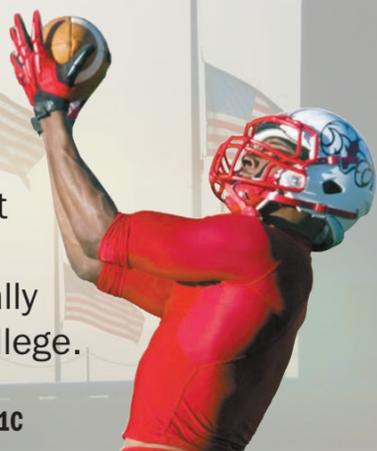


# TIMES DAILY

Florence • Muscle Shoals • Sheffield • Tusculmbia • Northwest Alabama

Sports 1C

Proud moment for historically black college.



**EASY BOOKING**  
Online ticketing system available.  
Region 1B



**CHRISTIAN CAROL**  
Symbolism in the story revealed.  
Life 1D

**JAUNTY BIRD**  
**Wayward emu joins man on jog**

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — A man in Virginia Beach picked up an unusual jogging partner when an emu began following him. Animal shelter supervisor Wayne Gilbert said Virginia Beach residents contacted the city after the emu showed up Thursday alongside the jogger in the Highgate Green neighborhood. It turns out that the bird had merely drifted away from its home. Emus are legal to own in the area. Gilbert told news media outlets that animal control officers located the bird, which was returned to its owner.

**COIN SERIES**  
**Mount Rushmore on new quarter**

KEYSTONE, S.D. — Mount Rushmore will once again grace the side of a quarter when the U.S. Mint releases a new America the Beautiful quarter next year. Mount Rushmore National Memorial said the illustration portrays two workers on the sculpture finalizing the carving of George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. Washington also will appear on the heads side of the coin, in the typical depiction found on quarters currently in circulation. The quarter with the Mount Rushmore depiction should be released next fall. It will be the 20th quarter released in the America the Beautiful series. Each state, territory and the District of Columbia will ultimately have a design released honoring national parks and nationally significant sites.

**ONLINE TODAY**  
More emotional photos from the Connecticut school shooting.  
TimesDaily.com

**WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?**  
**Friday's question:** Have you finished your holiday shopping?  
Yes: 22%  
Almost: 26%  
No: 31%  
Haven't started: 21%  
**Today's question:** Do you believe the recent mass shooting will impact gun control laws?

Vote daily online at: TimesDaily.com

**Inside:**  
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Comics 4D Police 3B  
Crossword 8E Stocks 5A  
Day Planner 3B Television 3D  
Obituaries 2B Weather 2A

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Connecticut State Police lead a line of children from Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., on Friday after a shooting at the school. Associated Press/Newtown Bee, Shannon Hicks

## Shooting shocks town

Details emerge about shooter's mental history

By Jason Keyser and Pete Yost  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The man suspected of killing his mother and then gunning down more than two dozen people Friday at the Connecticut elementary school where she taught may have suffered from a personality disorder, law enforcement officials said.

Adam Lanza killed his mother at their home before driving her car to Sandy Hook Elementary School with three weapons — two handguns and a .223-caliber rifle — and carrying out the massacre and killing himself, officials said. Investigators were trying to learn as much as possible about the 20-year-old and questioned his older brother, who is not believed to have any involvement in the rampage.

So far, authorities have not spoken publicly of any possible motive. Witnesses said the shooter didn't utter a word.

Adam Lanza and his mother, Nancy, lived in a well-to-do part of Newtown, a prosperous community of 27,000 people about 60 miles northeast of New York City.

A grandmother of the suspect — who is also the mother of the slain teacher — was too distraught to speak when reached by phone at her home in Brooksville, Fla.

"I just don't know, and I can't make a comment right now," Dorothy Hanson, 78, said in a shaky voice as she started to cry. She



Men and women hold candles outside St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church during a healing service held in for victims of the elementary school shooting in Newtown, Conn., on Friday. A gunman opened fire at Sandy Hook Elementary School in the town, killing 26 people, including 20 children. Associated Press/Charles Krupa

### INSIDE

The second-deadliest school shooting in United States history could lead to stricter gun laws, **3A**.

said she hadn't heard anything official about her daughter and grandsons. She declined to comment further and hung up.

Adam Lanza's older brother, 24-year-old Ryan Lanza of Hoboken, N.J., was being questioned, a law enforcement official said.

He told authorities that his brother was believed to suffer from a personality disorder and be "somewhat autistic" and lived with his mother in Connecticut, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak on the record about the unfolding investigation.

Ryan Lanza had been extremely cooperative and was not under arrest or in custody, but investigators were still searching his computers and phone records. Ryan Lanza told law enforcement he had not been in touch with his brother since about 2010.

Brett Wilshe, a friend of Ryan Lanza's, said he sent him a Facebook message Friday asking what was going on and if he was OK. According to Wilshe, Lanza's reply was something along the lines of: "It was my brother. I think my mother is dead. Oh my God."

Adam Lanza attended Newtown High School, and several local news clippings from recent years mention his name among the school's honor roll students.

A neighbor in Newtown, Rhonda Cullens, said she knew Nancy Lanza from monthly get-togethers

Please see **Details**, Page 3A

## Local officials react to massacre

By Lisa Singleton-Rickman  
Staff Writer

Tusculmbia Schools Superintendent Mary Kate Smith heard the news of Friday's school shooting in Connecticut while she was watching the play rehearsal of her own district's young elementary students.

"We were watching the G.W. Trenholm children practicing for their program when all this was unfolding and we were just stunned, speechless," she said Friday. "This kind of thing is unimaginable."

Latest reports now say 20 students died at Sandy Hook Elementary School, which is about 60 miles northeast of New York City. The gunman blasted his way through the building as young students cowered helplessly in classrooms while their teachers and classmates were shot.

The attack, coming less than two weeks before Christmas, was the nation's second-deadliest school shooting, exceeded only by the Virginia

Please see **Local**, Page 3A

## Quarterback Zach Zulli awarded Harlon Hill trophy

By Bryan App  
Sports Writer

FLORENCE — Zach Zulli handled the nerves he experienced this week with the poise he showed as a quarterback for Shippensburg University this season.

Zulli overcame white knuckles when he flew on an airplane for the first time earlier this week in order to attend Friday night's Harlon Hill Trophy banquet.

After completing his acceptance speech at the Mariott Shoals Convention Center, Zulli admitted the excitement of receiving the award — given annually to the top football player in NCAA Division II — still had him shaking.

"I don't know how it didn't show," Zulli said. "Having those (other finalists) right beside me, and laughing and having fun with them all week, really helped me."

Zulli is the second quarterback to win the award since 2006.



Zack Zulli smiles Friday after winning the Harlon Hill Trophy. Allison Carter/TimesDaily

He leads all divisions of college football this season with 54 touchdown passes and leads Division II with 4,747 passing yards. That mark is second among all divisions behind

FCS Old Dominion's Taylor Heinicke's 5,076 yards passing.

Zulli's touchdown passes set an NCAA single-season record and he broke the single-season records for

points scored (344) and touchdowns scored (57).

"Nothing feels better than this," Zulli said. "This isn't just a single nomination, this is a team nomination. And I really give credit to every player and coach on Shippensburg's football team."

Zulli received 52 first-place votes and 202 points. The other national finalists were Missouri Western State senior running back Michael Hill (23 first-place votes, 138 points) and Bloomsburg junior running back Franklyn Quites (eight first-place votes, 101 points).

Zulli said the three had developed a friendship during the week. It showed when Zulli invited the other two to the podium to tell a story to begin his acceptance speech.

Zulli set 25 school records this season. He set five single-game records in a 73-35 win against Kutz-

Please see **Zulli**, Page 8A