

Racial threat closes Illinois university

by UPI

DEKALB, Ill. -- Northern Illinois University was closed Monday while police investigated washroom graffiti that referred to the Virginia Tech massacre. Two separate hand-scrawled messages were found Saturday in women's washrooms by students, the Chicago Tribune reported. One said "The VA tech shooters messed up w/ having only one shooter." Another message mentioned Monday's date and said "things will change most hastily" at NIU. The threats included a racial slur. NIU President John Peters canceled exams Monday. "We will not tolerate threats against individuals or groups," Peters said in a statement. "Nor will we tolerate hate speech of any type on this campus." The school issued an advisory to staff and students, citing the security concern along with freezing rain as a reason for rescheduling exams. "Only essential service personnel should report to work on Monday," the advisory said. On April 16, Virginia Tech student Seung-Hui Cho shot and killed 32 people before taking his own life.

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