

WRECK CLOSES I-80 NEAR MILESBURG, INJURES 2, A5



HOT SHOTS
LITTLE LIONS TURN IT UP IN SECOND HALF, PUSH PAST CD EAST, B1

BOY ALLEGEDLY IMPERSONATES NCIS OFFICER, A5

CENTRE DAILY TIMES

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50 CENTS



◆ 26 people gunned down, including 20 children, in rampage at Conn. school

◆ Tearful Obama: 'Our hearts are broken today'

◆ Police: Gunman killed mother, then himself; motive unclear

Shooting stuns nation



AP photo/Jessica Hill

A woman tries to find out the fate of her sister, a teacher, after a shooting Friday at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn. Authorities said 20-year-old Adam Lanza went on a rampage at the school, killing 26 people, including 20 children. He also killed his mother, police said, before committing suicide at the school.

By John Christoffersen
The Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. — A man killed his mother at their home and then opened fire Friday inside an elementary school, massacring 26 people, including 20 children, as youngsters covered 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 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 action" to prevent such shootings, saying, "As a country, we have been through this too many times."



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 law enforcement official who was briefed on the investigation but was not authorized to discuss it.

Panicked parents looking for their children raced to Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, a prosperous New England community of about 27,000 people 60 miles northeast of New York. Police told

youngsters at the kindergarten-through-fourth-grade school to close their eyes as they were led from the building so that they wouldn't see the blood and broken glass.

Schoolchildren — some crying, others looking frightened — were escorted through a parking lot in a line, hands on each other's shoulders.

Law enforcement officials speaking on condition of anonymity said that Lanza killed his mother, Nancy Lanza, then drove to the school in her car with at least three guns, including a high-powered rifle that he apparently left in the back of the vehicle, and shot up two classrooms around 9:30 a.m.

A custodian ran through the halls, warning of a gunman on the loose, and someone switched on the intercom, alerting people in the building to the attack — and perhaps saving many lives — by letting them hear the hysteria going

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Local school officials review safety plans

By Chip Minemyer and Lori Falce
Centre Daily Times

The unthinkable school shooting Friday in Connecticut had local education professionals dealing with their own shock, reviewing their safety procedures and attempting to reassure parents that their children's safety is the foremost concern.

A gunman took the lives of 27 people, including 20 children, Friday at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., before shooting himself.

The news hit home at schools across Centre County, where teachers and administrators were watching their worst nightmares play out in breaking news reports from Connecticut.

"We're all horrified by the event,"

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said Michelle Saylor, assistant superintendent at Bellefonte Area School District. "It's impossible not to feel sadness, and anxiety."

Saylor said Bellefonte administrators met Friday with building principals, who in turn met with their staffs, to review the district's crisis plan, check safety protocols and increase both security and visibility around district properties.

"It's sad, and so senseless," Saylor said. "Communities do need to know that schools are doing everything they can to keep their children safe. Parents have a right to

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AP photos, from top left, Shannon Hicks, Newtown Bee; Charles Dharapak; Jason DeCrow

COMING SUNDAY

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