THE DAILY CLIPS

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McDonald's located at 10th St. and Cotanche was robbed late Thursday morning. Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011. (Aileen Devlin/The Daily Reflector)

**Suspect charged in second robbery**

By Michael Abramowitz  
The Daily Reflector  
Friday, October 7, 2011

A man arrested by Greenville police moments after a robbery at a busy McDonald’s on Thursday later was charged in a similar incident from the night before.

Joseph Norman Bradshaw, 57, of Gates was charged with a 10:54 a.m. robbery at McDonald’s, 310 E. 10th St., after officers swarmed him in the parking lot.

Hours later, police had connected him to a robbery at 6:54 p.m. Wednesday at Jimmy John’s restaurant at 460 Moye Blvd.

Officers were seconds away from the McDonald’s and responded quickly to confront the suspect when he ran out, Sgt. Carlton Williams said. No one was injured, Williams said.

Customer Mike Nelson said at the scene that Bradshaw targeted him as he was ordering his meal at the register counter. He was paying the clerk when someone said “give me your money,” Nelson said.
The cashier shut the register drawer and ran to the back of the store, and customers ran out the doors, Nelson said.

Nelson told the robber, “I don’t have it; she kept it.” Bradshaw reportedly said “give me your wallet now,” Nelson said.

Bradshaw, described as a white man in jeans with silver hair and a pot belly, reached deep inside his belt and said, “I’m serious. I’ve got one,” Nelson said.

Nelson did not give the man his wallet, but told him the police were outside the restaurant, he said. He said he never saw a gun before Bradshaw darted out the side door, where up to a dozen officers were waiting.

The officers, armed with handguns and shotguns, surrounded Bradshaw in view of Nelson and other customers. Nelson was unharmed but nervous and upset when he related the incident to the officers.

“It got me really shook up,” he said.

Customers Karrice Howard and Danny and Terri Griffin recounted the incident as they stood outside with the Griffins’ small daughter at their side.

“Karrice told us the place was getting robbed, so we got up and left,” Terri Griffin said.

Howard said she saw an officer crouched outside waving to them to get out, then signaled her friends to follow her.

Danny Griffin said he was at first contemplating another tactic.

“I wanted to go up to him and knock him out so I could finish my meal, but I didn’t want to get the police mad at me for maybe interfering with a crime scene,” Griffin said.

Officers took photographs of a black pickup truck parked in the lot that is believed to belong to the suspect, Williams said.
Bradshaw reportedly also implied he had a gun at Jimmy John’s to threaten customers and employees there. He made off with about $200 cash from two customers.

Information gathered at the McDonald’s crime scene helped investigators solve the Jimmy John’s case, Williams said.

Bradshaw is being held at the Pitt County Detention Center on a $500,000 secured bond, charged with the two armed robberies.

Contact Michael Abramowitz at mabramowitz@reflector.com or 252-329-9571.
During his inaugural speech as UNC system president at a ceremony at N.C. A&T in Greensboro on Thursday, Ross offered a roadmap for strengthening the university system during a period of financial strain.

**New UNC system president Ross: 'This is our time'**

BY JANE STANCILL - jstancill@newsobserver.com

GREENSBORO Tom Ross was sworn in Thursday as UNC system president, during a ceremony of pomp and music tempered with the awareness that the higher education landscape has shifted.

At an inauguration at N.C. A&T State University in Ross' hometown of Greensboro, the new president struck a determined and optimistic tone, despite the reality of dwindling public dollars and bigger challenges for education as the world catches up to the United States.

The university system has a distinguished past, Ross said, but people are afraid for its future and anxious about North Carolina's horizon.

"We are in an economic and social malaise and fear we may never come out of it," he said in his inaugural address. "We have heard the words 'the new normal' so often we sometimes believe that where we are right now is where we will stay. Well, I don't buy it. I don't buy it. It doesn't have to be that way. This is our time, and what we do with it is up to us."

Ross offered a roadmap for strengthening the university at a time of financial duress - with a focus on greater academic success for students, efficiency through technology and shared services among the 17 campuses,
and outreach to a broader population of students, including adults, the military and community college transfers.

He said students must come to UNC prepared for college work, and the university will continue to prudently raise minimum admissions standards. UNC will also have stronger, clearer standards for students to maintain satisfactory progress toward degrees, he said.

Ross recommitted UNC to being "a university of all the people," and said the university system must retain its historic promise of access and affordability.

Raising more money from private donors is one way to do that, he said, but there must an adequate stream of financial aid so low- and middle-income students aren't locked out.

And, he stressed, the university must be more cost-efficient, nimble and innovative.

"We cannot simply continue to do things the ways we've always done them," he said. "We cannot expect things to return to the way they were. They won't."

**Accepting the challenge**

Ross, 61, a former lawyer, judge, foundation leader and private college president, started as UNC president on Jan. 1 and was immediately confronted with the state's budget crisis. The university's state funding was cut by $414 million this year, resulting in the loss of 3,000 employees and another nearly 1,500 vacant jobs.

The president joked that since he took the helm, people have repeatedly asked him the question, "What in the world were you thinking?"

He accepted the challenge, he said, because "I know there is no institution more important to North Carolina and her future than this university."

Speakers at Thursday's inauguration repeatedly said North Carolina will look to the university system for solutions to society's big problems.

"The University of North Carolina is a driving economic engine within our state," said Atul Bhula, a graduate student at Appalachian State University who represents students on the UNC Board of Governors. "With budget cuts affecting families all across the state, we need to work together to solve our state's economic issues."

'Seize our time'
On a spectacular early fall day, the festivities began with an outdoor academic procession led by N.C. A&T's spirited marching band. Other student musicians performed at the ceremony in the campus arena, including the UNC School of the Arts Orchestra and choral singers from N.C. A&T and UNC Greensboro.

The event was attended by political leaders, including Gov. Bev Perdue, state Senate leader Phil Berger and House Speaker Pro Tem Dale Folwell. Former N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Henry Frye administered the oath of office. Former UNC presidents William Friday, C.D. Spangler and Molly Broad also attended the ceremony.

Erskine Bowles, the immediate past UNC president, was traveling out of the country.

The ceremony was followed by a reception. The total cost for the event was about $100,000, paid for by private donations.

Ross' speech was titled "Our Time," and he asked others to join with him to "seize our time."

"We must remake our great university for a greater tomorrow," he said. "Our methods will change; our programs may be different, but our constant purpose must remain the same."

Stancill: 919-829-4559

**Thomas W. Ross**

**Born:** June 5, 1950, in Greensboro.

**Education:** Bachelor's degree, Davidson College; law degree, UNC Chapel Hill.

**Family:** Wife, Susan Donaldson Ross; children, Mary Kathryn Elkins and Thomas W. Ross Jr.

State puts N.C. 12 back together

BY BRUCE SICELOFF - bsiceloff@newsobserver.com

The state Department of Transportation says it will reopen N.C. 12 on Hatteras Island by next Tuesday - more than six weeks after Hurricane Irene cut the road into pieces and severed the mainland lifeline for 5,000 island residents.

"Hallelujah!" Allen Burrus, a Buxton grocer and Dare County commissioner, said Wednesday when he heard the news. "It can't be quick enough. I'm ready."

DOT said the indispensable island highway will be open for traffic as soon as possible. "The hope is we can do it before Tuesday, maybe Monday," said Greer Beaty, a DOT spokeswoman. "But everything is crazy-dependent on the weather. Weather could blow everything off."

DOT contractors are building a 662-foot-long steel truss bridge across a gap, known locally as New New Inlet, created by Irene at the northern end of Hatteras Island.
Four miles south of the inlet, near the flooded resort town of Rodanthe, road crews are repaving parts of N.C. 12 that were washed away when Irene pushed a wall of water across the narrow island.

An overtaxed ferry system has provided the only access since Irene breached N.C. 12 on Aug. 27.

The limits of ferry service slowed the pace of hurricane recovery and suppressed the tourism traffic that sustains Ocracoke and Hatteras islands. Some businesses never reopened because the ferries did not deliver enough customers.

"I can't stay open with just 20 or 30 people a night in my big building," said Jane Metacarpa, co-owner of the Sandbar & Grille in Buxton. "I have to do 50 or 100 a night."

The reopening of N.C. 12 may come too late for Metacarpa's restaurant. Her business season normally ends in mid-November, and she doesn't know whether it will be worthwhile to reopen next week.

The repaired road also will restore public access to the heavily damaged villages of Rodanthe, Waves and Salvo, which have remained closed to tourists and other nonresidents.

Ocracoke Islanders have suffered from the loss of N.C. 12, too. They receive most of their tourism business via N.C. 12 and a 40-minute ferry ride from Hatteras Island, and they rely on the same route for trips to doctors and shopping centers near Nag's Head.

Tommy Hutcherson, who sells groceries and hardware at his family's Ocracoke Variety Store, said suppliers have found it hard to make deliveries while N.C. 12 is closed.

"It has hurt the locals trying to come and go from the island," Hutcherson said. "It has really impeded vendor traffic seriously, and it's been detrimental to the tourist industry."

**The future of N.C. 12**

DOT's $10 million repair is a temporary fix for N.C. 12. Gov. Bev Perdue has said state officials will develop a long-term solution to the frequent storm damage and repair costs for the highway.

Stanley R. Riggs, a coastal geologist who published a book this year on North Carolina's barrier islands, said he hoped DOT officials will think carefully about the future of Hatteras Island and N.C. 12.
Riggs and other scientists predicted two years ago that storms would breach the Hatteras highway in vulnerable spots at two locations that were damaged by Hurricane Irene. DOT engineers have invited Riggs to discuss plans for N.C. 12 at a meeting later this month, but he is skeptical that they'll listen to him.

"In the past I've given them a lot of time and energy and results from our research, and they've pretty much ignored it," Riggs, a professor at East Carolina University, said by phone from a ferry crossing Pamlico Sound. He was returning from a workshop with school teachers on Ocracoke Island. "I'm old enough not to waste more time if they're not interested in it. I can make better use of my time educating the public."

Riggs contends that efforts to stabilize the highway have made the island itself more fragile because they interfere with the Outer Banks' age-old tendency to migrate westward - retreating on the ocean side and growing on the sound side.

"I think they're trying to figure out how to hold the road where it is for 50 years, and I don't think they get it," Riggs said. "This is an expensive highway. How many times do we have to rebuild something before we realize it doesn't work?"

Until about eight years ago, Riggs and other coastal geologists were granted quick access to study storm-damaged beaches as soon as the hurricanes had moved away. But their permits were revoked, and he is still waiting, more than five weeks after Irene's passing, for access to the worst-damaged sections of Hatteras Island.
East Carolina's younger players not shy about taking over

By Brian Mull
Brian.Mull@StarNewsOnline.com

Dark clouds are not lingering over the East Carolina football program.

Despite a 1-3 record, a turnover problem and another difficult test Saturday at Houston, the Pirates remain upbeat. Some of that attitude comes from coach Ruffin McNeill, though he's impressed with the leadership and competitiveness coming from within his team.

"They bounce back," McNeill said. "They're disappointed when they lose, but some teams don't care if they win or lose. This one does. When they've made mistakes or had some mishaps happen, they keep fighting and staying the course, which as a coach it's really hard to get 120 guys to stay focused."

There are leaders throughout the starting unit, McNeill said, beginning with senior quarterback Dominique Davis and including key players at every position. Emmanuel Davis, a senior cornerback who was suspended for the season opener at South Carolina, has taken his role seriously since.
Having only nine seniors on the depth chart means leaders must develop in all classes. Sophomores Grant Harner and Will Simmons have helped anchor an inexperienced offensive line, while classmate Derrell Johnson has emerged on the other side of the ball.

Yet the most pleasant surprise for the Pirates has been a redshirt freshman whose ability to read plays has meant a stronger defense against the run. Jeremy Grove, 6-foot-1, 230 pounds, made 52 tackles in the first four games, a 13.0 average that's second in the nation. McNeill describes the inside linebacker as a "throwback player, who could've played in any era."

"He understands gap integrity," McNeill said. "On run game, it's about gap integrity, who has what gap, and the linebackers are like wall builders. If there's a break in the wall this way or that way, they have to put a finger in it, make it cloudy."

Grove is another young ECU player who wasn't ready last year and gained valuable experience in the weekly "Thursday Night Football" that gives scout team members and seldom-used players live-game repetitions. After a strong spring and summer on the field and in the weight room, he's the first Pirate to have 10 tackles in his first four games since Pernell Griffin in 2001.

"He's not intimidated by the moment or the situation," McNeill said. "He comes ready to play in practice every day. He practices like he plays and plays like he practices."

**Hunt will back up Bullock**

The lack of depth at running back is a concern for the Pirates. Reggie Bullock has been productive, averaging 79.5 yards per game. But he's also fumbled four times, losing two. Michael Dobson, saw limited action in the first three games, but lost two fumbles in 10 carries, and did not play vs. North Carolina.

McNeill confirmed that Torrance Hunt, a sophomore, will spell Bullock this week. Formerly a wide receiver, Hunt caught one pass and rushed once last season. He's fast but, at 5-8, 175 pounds, is small like the other ECU running backs.

"We'd like to get a bigger back, which we're recruiting right now, and trying to get one in here just to blend with the smaller backs. It's all a process," McNeill said. "I love our kids and our team but there's always pieces you have to add to the offense or defense to make it better."

Brian Mull: 343-2034  On Twitter: @BGMull
The East Carolina football team hopes it has turned the page when it comes to turnovers.

The Pirates know all too well by now that they’ll drag the worst turnover average in the nation (4.3 per game) onto the field with them Saturday night in Houston, where they’ll square off with the unbeaten Cougars.

Even at rock bottom, however, there is hope. Despite their mistake-ridden 1-3 start, the Pirates are 1-0 in league play with a chance to blemish Houston’s 5-0 record.

Also, there is no lingering question for Pirate running backs and wide receivers that opponents will be trying to force turnovers, and the offense hopes to turn that into an advantage starting with Saturday’s 7 p.m. EDT kickoff inside Robertson Stadium.

“From the first game when we played South Carolina, teams knew that we fumbled,” said ECU back Reggie Bullock, who lost the ball once against the
Gamecocks and again last week against North Carolina. “From here on out, that’s what they’re going to try to go after, but it does give us an advantage to break tackles, because they’re not trying to tackle, they’re trying to take the ball away.”

The Pirates had five turnovers against SC, seven in a win over UAB and four in the first half last week against the Tar Heels.

Bullock admits it can be tough to draw a line between focusing on correcting mistakes and thinking too much about them.

“You just keep pushing forward and you don’t try to worry about it,” he said. “But at the same time, you’ve got to take advantage and focus, keep control of the ball and hold onto it.”

**Sumlin’s take**

Houston head coach Kevin Sumlin knows his offense will get easy points if the Pirates keep coughing up the ball. Naturally, it’s tempting to go for the same spoils the Pirates’ other opponents have enjoyed.

“They’ve been able to move the football and they’ve got some explosive players and some veteran guys, a quarterback that’s in the second year in the system and really understands what they’re doing,” Sumlin said of QB Dominique Davis and the Pirates. “They moved the ball on two top 12 football teams (SC and Virginia Tech), but they have had some problems with turnovers. We’ll work at that.”

Perhaps sensing how similar his offense is to ECU’s, however, Sumlin knows the risks of putting too much emphasis on going after the ball against an offense of ECU’s caliber.

“We’ve got to be sound,” said Sumlin, whose team is tied with Memphis atop C-USA in turnover margin at plus-3. “Their offense is a lot like ours, trying to take advantage of space to utilize their speed and their ability, but we recognize (the Pirates’ turnover problems) and we’ll work at it the same way we’ve worked at it all year.”
Packed house?

Although not many Conference USA schools not located in Greenville are known for their huge home crowds, Houston’s huge start should have Robertson Stadium close to its 32,000-seat capacity on Saturday.

ECU head coach Ruffin McNeill contended that when he was on staff at Texas Tech, the in-state rivalry game between his Red Raiders and the Cougars was intense when staged in Houston.

“Last time I was in there they were loud,” McNeill said. “You could hear them all the way to the ocean when I was down at Texas Tech. They have a 5-0 football team and I think their fans will come out. I know Kevin will have those guys excited and they’ll want to come out and see Case (Keenum) and Dominique and our teams match up.”

Other than the Pirates’ neutral-site game in Charlotte against the Gamecocks to open the season, they make their first real road trip this week.

“When you’re away from your home crowd you almost have to foxhole it a little bit, where it’s just you and the group that travels on the plane with you,” McNeill said. “You won’t have a lot of people cheering for you, you’ll have a lot of people jeering for you, but sometimes that’s fun too.”

Contact Nathan Summers at nsummers@reflector.com or 252-329-9595.
If you don’t have plans this weekend there are a number of events that support our local community. There will be zumbathons, walks, runs and motorcycle rides and a soccer game to watch. Here are the events, listed in chronological order.

**Zumbathons**
- Vquest celebrates Breast Cancer Awareness month with a Zumbathon from 8 p.m.-midnight today. Participants are encouraged to wear pink. A $10 donation benefits local breast cancer survivors. Call 847-6501.
- The second annual Awareness Zumbathon will be held from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday at the Boys & Girls Club, 621 W. Fire Tower Road, Winterville. The event will include games, raffles and refreshments. A ZumbaAtomic class also will be held. Tickets are $15 for adults and $8 for children. Proceeds will benefit Pitt County Memorial Hospital Cancer Awareness Services and colon cancer patient Kayla Epoulipi. Call 327-3621.

**Good Samaritan walk**
Hope of Glory Ministries will hold the fifth annual Good Samaritan Walk and one-mile family walk at 8:30 a.m. Saturday starting from Moe’s Southwest Grill, 610-B Red Banks Road. Awards will be given for age categories. Registration will be held from 6:30-8 a.m. race day. A post-race party will be held at Moe’s from 10 a.m.-noon. Cost is $10-$25 and includes a T-shirt and $3 off a Moe’s meal. Visit www.hope-of-glory.org.
Walk from Obesity
The 2011 Walk from Obesity will be held from 9-11:30 a.m. Saturday at Viquest, 2610 Stantonsburg Road. The walk will be held on Viquest’s quarter-mile walking trail.

The Walk from Obesity is a national fundraiser that raises awareness and funds to improve the quality of life and health of those affected by obesity. Locally the walk is a joint effort of Pitt County Memorial Hospital, SurgiCenter of Eastern Carolina, the East Carolina University Department of Bariatric Surgery and Southern Surgical Associations.

Walkers will receive a gift bag that will include a water bottle and a variety of items like vitamins, protein shakes, and weight loss materials. Last year’s event raised $7,350. A goal of $10,000 has been set for this year. Cost is $25 for online registration, $35 day of the event, free for children 12 and younger. To register visit www.walkfromobesity.com.

Ride for the Cure
The fifth annual Ride for the Cure will be Saturday starting and ending at Eastern Radiologists, Breast Imaging Center, 2101 W. Arlington Blvd. Registration is $25 and begins at 9 a.m.; the first bike leaves at 10 a.m. Door prizes, a raffle and food will be offered beginning at noon.

In addition, the Button Chair, a project of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina (BCBSNC) Foundation, will be on display. The hands-on exhibit includes educational kiosks, facts and information about breast cancer and survivor stories. The exhibit also will be on display from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 8-14 at Eastern Radiologists. Visit rideforthecurenc.com.

Easter Seals walk
Easter Seals UCP will hold a one-mile “Walk With Me” fundraiser at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Greenville Town Common. Activities and registration start at 9 a.m. Proceeds will benefit children and adults with disabilities and mental challenges. Participants will meet at the Toyota Amphitheater for refreshments, music and entertainment before the walk, which will be held rain or shine. Refreshments and music will be available following the walk. Call London Schmidt at 910-790-5921 or visit www.walkwithme.org/greenville.
Riley’s Army day
Riley’s Army, an organization that raises awareness for pediatric cancer patients, will hold an Army Day at the East Carolina University’s women’s soccer game at 2 p.m. Sunday. The day will include an auction, a presentation of jerseys that the team will wear that day and a barbecue dinner catered by the Texas Roadhouse following the game. Tickets are $5 for adults and free for children 17 and younger. Contact Kimber Stone at kastone21@yahoo.com or call 412-8191, or visit www.ecupirates.com and use the promotion code RILEY.
Not the Academic Type? No Problem. You’re Hired.

By ROSS RAMSEY

You’re a university regent. An empty front office means you and your fellow board members need a new chancellor, someone to run the business side so your president, an academician who has written 137 scholarly articles and 4 books, can concentrate on education.

Your operation burns through money, and the new chief’s job will be to find more of it. If yours is a private school, that means the boss will be occupied with catering to affluent people — alumni, parents of students and alumni parents of students. Oh, and people who’ll sponsor the kind of research or specialties featured at the institution, whether they or their children went to school there or not.

It’s a public institution? The biggest pot of money is the government’s, and your chancellor will need to cater to legislators and budget wonks who parcel it out and who have to choose, sometimes, between your school and five other public systems in the state.

The key trait for a new chancellor? The ability to attract money.

Four of the current chancellors of public university systems in Texas once held state office, as did three of their predecessors. The head of private Baylor University in Waco, Kenneth Starr, made his name as a lawyer who worked on high-profile public cases including the investigation and eventual impeachment of Bill Clinton, then the president.

John Sharp, who served in the state’s House and Senate, on its Railroad Commission and as its comptroller of public accounts, is the latest picture on this wall; he was named chancellor of the Texas A&M University System last month, succeeding Dr. Mike McKinney, a physician who served in the Texas House, as head of the Health and Human Services Commission and as chief of staff to Gov. Rick Perry.

Lee Jackson, who served as a Dallas County judge before becoming the chancellor at the University of North Texas System, was also in the Texas House. So was Brian McCall, chancellor at the Texas State University
System, who succeeded another officeholder, Charles Matthews, a former mayor of Garland and railroad commissioner. Kent Hance was in the Texas Legislature and Congress and on the Railroad Commission and ran unsuccessfully for the United States Senate and for governor before founding a law firm in Austin. Now? He’s the chancellor of the Texas Tech University System, trying to raise the kind of money vacuumed up by his predecessor, the district attorney-turned-state-senator-turned-chancellor John Montford.

The University of Houston hasn’t gone that route — this time. Former Lt. Gov. William P. Hobby Jr. did a stint there from 1995 to 1997. And it’s not just the public institutions that go this route, though they’re more aggressive about it.

Mr. Montford is in some ways the model for this. A Marine Corps captain who became the chief prosecutor in Lubbock County, he served as head of the budget-writing Finance Committee in the Texas Senate before taking the job at Tech. It certainly helped that he knew his way around a budget, but then there’s this: He raised $500 million for Tech in five years.

People noticed. He did fine, moving on to a successful career with AT&T and General Motors and serving on several boards. Tech got new buildings, new respect, better programs and the admiring attention of regents at other schools who wanted to catapult their institutions to financial stability.

The lesson here is simple: Want to head a public university system in Texas? Go to college and get some advanced degrees. It won’t hurt to be a lawyer, but that’s not absolutely necessary. Mr. Hance and Mr. Starr are lawyers. Mr. McCall has a doctorate. Mr. Sharp and Mr. Jackson have master’s degrees.

Then, run for office. When the Texas State University System went shopping for a new leader in 2010, it started with 40 applicants — only two of them from politics. Both made the short list, and Mr. McCall, with two decades in the House, rose to the top.

“What we did was hire 20 years of relationships,” said Charles Amato, chairman of the Board of Regents. “With Brian, for the first time ever, our funding is on par with the other systems.”

Not everyone fits the pattern. The University of Texas, which thinks of itself as the most prestigious public university system in the state, is headed by a pediatric surgeon, Dr. Francisco Cigarroa. Renu Khator, chancellor of the University of Houston System, is internationally known for her expertise in
global environmental policy. She has also presided over a boom in fund-raising for U.H.

But they’re the exceptions. Most schools hire campus presidents who have academic chops. They’ll take care of the education part. The chancellor’s job? Minding the money.

Ross Ramsey, the managing editor at The Texas Tribune, writes a column for The Tribune.

rramsey@texastribune.org