding a dominant 281-77 advantage on the ground. Brevard's defense forced seven Southern Virginia punts, but the Knights won the turnover battle 3-1.

Brevard went 6-for-11 on third down conversions, 3-for-4 on red zone scoring opportunities, and converted its only fourth down try. The Tornados improved to 8-0 all-time against SVU, BC's best record against any team in the USA South.

With this dominating performance, awards were given to two players on our offense. Quarterback Ethan Beamish was credited with USA South "Offensive Player of the Week."



Beamish matched his career high set last season at LaGrange with 315 passing yards on 18 completions. The South Carolina product threw for a career-high five touchdowns, which matches the single-game program record set three times. Beamish also accounted for 14 net rushing yards for a 329-yard performance.

The other award was given to our electrifying receiver Zachary Orr. He was credited with D3.com National Team of the Week.

Orr is the first Tornado to garner National Team of the Week honors in 2024. Orr took a program-record 88-yard punt return to the

house in the winning effort for the Tornados. He racked up 123 total return yards on five punt returns and also led all receivers in the contest with 134 receiving yards and two touchdown catches.

Over the course of his five-season Tornado career, Orr has accumulated 1,469 receiving yards on 94 receptions for 12 touchdowns. His punt return touchdown was the first special teams TD of his career.

The Tornados return to action Saturday, Oct. 12 at home against Greensboro, with kickoff set for 6 p.m.

Homecoming events this weekend

As we reported last week, Homecoming 2024 at Brevard College will be a bit different this year because of Helene.

BC President Brad Andrews has asked alumni and others who would normally be traveling to Brevard for Homecoming activities not to come this year, saying in a letter "our broader community is simply not in a place to receive and host visitors right now."

For that reason, most alumni-related activities for homecoming were canceled.

Even so, Homecoming events are still planned, and Andrews said local alumni, friends and guests are welcome to come to campus for this weekend's festivities.

"Homecoming 2024 needs to be a campus and local event," Andrews wrote. "It will be very good for our students and our local community, who can use the games and events as a respite from all they are going through."

See the Campus Life graphic at right for a rundown of scheduled Homecoming weekend activities.

 A graphic titled "Homecoming events this weekend" listing activities for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On the right side of the graphic is a circular photo of a player in a blue and white uniform holding a blue flag. At the bottom is the "BC Campus Life" logo.

Friday

- White Out Day
- Powderpuff & Flag Football, 5'mores 7:30pm Track
- BC Theatre: The Complete Works of William Shakespeare 7:00pm Morrison Playhouse

Saturday

- BLUE OUT DAY
- Volleyball vs Meredith 11:00am Bosh
- Men's Soccer vs William Peace 12:00pm Ives-Lemel Field
- SGA/CAR Tailgate 4:00pm
- Homecoming Football vs Greensboro 6:00pm Ives-Lemel Field

Sunday

- Women's Soccer at Mary Baldwin 1:00pm
- JV Football vs JP Bandits 2:00pm Ives-Lemel Field

BC Campus Life

Cycling nationals in this area postponed

Olivia Hyde
Editor in Chief

The USA Collegiate Cycling National Championship was supposed to happen Oct. 23-27, 2024 at Ride Rock Creek bike park, in Henderson County between DuPont State Recreational Forest and Zirconia.

Then the storm came. As of right now, nationals have been postponed.

Certainly there is a lot of misinformation spreading about when and where nationals will be held; some members in Collegiate Cycling are saying the final decision has already been made, but this is false.

The truth is, USA Cycling is coordinating with the owners of Ride Rock Creek before they make any final decision.

When the final decision is made, we will report what the plans will be in The Clarion.

Upsets galore in college football

James Laycock
Staff Writer

Week 6 of College Football was wild and packed with upsets. Five of the top 12 teams lost this weekend—four of them to unranked teams.

The biggest and most impactful upset was number 1 Alabama lost to Vanderbilt, just one week after the Crimson Tide beat Georgia in a thriller. Bama lost 40-35 to the Commodores after being down 23-14 at one point in the game.

This loss drastically changed the SEC standings; now, every SEC team except for Texas has at least one loss. Leading the game in passing was Bama quarterback Jalen Milroe with 310 yards and 1 touchdown, with Vandy leading the game in rushing and receiving. The Commodores' running back Sedrick Alexander had 21 carries, 64 yards, and 2 touchdowns, while tight end Eli Stowers

had 6 catches for 113 yards.

The second biggest upset of the week was Number 4 Tennessee losing to unranked Arkansas in a slugfest, 19-14. Both teams were fighting all game with Arkansas scoring a last-minute touchdown with their backup quarterback. Arkansas' original quarterback, Taylen Green, led the game in passing with 266 yards while their receiver led the game with 9 catches and 132 yards. The Volunteers' running back Dylan Sampson led the game with 22 carries, 138 yards rushing, and 2 touchdowns.

The first shocking upset of that Saturday, coming in the noon window, was number 9 ranked Missouri losing to 25th ranked Texas A&M in a blowout loss 41-10. This game was a sign of things to come that day, with a visiting SEC team losing to either a lower-ranked or unranked conference opponent. The Aggies' quarterback,

Connor Weigman, made his return felt after his injury with a great performance of 276 passing yards. A&M's running back Leveon Moss led the game with 12 carries, 138 rushing yards, and a hat trick with 3 touchdowns. Missouri's lone bright spot was Luther Burden III with 7 receptions and 82 yards.

A rematch of last year's National Championship game saw number 10 Michigan travel to play the Washington Huskies, now a fellow Big 10 member. This game has been highly anticipated since the schedules came out and it did not disappoint for the most part, but the outcome was probably unexpected.

Washington won 27-17 with stat leaders quarterback Will Rodgers passing for 271 yards and 2 touchdowns and Denzel Boston having 5 catches for 80 yards and 1 touchdown.



Top left: Phillip and Jessica Winkler stand ready on Wednesday, Sept. 25, at the Waffle House in Pisgah Forest, a day before Hurricane Helene would make landfall in Florida. The Winklers, who live in the Lake Toxaway area, said in preparation for the storm, hotel rooms for Thursday night were being prepared so that they could stay open to serve customers. According to Jessica, they frequently serve Brevard College students during their evening shifts, saying most of them are very polite. "Their parents raised them right," she said.

Top right: Freezers in Sav-Mor grocery store on Rosman Highway were empty on Sunday, more than a week after Helene. The store lost power and was closed for two days during the storm, reopening for limited hours and cash only transactions on Sunday, Sept. 29, but a landslide blocked access to their loading dock for days after the storm. According to an article in yesterday's Transylvania Times, fresh food deliveries resumed on Tuesday, Oct. 8 after access to their dock was restored.

Right: For the second time since May of this year, sky watchers in North Carolina Thursday night could view the northern lights, as seen here from the French Broad River access point on Island Ford Rd. The phenomena, rarely seen this far south, are caused by geomagnetic storms triggered by coronal mass ejections from the sun. (Photos by John Padgett)

