

Defense zeroes in on Rajin Cajuns

SPORTS, C1



Help for officers

CRIME & RESCUE, A3



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The Daily Reflector



SATURDAY, December 15, 2012

reflector.com 50¢

TRAGIC SCHOOL SHOOTING IN CONNECTICUT

Gunman kills 20 children, seven others



PHOTOS BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A WOMAN waits to hear about her sister, a teacher, following a shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., about 60 miles northeast of New York City on Friday. Read more about Newtown, Conn., on Page A5.

BY JOHN CHRISTOFFERSEN
The Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. — A man killed his mother at their home and then opened fire Friday inside the elementary school where she taught, massacring 26 people, including 20 children, as youngsters cowered in fear to the sound of gunshots reverberating through the building and screams echoing over the intercom.

The 20-year-old killer, carrying at least two handguns, committed suicide at the school, bringing the death toll to 28, authorities said.

The rampage, coming less than two weeks before



IN THIS PHOTO provided by the Newtown Bee, a police officer leads two women and a child from the school.

Christmas, was the nation's second-deadliest school shooting, exceeded only by the Virginia Tech massacre that claimed 33 lives in 2007.

"Our hearts are broken today," a tearful President Barack Obama, struggling to maintain his composure, said at the White House. He called for "meaningful ac-

LOCAL REACTION

■ Pitt County Schools Public Information Officer Heather Mayo and Pitt County Sheriff Neil Elks comment about Friday's tragic school shooting in Connecticut. **Page A7**

tion" to prevent such shootings. "As a country, we have been through this too many times," he said.

Police shed no light on the motive for the attack. The gunman, Adam Lanza, was believed to suffer from a personality disorder and lived with his mother, said a

See TRAGEDY, A7

WEATHER



KRYSTA SCHRADER, St. Peter's

OVERCAST

Today: 57, some sun
Tonight: 43, cloudy
Complete forecast on A2

SPORTS



Pirates, Heels to battle

ECU coach Jeff Lebo is trying to narrow the divide between his Pirates and the Tar Heels and a good showing at his alma mater would be another step in the right direction. **Page C1**

NATION

Military family worries

Military families are confronting a new worry at home: the fiscal cliff battle between Congress and the White House. **Page A4**

LOTTERY

Pick 3: 9-5-9 (day), 9-3-1
Pick 4: 7-9-1-9 (day), 9-6-2-8
Cash 5: 19-38-13-1-6
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READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



PHOTOS BY ROB TAYLOR/THE DAILY REFLECTOR

ECU COLLEGE OF NURSING GRADUATES celebrate during Fall Commencement exercises at Minges Coliseum on Friday.

ECU graduates celebrate commencement

BY GINGER LIVINGSTON
The Daily Reflector

With encouragement to use their education to make a difference, nearly 2,200 students turned their tassels at Friday's 104th fall commencement ceremony at East Carolina University.

AN ECU instructor is welcoming her daughter to the nursing profession today. **B1**

The College of Nursing led the celebration, setting off confetti cannons and Silly String when its 205 members stood for recognition. The audience cheered with approval. The audience earlier chanted "purple-gold" as the graduates entered Williams Arena at Minges Coliseum.

"I was full of joy for them, said Cindy Winstead, a clinical nursing instructor whose daughter was among the graduates. "I know what they've been through, how hard they studied and prepared and I fully understood their elation. It's a tradition for the nursing students at East Carolina."



KORI BURTON hugs her boyfriend, Andy Kropp, following ECU's Fall Commencement exercises.

Yvonne Upshut, who received her master's degree in nursing said Friday was an amazing experience. "This was a personal goal. You

have to continue improving and giving your clients the best you can," she said.

"I'm excited but I'm also nervous. I've never not had classes

See GRADS, A9

Council places ban on Internet parlors

BY WESLEY BROWN
The Daily Reflector

Armed robbers looking to score a quick and sometimes a large payday at sweepstakes parlors in Greenville saw their prospects drastically shrink on Thursday, when the City Council placed stricter zoning regulations on Internet cafés.

Seeking to better control a business that has posed significant health and safety risks in the city in the past two months, the board banned the game centers from downtown and west Greenville in the first restriction of its kind in Pitt County.

On concerns of crime, compulsive gambling and morality, council members unanimously agreed to limit the businesses to general and heavy commercial districts along Dickinson Avenue, Fire Tower Road, Greenville Boulevard and Memorial Drive.

When factoring in separation requirements — 500 feet from residences, schools, churches and parks and a half mile from competitors — industry newcomers will only have their pick at about 550 acres, or a little more than 1 percent of the city's planning and zoning jurisdiction.

"I think that we should probably regard (Internet sweepstakes businesses) as a quiet nuisance," Greenville City Manager Barbara Lip-

See PARLORS, A9