

Academic work comes second to life lessons

Officials at Columbine may delay start of classes

By Brian Weber

News Education Writer

Columbine High School students will end this tragic school year early, focused more on learning about life than academics.

Students were expected to go through an orientation Thursday at Chatfield High School where they will finish the year. Classes were to resume Friday.

However, officials said Monday they want to discuss the timing with Columbine teachers who come back today before making a final decision. Classes probably won't start until Monday or Tuesday, said Marilyn Saltzman, a district spokeswoman.

The emotional trauma of last week's murderous rampage will be tough to overcome, school officials said. Minds probably won't focus well on algebra, biology and English.

And that's OK, Chatfield Principal Sally Blanchard said. There are plenty of other valuable lessons to learn, she said.

"What I see is a lot of real true human education," she said. "We're really focusing on education in the truest sense. It may not be the academic type of work."

"What we're really talking about is human education, working one-on-one with each other, learning to support each other, learning to heal."

Columbine's 1,965 students will go to Chatfield until their regular dismissal date of May 27. The school will run on a split schedule. Chatfield students began it Monday, attending seven, 40-minute periods from 7 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. Columbine students will go from 12:40 p.m. to 4:10 p.m.

Depending on when they resume classes, Columbine students will have missed at least seven days. That makes them short of the state's legal minimum.

The district doubts students will have to make up the days, Saltzman said. The district can seek a waiver from Gov. Bill Owens.

"If they make such a request Gov. Owens would clearly be very sympathetic," Dick Wadhams, Owens press secretary, said.

Chatfield teachers and students will help make the transition easier, Blanchard said. The fierce competitive rivalry between the two schools will remain on the athletic field.

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fields, she said.

Columbine teachers start acclimating themselves to their new school today. Chatfield teachers will show them around, share rooms and compassion, Blanchard said.

Chatfield students plan to "adopt" a Columbine student. The student council is also working on other welcoming events and activities. Security will be tight, and there will be more guards, more parent volunteers and restricted access to outsiders. The campus will no longer be open, meaning students can't leave for lunch, Blanchard said.

We want them to feel safe, she said. We want them to feel safe, she said.

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Boy with 'grenade' arrested

COLORADO SPRINGS — A 15-year-old boy was arrested Monday in Colorado Springs after he brought an inert military hand grenade to school and showed it to other students.

Rumors then spread quickly that an explosive was on school property. Colorado Springs police were notified.

With the assistance of school administrators, the school was placed on "lockdown" status for 30 minutes, starting about 11:30 a.m.

"We had information that the device, which we thought was operational at the time, was outside," said Lt. Steve Liebowitz.

"So we placed the school in lockdown and controlled movements to keep people inside and out of harm's way."

Police interviewed witnesses, found the 15-year-old and arrested him for possession of an incendiary device, a hoax explosive; and interference with staff, faculty or students. He was immediately suspended by the school principal and taken to a juvenile detention facility.

The boy told police the device was inoperable. He said he brought it to school to show other students.

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Fake bomb leads to arrests

Two teens have been arrested on suspicion of leaving a fake bomb propped against a door at Highlands Ranch High School only hours before the April 20 massacre at Columbine High School.

Sheriff's investigators say it is believed to have been a prank and had no connection with what happened later.

The suspects were identified as Ben A. Bennett, 18, a student at Highlands Ranch, and Jonathan Reich, 18, a former student. They face felony charges, said sheriff's spokeswoman Kim Stuckenschneider.

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1702

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School killers share feelings of alienation

Experts alarmed by high number of lonely teens

By Kevin Lamb

Cox News Service

The murdered children at school desks and locker bays are only the most obvious tragedies when kids open fire on their classmates.

Squinting through the horrific gun smoke, experts on the feelings of children can also see teen-age alienation, loneliness and depression in frightening numbers.

"That's what people aren't willing to talk about yet," said Ohio psychologist Dennis O'Grady. But while student gunmen in seven United States schools have killed 29 people in the past 19 months, the American Psychiatric Association has noted that 5,000 teen-agers a year die when depression leads to suicide.

"There's probably no feeling more painful than loneliness and alienation," said John Baren, a Centerville, Ohio, psychotherapist and former mental health consultant to the Dayton, Ohio, police SWAT team. "In fact, it's the area in psychiatry that the least is written about, and one reason why is that it's pretty painful even to write about."

O'Grady, Baren and many other professionals hope the national grief over last week's massacre at Columbine High School will focus attention beyond metal detectors to deeper problems. They see a widespread inability to express hatred and anger constructively. They see more tolerance of bullying than of individual differences. And they see a pervasive reluctance to acknowledge and treat even low degrees of mental illness.

But they recommend far more than hugs and smiles for alienated children. In fact, they trace much of the problem to misguided attempts at waiving children's personal responsibility and at bestowing self-esteem without requiring them first to accomplish something.

Alienation is the common thread connecting the kids who have shot up schools, experts say — not drug use, not pierced eyebrows, not poverty, not violent juvenile rap sheets. The incidents are revenge of the spurned.

"There isn't anything mysterious about it," said O'Grady, who often gives hourlong seminars on the progression from rejection to resentment to revenge. "You talk to a lot of shrinks in general practice, and everyone's seeing three or four alienated adolescents who are talking about things like going and shooting people. They feel there is nothing to live for."

Kids will always be bullied and ostracized, of course. But that doesn't mean the psychological costs always have to be so steep.

Adolescence is a hard time for everyone, certainly. It is when kids begin feeling emotions they haven't learned to express or control. "and they're kind of left on their own to figure it out," said Kim McElroy, a licensed clinical counselor at Samaritan CrisisCare in Dayton.

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1703

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Scares reported at four schools nationally

In Colorado, teen charged with bringing dummy hand grenade

News staff and wire reports

Monday was tense in Jefferson County schools, but the day passed without major incident.

Four other schools across the country, including two in Colorado, experienced scares.

On April 20, Columbine High

School seniors Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold opened fire inside the school. Investigators later discovered a message, possibly written in advance by Harris, promising more violence on Monday.

Law-enforcement officials say they are skeptical that the note originated with Harris, but they can't dismiss it entirely.

Other schools called police with reports of assorted threats.

At Sheridan Middle School, a 12-year-old girl told police that a man in dark clothes grabbed her about 10 a.m.

as she walked outside, between classrooms. She described him as tall and Caucasian with a rough voice.

The girl was not harmed, but was "very shaken," Police Chief Ray Sample said.

In Colorado Springs, police arrested a teen-ager on charges of bringing a dummy hand grenade to class.

Police said the 15-year-old Sierra High School freshman brought the inert military hand grenade to school and showed it to other students.

The building was locked down for 30 minutes until police found the boy

and the device. He was suspended and charged with possession of a hoax incendiary device and interference with a school.

In Oshkosh, Wis., only 650 of 1,800 Oshkosh West High School students stayed at school after police found a Web page that targeted 17 students on a "hit list" and mentioned the Trench Coat Mafia.

The Web site expressed anger toward "jocks and minorities."

Students who came to school walked through metal detectors, according to Principal Keith Rodda.

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Oshkosh police Lt. David Rapp said he was confident that investigators would track down whoever created the page.

In Wimberley, Texas, students returned to a junior high school Monday as four classmates accused of plotting a potentially deadly attack at Danforth Junior High School remained in juvenile custody.

A search of the suspects' homes turned up crude explosive devices and gunpowder, as well as computer disks and Internet documents about bomb-making, authorities said.

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1704

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Denver Post

Tuesday, April 27, 1999

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

Broadcasters to get guides on coverage

By David Bauder
The Associated Press

Local broadcasters are being urged to decide now how they would cover the next breaking story like the Colorado massacre, and to consider staying off the air to avoid endangering lives.

News directors and general managers at more than 1,800 TV and radio stations will receive guidelines this week on how to handle these news emergencies from the Radio and Television News Directors Association.

The trade group hopes station operators develop plans or at least talk about what they would do if thrust into the national spotlight like Denver broadcasters were last week when two gunmen killed 13 people and themselves at Columbine High School.

"You can't plan for everything," said Barbara Cochran, RTNDA president. "You couldn't plan for a situation where kids hiding in a school would have cell phones. What you can do is have a dialogue in the newsrooms ahead of time."

Denver's KUSA-Ch.9 was criticized for broadcasting a cell phone conversation with a Columbine student before the massacre had ended. Critics said the student's life could have been endangered if a

gunman had heard where he was hiding.

Patti Dennis, news director at KUSA-TV, said the station was careful to screen the callers and make sure it did not pinpoint where the students were. "We were clearly aware that we had a volatile situation on her hands balanced against a need for information," Dennis said.

Station executives knew the cell phone was a valuable tool in this story. "It was the first time you had a spot news of this magnitude where cell phones played such a large role. It was uncharted territory, for us at least."

What Dennis and others at KUSA learned was that you have to re-evaluate whether someone under 18 can filter their own thoughts under such stressful conditions.

Broadcasters should always assume that a hostage-taker or terrorist has access to their reporting, the suggested guidelines say. And stations should not divulge police tactics or SWAT team locations and fight any urge to get involved.

News directors should ask themselves if the value of a live report on a hostage-taking situation "is really justifiable compared to the harm that could occur," the guidelines say.

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Arrest near for providers of guns

Sheriff cites 'good leads'; investigation continues into possible accomplices, purchase of bomb materials

By Kevin Vaughan and Ann Carnahan
News Staff Writers

Authorities are close to arresting those who provided the guns used by Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold as they lay siege to Columbine High School, Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone said Tuesday.

"We have good leads on them," Stone said. That disclosure was one development Tuesday in the biggest criminal investigation ever undertaken in Colorado.

■ Authorities continued to investigate three young men detained in a field near Columbine shortly after the gunfire and explosions erupted. Stone said he considers them possible accomplices.

■ They reviewed claims by an El Paso County gun dealer that Harris and four teen tried in early March to buy a machine gun and silencer-equipped automatic pistol like the kind used by SWAT officers.

■ They tried to corroborate statements made by a clerk at a suburban Hugh M. Woods store who believes Harris and Klebold stockpiled up on large propane tanks the week before the attack.

■ They increased to more than 50 the number of bombs found at the school and in Klebold's and Harris' cars and homes.

■ Coroner's investigators squelched speculation that the deaths of Harris or Klebold were anything other than suicides.

"Each inflicted their own fatal wounds," said Jefferson County sheriff's Deputy Steve Davis.

The possible gun charges would revolve around laws that make it illegal in Colorado to transfer certain types of firearms to anyone under 21.

The probe has keyed in on tracking the two shotguns, 9mm assault rifle and semiautomatic handgun used by Harris and Klebold to kill 12 fellow students and a teacher.

Two of the guns were purchased in November or December at a Denver-area gun show by 18-year-old Robyn Anderson, Klebold's prom date, Stone said.

Investigators have questioned Anderson, but it was too early to know whether she would be implicated as an accomplice in the attack.

"It hasn't been determined one way or the other," said Jefferson County sheriff's Sgt. Jim Parr.

Last Tuesday, Harris, 18, and Klebold, 17, marched into Columbine, tossing bombs and spraying bullets. In addition to the 13 dead, 23 were hospitalized, all but two with gunshot wounds.

Harris and Klebold — two outcasts who belonged to a group that called itself the Trench Coat Mafia — took their lives in the school's library, bringing the death toll to 15.

Harris had been rejected by the Marine Corps days earlier because he had taken psychiatric medicine, the *New York Times* reported.

The metro area observed a minute of silence at 11:21 a.m. Tuesday — the moment a week earlier when the killings started.

Tracing the guns involved in the deadly shooting rampage has led authorities across the nation, the *Wall Street Journal* reported Monday.

The TEC-DC9 pistol found at Columbine after the shooting was sold by manufacturer to Miami-based Navegar Inc. five years ago to Zanders Sporting Goods in Baldwin, Ill, the newspaper reported. Zanders then sold the gun to a dealer near Westminster.

The dealer apparently has closed or relocated,

according to the *Journal*. Authorities said someone over 21 legally purchased the gun from the Westminster dealer, but it was unclear how the killers obtained it.

Meanwhile, authorities worked on a lead from Mel Bernstein, owner of Dragon Arms, an El Paso County gun store, although they said videotapes from the security system at his business were of no help.

Bernstein said that in early March a girl and four boys in trench coats — one of whom he believes was Harris — tried to buy an M-60 machine gun and an MP-5 handgun with a silencer on it.

He turned them away, he said, because they weren't old enough.

Bernstein thought the group had been captured on his store's security camera and turned its videotapes over to investigators. But when they looked at the tape, they saw no images of the teens.

"It was an unrelated tape in an unrelated investigation," said Rich Marianos, supervising agent for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Bernstein suggested Tuesday that the tape with Harris and the other teens on it might

See SCHOOL on 13A

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Clerk tells of propane tank sale

SCHOOL from 4A

have been recycled and their visit to his store lost.

Parr said the absence of the group on videotape "does not mean that they may not have been in the store at another time."

Asked if Bernstein's claims could be credible, Parr replied, "Absolutely."

Also Tuesday, Gary Sowell, a clerk at the Hugh M. Woods store on Kipling Street at Bellevue Avenue, said he had sold five large tanks full of propane to two teen-agers the week before the assault.



Sowell

The trench coat-wearing boys packed three of the tanks into the trunk and had to stuff the other two unwieldy metal cylinders into the back seat of their cars, where two of their friends sat.

Sowell asked the boys what they wanted the propane for.

"They said it was for school," Sowell said.

Sowell, 50, said that after seeing photos of the suspects he believes the teens who bought the propane were Harris and Klebold. He said they also copied keys he believes opened the doors at Columbine and bought other construction materials that can be used to make bombs.

"I saw them buy propane tanks, nails, screws, wire, duct tape," he said.

But neither investigators nor the manager of the Hugh M. Woods store could corroborate his claims.

He is scheduled to be interviewed by investigators at 3 p.m. today.

"I think they'll know a lot more after they talk to him again," said sheriff's Sgt. Jim Parr.

Kevin Mussro, manager of a nearby Home Depot, said one of his employees has talked with investigators about the possibility the shooters bought some supplies there.

Meanwhile, the Klebolds' attorney, Gary Lozow, said the family has received verbal death threats, which they have reported to the Jefferson County sheriff.

"You have to take them seriously in light of what has happened here," Lozow said.

Lozow said the Klebolds do not know who is making the threats.

Sheriff Stone said detectives haven't interviewed the killers' parents. Both couples have retained attorneys, Stone said, and investigators have contacted them to set up interviews with the parents.

Lozow said the Klebolds talked with investigators the day of the shooting and will talk to them again soon.

The investigation, in its eighth day Tuesday, continued to consume a tremendous amount of time as detectives worked to track down 377 potential leads.

In addition to figuring out how Harris and Klebold got their guns, investigators were studying thousands of pieces of potential evidence in the school. That work is expected to go on for days.

Stone said investigators are reviewing the 60 or so calls received last year by his department's bomb squad. About a dozen were to detonate devices, including pipe bombs, in the south Jefferson County area, Stone said.

"Could this possibly have been these guys practicing with them?" Stone asked. "We'll be going back and analyzing any of those cases where these devices have been found trying to fingerprint those bombs, seeing if that matches any official evidence."

Staff writers Karen Abbott, Dick Foster and Ann Imse contributed to this story.

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Page 2 of 2
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"Give light and the people will find their own way"

EDITORIALS

The signs were all there

THE ISSUE:
A prophetic
classroom video

OUR VIEW:
Harris and Klebold
practically
telegraphed their
intentions

Sure, it's difficult to identify most adolescents who are poised to hurt themselves or others, but this general principle doesn't appear to hold in the cases of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. These two apparently even produced a video blueprint of their rampage for a Columbine class last fall. It started themselves firing weapons as they walked down a hallway, knowledgeable students have told *Denver Rocky Mountain News* reporters.

As warning signs go, this one was loud and clear.

Don't get us wrong: We are *not* blaming anyone at Columbine for failing to recognize the signs of impending violence (although we do wonder why such a production — as well as others, apparently, with similar themes — would be considered an acceptable classroom project). We refer to the video mainly to suggest how surreal some of the reaction to Tuesday's massacre has been. A legion of therapists and other experts has helpfully provided lists of what sorts of teen behavior should trigger intervention. But you hardly need a psychology degree to recognize that there is something terribly wrong with kids obsessed with killing fellow students. If an explicit video doesn't give the game away, what would?

Nor were those videos the only signs of the two youths' death obsession. There was their preoccupation with guns and bombs, with the Third Reich and its language, with a violent computer game; there was Harris' frightening Web page, filled with hate; there was also the youths' immersion in the nihilistic music of Marilyn Manson — who named himself after a mass murderer and who calls himself the Antichrist — and KMFDM, a German band whose lyrics are both anarchistic and violent. Add all that to their extreme anti-social attitudes, and you could hardly sketch more likely candidates for trouble.

Why did no one intervene? It is perhaps

too early to say, in part because it's unclear how much of their behavior was known to adults and how much only to fellow students. But surely some of the reluctance stemmed from the general unwillingness of adults these days to take seriously the depravity that lurks at the fringe of popular culture.

Usually, when someone like, say, William Bennett, suggests just how socially damaging certain cultural influences can be, he is laughed out of the room as an illiberal, unsophisticated prude who just doesn't get it. This stuff harms no one, many argue.

But now, following the shootings by young men drenched in some of the worst that this popular culture has to offer, maybe at least some of those critics will begin to understand. While violent music and entertainment, in and of themselves, did not put the guns in the hands of Harris and Klebold and somehow make them pull the triggers, it was unmistakably a nihilistic influence to which they seemed particularly vulnerable.

Most popular culture is not depraved, of course, but there is more than enough to preoccupy the waking hours of the likes of Harris and Klebold. Fully seven of the 11 major movies released in recent weeks are pervaded by violent acts. And yes, broadcast and cable TV shows indulge in portraying incidents that would have been considered shocking a couple of decades ago.

Even prior to the shooting, it was absurd to say that none of this makes much of a difference in the way people behave. TV, radio, movies and other media are constantly in our faces. Their versions of reality and the values they exhibit are inescapable. If, year after year, they pound away at us, they are bound to affect our thinking and attitudes — which, by the way, is why major companies spend millions on advertising.

What is needed is not censorship but more adults who realize that the glorification of violence and amorality is not merely a matter of taste or lifestyle, as so many people now seem to believe. It is — or can be in a few tragic cases — a very direct threat to our children.

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Wednesday, April 28, 1999

'She was near death'



Gary Massaro

JEFFERSON COUNTY — Bob Marlin was prepared to treat 50 victims at Columbine High School.

He got only one. Marlin, 47, of the West Metro Fire District, was one of the first paramedics to enter the school.

The first was Troy Laman, a Denver Health Medical Center paramedic. Laman tugged at students' arms and legs to see if any reacted. No one did until he got into the library and pulled Lisa Kreutz's arm. Barely conscious, she moaned.

So Laman called for help.

Marlin hurried in with a stretcher.

"I didn't find a pulse in her wrist," Marlin said. "I tried to find a pulse in her neck. It was rapid and weak. She was near death. It was time to move. And I mean right now."

Laman and a SWAT officer — Marlin didn't get his name — carried Kreutz out.

"She was definitely in shock and scared and not really responding to my questions," Marlin said. "She responded by opening her eyes."

"That's what I saw in there. I saw all of our kids."

paramedic Bob Marlin

They got Kreutz outside and into an ambulance.

Then Marlin went back in. He, too, checked for signs of life.

He didn't find any.

"I've seen countless gunshot wounds and horrible tragedy and mass casualties," he said. "But the emotional part of kids killing kids — that's what sets this one apart from other things I've seen."

Marlin initially helped set up a triage unit on the west side of the school.

"We were prepared to treat 50 patients," he said. "Unfortunately, we didn't have that opportunity."

He said it all hit home later, after he got home.

"It's always later for us, that you start to feel the pain, appreciate the tragedy," Marlin said. "You start thinking about what you've done and what you saw, and you see your own kids. That's what I saw in there. I saw all of our kids."

Marlin said he has kept track of Kreutz.

"You kind of look for the bright spots where you can find them," Marlin said. "And she's the only bright spot we have."

When Gary Massaro listens, people talk. Call him at (303) 892-5271. Massaro's column appears Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

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A royal tribute to Columbine

Duchess of York leaves roses on visit to 'show my respect'

By Tillie Fong
News Staff Writer

Sarah Ferguson, the duchess of York, took advantage of a two-hour layover Tuesday to place some yellow roses at the Columbine memorial site and talk to students.

"I'm a mother of two beautiful girls," she said. "I want to come to say it's very, very tragic and to show my respect."

The duchess, who was en route from San Francisco to Kansas City on a Weight Watchers tour, talked to a few people and hugged Columbine junior Lauren Martinez.

"She asked me how I got by and I told her, I'm a survivor," Martinez, 16, said.

"I think it's just great that people would come from across the world. It's amazing to see someone that famous."

Several hundred at the site stopped in surprise when they saw the duchess. She spoke to several visitors briefly.

Ferguson wandered around the vast memorial site, looking for a good spot for her roses.

"Where should I put my flowers?" she asked her bodyguards and a Jefferson County sheriff's deputy who accompanied her.

A bright pink sign caught her attention.

It read: "All people are beautiful. Learn to respect life."

Below it was a sign, that read: LOVE YOU SO MUCH, using letters from the names of the 13 students and one teacher who died last week.

"Are those the names?" she asked the deputy.

As she was guided to a car belonging to gunshot victim Rachel Scott, she paused to touch a teddy bear and to pick up and read Kyle Velasquez's funeral program. He also was killed by gunmen last week.

Before long, she headed back to the bright pink sign.

"This is the best place," she said, setting down the flowers.

With the roses was a slip of paper that said "Sarah, The Duchess of York, April 27, 1999."

"I'm deeply moved," she said.

Ferguson said that the scene reminded her of another outpouring of love two years ago when Princess Diana was killed in a car accident.

"It certainly has the feel of Kensington Palace," she said. "Everyone was there to pay their respects. It certainly feels like that."

Ferguson said the memorial was beautiful.

"There is hope, there is inspiration, there is love, there is strength in community," she said.

The duchess said the tragedy has reinforced her belief in teaching children values.

"We all should group together and respect individuals," she said, adding that she is teaching her daughters about the value of respect, dignity and community.

Such violence is "not just America. It's a worldwide issue," she said. "I feel very strongly that the American people need to know they're supported in Europe and all over the world, too, not just in Columbine and Littleton."

"I'm trying to think what they, the families, must be feeling," she said. "It's incredible."

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1710

Getting arms at gun shows called easy

Gun dealers say ranks include unscrupulous; ATF admits overseeing firearms expos difficult

By Carla Crowder
News Staff Writer

Robyn Anderson, the girlfriend of one of the gunmen in the shootings at Columbine High School, could legally have bought some of their weapons at a gun show, experts say.

However, many Colorado gun shows are rife with unscrupulous dealers who make it easy for felons, teen-agers and others prohibited from buying firearms to snap them up if they have the cash, said Bob Glass, owner of Paladin Arms in Longmont. He's been doing business at gun shows for years.

Agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms on Tuesday questioned Carol Blodgett, who runs the Tanner Gun Show, an event conducted nearly once a month at the Denver Merchandise Mart.

"The ATF was here, and she gave them all the records from people who were selling at her shows," said Blodgett's son, Jeff Blodgett, at his mother's home in Denver.

Her son said she was also questioned after the Oklahoma City bombing when authorities were looking at whether associates of Timothy McVeigh dealt guns at the Tanner shows.

Anderson, an 18-year-old Columbine honor student, was the

prom date of shooting suspect Dylan Klebold, 17.

Harris turned 18 a few days before the shootings. Authorities suspect that last year, Anderson, who is a few months older than Harris, bought at least two of the guns used in the shootings.

At 18, Anderson could have legally purchased long guns — the two shotguns and/or the carbine — used in the killings. She would have to be 21 to legally buy a handgun, such as the TEC-DC 9, the fourth gun used, which can hold a 32-round clip.

But Glass said he has seen many young people buy handguns at gun shows — no questions asked.

The TEC-DC 9 could have been bought from a private individual, he said.

All that would be required is to "whip out a wad of cash and shake hands. Or not. It's cash and carry,"

Glass said.

Criminals frequent guns shows because there is little enforcement of the Brady Law at them, he said.

And the law, which requires gun dealers to run background checks on potential buyers, is easy to skirt.

Only federally licensed firearms dealers are required to run background checks. It is legal to engage in the occasional sale of a firearm without a license if selling guns is not your primary business, according to federal law.

"The way the law is written, you can sell whatever you want off-paper as long as you don't make a living at it," Glass said.

Even that "is routinely ignored," Glass said. "There are quite a few guys who make a living selling guns off-paper week after week."



Anderson

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Off-paper means no license, no background check.

Off-paper dealers at gun shows sometimes signal their business practices at their booths by posting signs such as: Private Collection; No Paperwork; or Private Sale.

ATF spokesman Larry Bettendorf said the law concerning sales by unlicensed dealers is fuzzy.

Also, it is hard to enforce. The ATF does not conduct regular investigations at gun shows.

Guns shows are "difficult to work because of the sheer numbers of people in there," Bettendorf said. "We have to have a target."

Last year, U.S. Rep. Diana DeGette introduced a bill that would clamp down on gun show sales after one of her staff members bought an SKS assault rifle at a Tanner Gun Show, no questions asked.

The license loophole has turned gun shows into a "free-for-all that allows everyone to circumvent Brady," a DeGette spokesman said Tuesday.

It's common for young women to buy guns for boyfriends — at gun shows and stores, Glass said.

"The classic MO (method of operation) is a young woman and four or five gangbangers, pointing out the gun they want her to buy. It's classic, classic. I see it all the time," he said.

Bettendorf agreed. "It's something we see. And it's not only at gun shows."

From Glass' gun-show observations, some dealers will refuse to make such sales.

"Other dealers will sell their mother for a nickel," he said.

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1711

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

To charge in would be fatal, futile, says cop who fired on gunman

By Steve Myers

News Staff Writer

There he was.

The killer, dressed in black, appeared in the shattered doorway window at the southwest entrance to Columbine High School.

Muzzles flashed. Bombs exploded. Fleeing students shrieked as bullets and shrapnel pierced the air.

Motorcycle cop Paul Smoker shot back.

"I was scared," the Jefferson County sheriff's deputy said Tuesday, staring down for a moment at his knee-high black boots.

Then he gazed at the boarded-up windows of the school and pointed to the grassy slope where he had crouched during the gunfight a week earlier. And he addressed the criticism.

"People who weren't there don't understand," he said. "It was unbelievable craziness."

Tuesday was Smoker's first day back on the job.

As he told his story, a crowd of 150 massed around a memorial cross on a nearby grassy knoll, marking 11:21 a.m. with a moment of silence.

Smoker, 32, was the second officer to arrive at the scene and one of two to trade shots with the killers. It was the first time in his 11-year career that he has fired his gun in the line of duty.

He's keen to criticism that he could have, should have, done more to stop America's deadliest school shooting.

"If you run into something like that, you're dead," he said. "I can't help anyone if I'm dead."

April 20 started as a typical day in a typical neighborhood for a typical cop. He was writing a speeding ticket when the call for help came in.

"I didn't think much of it," he

said. "The dispatcher said there was a girl down. I thought someone had fallen."

What he found was a war zone.

"Bombs were going off, shots were being fired," he said, describing the wails of wounded students and the chaos of children fleeing death. "You can't imagine it."

He dumped his Kawasaki police motorcycle 200 yards from

the school and, with his handgun drawn, followed a police cruiser driven by Deputy Scott Taborsky.

The cruiser had circled in front of a wounded student when a gunman appeared at the door.

The killer opened fire on Columbine's in-school deputy, Neil Gardner, who was 25 yards from Smoker, hunched down in the parking lot behind his patrol car.

All Smoker remembers is that

the gunman was tall, wearing black, and firing a gun.

Smoker stepped out from behind the cruiser.

He fired three, four, maybe five times. He doesn't know exactly how many. Investigators still have his 9 mm Glock as evidence.

"It would have been a hell of a shot to hit the guy with a handgun from 200 feet," he said.

Then the gunman was gone, and Smoker started rescuing children.

"We're trained to save people," he said. "It makes me so mad that people say we should have charged into that building."

"Nobody wanted the kids to die. Nobody wanted the teacher to die," he said, looking at a soccer field fence filled with roses, lilies and messages to the dead.

"It just happened."

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1712

STUDY

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Rips gun shows

It recommends ways to stop illegal sales

By David Olinger
Denver Post Staff Writer

A 1999 federal study called gun shows "forums for illegal firearms sales" and recommended a series of measures to stop felons and juveniles from acquiring weapons at the shows.

The study was issued in January, weeks after an 18-year-old woman reportedly acquired weapons at a Colorado gun show that were used last week in the shootings at Columbine High School.

On Tuesday, as President Clinton responded to the massacre with a sweeping gun-control plan that includes stricter regulations of gun shows, a Colorado gun show was abruptly canceled for the second time in two weeks.

'Due to the politics'

Last week, Tanner Gun Shows called off its monthly show at the Denver Merchandise Mart in the wake of the Columbine massacre. This week, a Jefferson County gun show was canceled by its sponsor, who left a recorded phone message saying it was "due to the politics in Denver at this time."

Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris, two Columbine seniors, took four guns into the Jefferson County high school, killing 13 people and wounding more than 20 others before they took their own lives. Investigators believe Klebold's 18-year-old girlfriend purchased some of those guns at the Tanner show in November or December.

The gun-show study was undertaken last November at Clinton's request and conducted by the Treasury and Justice departments and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, a Treasury agency. It found that 25 to 50 percent of the vendors at the nation's 4,442 gun shows in 1998 do not have federal firearms licenses and therefore are not required to record buyers' names or check if they have criminal records.

The unlicensed vendors are generally known as collectors and often sell weapons at tables next to licensed gun store owners who are required to keep records and perform background checks on every sale.

"Many non-licensees entice potential customers to their tables with comments such as, 'No background checks required; we need only to know where you live and how old you are,'" the study said. "Although the majority of people who visit gun shows are law-abiding citizens, too often the shows provide a ready supply of firearms to prohibited persons, gangs, violent criminals and illegal arms traffickers."

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Probes of illegal activities

The authors of the study reviewed 314 recent investigations of reported illegal activities at gun shows nationwide.

Among their findings:

■ In 1993, the ATF found that a licensed firearms dealer in Tennessee had altered the serial numbers on more than 7,000 weapons, then resold them to unlicensed dealers who sold them at gun shows and flea markets in North Carolina.

■ In 1994, the ATF found a licensed dealer had made 1,700 unrecorded gun sales to unlicensed buyers, who took them to "swap meets" in California, where they were acquired by gang members from two cities. Many were ultimately recovered from people who had used them to commit murders and other violent crimes.

■ Investigations of gun-show patrons found considerable evidence of illegal trafficking, including 44 people who had acquired an average of 59 guns each and one man who "had 53 crime guns traced to him."

More than half of all gun-show investigations involved people suspected of dealing without a license in the guise of selling personal collections. Gun purchases by convicted felons was the No. 2 cause of gun-show investigations, followed by illegal sales of restricted weaponry such as machine guns, silencers and grenades.

Gun-show promoters fear a federal crackdown would merely drive private sellers to other places, such as newspaper ads or yard sales.

But gun-control advocates welcomed Clinton's proposals, saying that too many people have come to recognize gun shows as profitable places to deal firearms without a license or a trace of the buyers.

"You have more and more unlicensed dealers there to sell their wares," said Bob Walker, president of Handgun Control in Washington, D.C. "I went to one down here in Virginia. The person who was selling all the assault weapons had a sign posted there saying, 'I'm selling from my private collection.' No paperwork, no questions asked, cash and carry."

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1713

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

Marines turned down Harris

Killer on psychiatric medication

By Mark Obmascik,
Peter G. Chronis
and Marilyn Robinson
Denver Post Staff Writers

Five days before the Columbine High School massacre, the Marine Corps rejected killer Eric Harris' bid to enlist because of medical reasons, officials confirmed Tuesday.

The son of a retired Air Force pilot, Harris had cleared two preliminary screenings with a Marine recruiter this month. But after meeting with Harris and his parents April 15, the Marines disqualified the teen from military service.

Meeting at Harris home

"It was a follow-up meeting at Eric Harris' parents' home, with his parents present in the evening time," Marine 1st Lt. Jeff Sammons, a spokesman in Quantico, Va., told The Denver Post. "It was disclosed at that time that he had a medical disqualification . . . and (we) informed Eric he was not eligible for enlistment in the Marines."

The Marines refused to disclose the reason for Harris' disqualification. But one family friend said he was told that Harris was being treated with psychiatric medication, a factor that would prevent him from serving in the military.

No drugs or alcohol was found in Harris' blood during an autopsy, police said.

On April 20, Harris, 18, and his best friend, Dylan Klebold, 17, stormed into Columbine High School with four guns and dozens of bombs, killing 13 people, wounding 23 others and then fatally shooting themselves.

The disclosure of Harris' attempted military service, which began when the Marines contacted him April 2 on a routine recruiting call, complicates efforts to understand why the teens launched their savage school attack.

Detailed journal

At the same time Harris wrote a journal detailing a year-long plot to kill 500 classmates, he and Klebold made plans for a new and promising life after high-school graduation.

One week before the killings, Dylan Klebold and his father, Tom, toured the University of Arizona and put down a deposit on a dorm room for the fall semester, a friend said.

"They spent five days together there and had a great time," said the friend, Victor Good. "The Klebolds are the best parents you

Please see **SHOOTING** on 16A

SHOOTING from Page 1A

could ever imagine, and that's going to be the nightmare of this whole thing."

On April 17, Good's son, Nathan Dykeman, shared a prom limousine with Klebold, another student and their dates. He said the group was trying to figure out how to stay in touch during college. The friends even talked about a reunion, he said.

Good said Klebold's parents, Tom and Sue, are "in shock. It's the horror of all horrors. They knew a different kid than the monster in the school."

Meanwhile, officials confirmed Tuesday that the search for new suspects is focusing on how the teenage killers amassed their arsenal of guns.

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Some leads

"We do have some leads on some of the gun-transfer stuff that may lead to some arrests," said Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone. "I told (lead investigator Lt. John Kiebusch) I'd like an arrest by Friday. He said, 'I'll see what I can do for you.' But it's kind of putting the pressure on him."

The sheriff declined to name a suspect but noted that investigators now believe they know who sold a handgun used by the two killers.

State law prohibits the sale of a handgun to anyone younger than 18. In their April 20 rampage, Harris and Klebold packed a modified version of the banned Intertec TEC-9 semiautomatic handgun.

Investigators have refused to say who supplied the handgun to the teen killers.

"There is a trace. We're not talking about that," Stone said. "We did have a call from an attorney earlier today regarding someone in the weapons chain who wanted to sit down with our investigators to discuss the case."

After interviewing Klebold's 18-year-old girlfriend Monday, the Jefferson County district attorney's office said the woman bought three of the four guns used in the attack but apparently not the handgun. Police said Tuesday that the woman is a witness but not a suspect.

174A-DW 57419 381

1714

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

One week after the killings, TV and radio stations across Denver fell silent for 30 seconds Tuesday at 11:21 a.m. Bells tolled at dozens of churches.

Investigators also paused to commemorate the tragedy but quickly returned to work. More than 150 detective and officers now are working on the case, which figured prominently in an anti-crime package proposed Tuesday by President Clinton.

At the beginning of the day, police reported receiving 377 "good leads" on the case. By late afternoon, 260 had been assigned to investigators.

At the Hugh M. Woods hardware store at 4950 S. Kipling St., a customer-service worker told deputies he saw two boys he identified as Harris and Klebold buy propane tanks, wire, screws, nails and duct tape. Authorities said those types of materials were used in the 67 bombs found unexploded at the high school, in Klebold's car and in Harris' home.

Copied keys

The employee said he also copied keys — marked "Do Not Duplicate" — for the two teens. Police earlier confirmed they've been searching for a missing set of keys to the school, which authorities speculate may have allowed the killers to carry so many bombs into the school before the attack.

"For the last three months, I bet they came in more than a dozen times," said Gary Sowell, 50, the hardware worker. "They were buying the same things, pretty much the same things. That's what got my attention."

"Believe it or not, they said they were for school. I didn't pursue it any more than that."

"I duplicated some keys for them, two sets of keys. On the keys it said, 'Do Not Duplicate.' I knew they were security keys, but I didn't question them. They brought in a set of five keys."

The hardware worker said he

copied the keys because "after a while, you get to know the schools, and you know it's common for teachers to do that, so you don't check on them."

Jefferson County Sheriff's Sgt. Jim Parr said, "That's one of the leads we're definitely looking into. That will be thoroughly re-searched."

Another alleged sighting of Harris was reported by a Colorado Springs gun-shop owner, who said

the teen and some friends tried to buy a machine gun from him. But police said a video security camera in the gun shop had taped no pictures of Harris.

"There's no indication that they are our suspects at all," said Jefferson County sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis.

Denver Post staff writers Patricia Callahan and Kieran Nicholson contributed to this report.

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Denver, CO
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Harris - Klebold on
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Teacher's daughter blames SWAT team

By Arthur Hodges
Denver Post Staff Writer

The daughter of a teacher gunned down at Columbine High School last week is laying blame on the police SWAT team sent to get him out.

Angela Sanders, daughter of William "Dave" Sanders, said police forced two students who were helping her father after he was shot to leave him behind as they evacuated the school.

"It really makes me mad because we know he could have made it," Sanders said. "From the people that we've talked to and the things that we know, they could have saved him."

Sanders made the comments on a "Leeza" show devoted to the Columbine tragedy that was taped in Los Angeles on Tuesday. The show will air on KUSA-Channel 9 at 11 a.m. today, said Ron Sato, a show spokesman.

The Sanders family is also raising questions about the more than three hours it took rescuers to get to the classroom where Sanders was bleeding to death.

"Some of his daughters are angry," said Melody Smith, a sister-in-law of Sanders, who was substituting for a science teacher last Tuesday. "They feel like, had they gone in and gotten Dave out sooner, he would have lived."

Law-enforcement officials say they did not send the police into the second-floor classroom sooner because they feared the two gunmen were still shoot-

ing inside the building. Sacrificing the lives of police officers would not have helped anyone, said Sgt. Jim Parr of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department.

"You just can't run blindly down a hallway, not knowing that you're running by doors that may contain gunmen," Parr said. "They also had bombs they had to deal with."

Sanders has been widely hailed as a hero in the wake of the massacre. As



Angela Sanders

suspects Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold entered the school and opened fire, Sanders began yelling for students to get down.

Sanders was shot twice in the chest as he guided a large group of students to the shelter of a science classroom. There, students tore off their T-shirts and pressed them to his wounds.

Smith said the family does not blame the rescuers but questions whether law-enforcement agencies have an effective policy for such a crisis.

Angela Sanders gave a harsher assessment. She said that two boys broke legs off a table and fashioned them into a gurney for Sanders. But when SWAT team members arrived to escort them from the school, they made the pair leave her father behind, she said.

"They wanted to take him out when they left, and the SWAT team wouldn't let them. The SWAT team captain is quoted as saying, 'The SWAT team is for the living and the walking.'"

Angela Sanders could not be reached Tuesday.

Staff writers Mark E. Nicholson and The Ne contributed to this report.

Critical officer placed on leave

By Kirk Mitchell
Denver Post Staff Writer

The Westminster police officer who criticized the Jefferson County SWAT team for what he called a "pathetic" response to the April 20 massacre at Columbine High School has been placed on non-disciplinary administrative leave.

"It's not being implied that he did anything wrong," Westminster police spokesman Dan Mayer said. "This is generally done until (supervisors) decide what they want to do."

Officer Randy Patrick, who declined comment Tuesday, will be paid during the indefinite leave, Mayer said. He said he didn't know whether Patrick requested the leave or if it was imposed.

On Friday, Patrick told a Denver

Post reporter it was "pathetic" to see SWAT officers stationed outside the school with shields and body armor while seniors Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, finished their bloody rampage.

But Westminster Police Chief Dan Montgomery said Patrick withdrew his criticism Monday after meeting with the chief and two supervisors.

"Given some additional facts, Randy's feelings now are that Jeffco's actions were appropriate under the circumstances," Montgomery said Monday. "His perceptions are different today than they were Monday."

Patrick, a field training officer, has been with the Westminster Police Department for 12 years.

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1716

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BA •



Lance Kirklin, 16, shown at a much happier moment, is now fighting to recover.

Teenager hit in left jaw on the mend

By Cindy Brovsky
Denver Post Staff Writer

Columbine High School sophomore Lance Kirklin still can't speak or breathe on his own, but he can give therapists the thumbs-down sign when the pain gets unbearable, his doctors said Tuesday.

Kirklin, 16, suffered four injuries in last week's shooting — including a life-threatening, point-blank blast to his left jaw and another shot that severed an artery in his leg.

The teenager easily could have bled to death from the injuries, said Dr. Stephen Batuello of Denver Health Medical Center, who reconstructed Kirklin's left jaw.

"The emergency room literally saved him," Batuello said.

Kirklin has undergone five surgeries with nearly 30 surgeons. A bullet is still lodged behind his left knee, and there are shotgun pellets in his chest.

"Considering his injuries, Lance is making a remarkable, rapid recovery," said Dr. Earnest Moore, chief of surgery and trauma service at the hospi-

But Moore cautioned that Kirklin remains in critical condition. He has had fluid in his lungs, and reconstructive surgery on his jaw could take as long as two years to complete.

Still, the doctors are optimistic that Kirklin will recover. On Tuesday, therapists began working with Kirklin as he lay in bed to rehabilitate his leg injury.

Dr. Wade Smith said the teenager gives his therapists the thumbs-up or thumbs-down sign when doing the exercises.

"Like all good teenagers, he gives us a sign if there is displeasure where we are poking him," Smith said.

The doctors said they are outraged by the Columbine High tragedy.

"My greatest emotion this week is anger that this happened," said Moore, the father of two teenage sons.

Smith initially didn't know the victims coming to Denver Health were part of a high school shooting.

"It looked like a terrorist attack," Smith said.

Many students have left messages for Kirklin in a guest book provided by the family.

"Lance has worked hard to overcome adversity," said a statement from his parents, Dawn and Mike, and sister, Amanda. "Though he is unable to speak at this time due to the nature of his injuries, he has indicated tremendous sadness and concern for the others affected by this tragedy."

"We know that Lance has many challenges to address, and we count on and ask for your continued prayers and support in the months ahead for all students and families affected."

Those who wish to help the family can send contributions to: The Lance Kirklin Fund, FirstBank of Arapahoe County, P.O. Box 2297, Littleton, Colo. 80161.

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1717

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Striker patches for igniting bombs suggest rampage carefully planned

By Gary Gerhardt
News Staff Writer

The Columbine High School killers planned carefully for last week's shooting and bombing rampage.

Their preparations even went down to wearing abrasive striker patches so they could ignite match head fuses on their pipe bombs with a stroke of the arm.

More than 50 homemade bombs, some powerful and sophisticated, others crude and simple, exploded or were recovered in the investigation.

• **Cap. Phil Spence of the Arapa-**

hoe County Sheriff's Department said the bombs were made of carbon dioxide canisters, galvanized pipe or metal propane bottles.

Many, he said, were primed by matches stuck in one end of the pipes. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold lighted the matches by rubbing the heads over striker strips as they walked through the campus.

Some of the bombs were more sophisticated, equipped with timing devices, such as one in a backpack that exploded near South Wadsworth Boulevard and Ken Caryl Avenue as a diversion minutes before the rampage.

"They may have been crude in some ways, but I saw one that blew a hole clear through a wall in the library," Spence said.

When authorities realized explosive devices were being used, as well as guns, members of the Arapahoe County, Jefferson County and Denver Police Department bomb squads formed a single unit to sweep through the building and neutralize the unexploded devices.

Details of how the bombs were made and what explosives or shrapnel they contained haven't been disclosed, but it's believed most were made of materials lo-

gally purchased at hardware stores.

"Our bomb squad responds on 60 to 70 calls a year on the average," Spence said.

"Some are only suspicious packages, but a number are pipe bombs because they are so easy to make."

It's believed Harris and Klebold may have learned bomb making from the Internet, where rather simple and inexpensive methods can be easily obtained.

A quick search uncovered one site that gives an eight-page menu of explosive devices that can be made by amateurs.

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Whether Harris and Klebold were associated with other known bombers in the metro area hasn't been established, but Littleton police spokesman Dan Stocking said it isn't believed the pair knew a youth who blew up a footbridge in South Platte River Park last May.

"It was a teen-ager in the neighborhood and we got consent to search his home and found another pipe bomb in the closet," Stocking said.

That bomb was 16 inches long with about 200 cement nails and ball bearings around the explosive sealed by silicon caulk.

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1718

Critically injured teen fights back

Lance Kirklin 'remarkable,' doctors say

By April M. Washington

News Staff Writer

Lance Kirklin is the closest thing to a miracle his team of surgeons has seen in years.

The Columbine High School sophomore arrived at Denver Health Medical Center last week bleeding from five wounds in his face, chest and legs.

Lance, 16, has since made a remarkable recovery, his doctors said Tuesday during an afternoon news conference at the hospital.

"One of the characteristics that linked all the victims was multiple gunshot wounds, and Lance typified that like no other," said Ernest E.

Moore, chief of surgery and trauma service at Denver Health.

"He has been a remarkable and courageous patient."

Moore cautioned that Lance's condition remains critical.



Kirklin

Mike and Dawn Kirklin, the teen's parents, released a statement Tuesday expressing their gratitude.

"We know Lance has many challenges to address," the Kirklins said. "And we count on and ask for your continued prayers and support in the months ahead."

Lance, who loves fishing and hiking, was one of the most severely injured among the 23 victims wounded after two teen-age gunmen attacked Columbine last week, doctors said.

Lance has undergone about 28 hours of surgery. More than 30 surgeons have spent three days reconstructing his jaw and right and left legs.

"He is fortunate," said Dr. Stephen G. Batuello, who performed surgery Saturday to reconstruct the left side of Lance's jaw. "Had the bullet to his face traveled 2 centimeters in either direction, he may not have made it."

The left side of Lance's jawbone was shattered after he was shot point-blank with a 12-gauge shotgun, doctors said.

Two 9 mm slugs shattered the femur in his right leg into 20 pieces and hit a major



Dr. Stephen Batuello, who performed jaw reconstruction surgery on Lance Kirklin, points to X-rays of the injuries on Tuesday.

blood vessel. Bullets struck his left leg and hit him in the chest, piercing his lung, causing fluid buildup.

Three pellets remain lodged in the teen's heart. His throat remains swollen and he's unable to speak.

Doctors inserted tubes in his throat to assist his breathing, his surgeons said.

"He's alert and able to communicate by moving his thumb up or down," said Dr. Wade R. Smith, who operated on his right leg.

Rehabilitation and further reconstructive surgery of his face could take up to two years, Batuello said.

"It's a testament to his will to fight through this type of injury," he said.

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Rocky Mountain News

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New Kind of Terror

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"When you have an active shooter going after people at random — a shooter with a plan," he said, "that's completely different than your typical barricade hostage situation."

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1720

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

SWAT teams face new kind of terror

Squads trained to defuse drawn-out hostage situations had to wing it at Columbine

By Timothy Egan

The New York Times

SEATTLE — After a decade of the largest buildup ever of special weapons squads by American police departments, the siege at Columbine High School has shown many officers a new kind of domestic terror — and one that tests the limits of training and tactics.

Shooters spraying people indiscriminately and setting off bombs in a school are not what most SWAT teams are trained for. While the use of the teams — SWAT is an acronym for special weapons and tactics — has grown nearly tenfold, the units have primarily been used for drug raids and hostage situations.

At Columbine, the SWAT team followed standard procedure by moving very deliberately — and on live television, seemingly extremely slowly — prompting criticism that more lives could have been saved if they had moved more quickly.

The Colorado police dispute that contention. But in the wake of at least a half-dozen multiple-victim school shootings in the past 18 months, some SWAT units have changed their planning. For these agencies, the student with an arsenal is now considered a more likely threat than an outside terrorist.

"We've got blueprints now of every single school in this county, which we keep inside the SWAT vehicles," said Maj. Steve Ijames, who heads a SWAT unit for the Springfield, Mo., Police Department. "We're preparing for this very thing to happen. We're training other jurisdictions in this. And when it does happen, we are ready to go."

Most SWAT teams are trained to follow a deliberate process, usually establishing a perimeter of officers around a site, then taking steps to free people held hostage, as was done in Colorado.

The violence at Columbine, which left 15 people dead, presented officers with what they call an "active shooter," someone who is not holed up but is on a killing offensive. Time, usually an ally of a SWAT team, works against them in such a case because the shooter is trying to kill as many people as possible.

"This certainly will go down as the worst-case SWAT scenario of the century,"

said Larry Glick, executive director of the National Tactical Officers Association, which provides training for hundreds of police agencies. Ijames, who teaches SWAT tactics to officers from around the country, said one of the lessons of the Columbine shooting is that elite police units should be trained in new strategies.

"Surrounding a school may not be the best thing to do," Ijames said. "The goal should be to take out the hostage-taker."

Steve Davis, a spokesman for the Jefferson sheriff's office, said SWAT members from at least four different police jurisdictions were able to surround the school, pre-

vent the shooters from escaping, and saved many lives by quickly moving police officers inside.

Four elements — two active shooters, numerous deaths and injuries, hundreds of bystanders and a sprawling location — combined to make Columbine a SWAT unit's worst nightmare, Glick said.

"The question is: Why didn't SWAT move in faster?" Glick said. "If I was a parent at that school, with my child inside, I'd be asking the same thing. But I think you have to give the police in Colorado credit. It's a wonder they did as well as they did."

Attorney General Janet Reno, asked about the police response, praised the investigation but did not elaborate on SWAT details.

David Klinger, a former Los Angeles police officer who is a professor at the University of Houston and studies SWAT teams, gave qualified praise to the Colorado police. "Clearly, what they had was a dynamic event where SWAT had to go in and do what they don't like to do — respond quickly without getting all the information," he said. "In this situation, officers need to ratchet things up and respond a lot more quickly than they normally would."

The tactical officers association has trained members of the Littleton and the Jefferson County SWAT teams involved in the Colorado case. The association director, Glick, defended their actions. "When you see these people at Columbine called cowards — that just turns my stomach," he said. But he added that the Columbine shootings were likely to prompt changes in how the teams are trained.



Hal Stoezler/News Staff Photographer

SWAT team members prepare to enter Columbine High School in Jefferson County April 20 after two students went on a deadly shooting rampage at the school.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Rocky Mtn. News

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Denver Rocky Mountain News

Wednesday, April 28, 1999

Teen gunmen had him fooled, magistrate says

By Benny Morson

News Staff Writer

A Jefferson County magistrate says he was fooled by Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold when they appeared before him more than a year ago on charges of breaking into a car.

"They were, 'Yes, your honor, no, your honor,'" Magistrate John DeVita recalled Tuesday of the appearance by the pair on March 25, 1998.

The two were allowed to enter juvenile diversion, a program in which charges are dropped in return for participation in anger

management classes, community service and drug testing.

DeVita said he was so concerned about his connection to the case that he listened to tapes of his courtroom exchanges with Klebold and Harris.

"I have to make a determination, for my own satisfaction and my own peace of mind — if I missed something I missed something," he said of his reason for reviewing the tapes Monday.

But DeVita said he came across no "red flags" in the five-minute exchanges. They were sandwiched amid two dozen or more cases considered more serious.

Both teens were accompanied by their fathers.

DeVita said he considers himself good at judging kids, usually by their attitude. This time, he thinks he was fooled.

"Looks like it," he said. "When I'm fooled in other cases, I get a second bite at the apple. The more times I see a juvenile, the more likely I am to hit them on the head."

DeVita, who lives in the Columbine neighborhood, said the events of the past week "hit pretty close to home." His daughter goes to Chatfield High School, but friends had children at Columbine.

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Wednesday, April 28, 1999

(Space Below)

Trench Coats proliferate on the Web

By Lisa Greim Everitt

News Staff Writer

More than a dozen variations on the phrase "Trench Coat Mafia" have been registered as Internet domains by Network Solutions Inc.

The names began flooding in the day of the Columbine shooting, said the domain name registry in Herndon, Va.

It's not unusual for cyber-speculators to snatch up domain names related to current events.

Knowing that, Jose Troche, who owns a paging company south of Boston, said he registered trenchcoatmafia.net and .org to keep others from using them.

Troche's database listing says "domain name for sale," but he said Tuesday that applies to some of the other domains he owns — not these.

"First, I'm a minority," he said. "Second, I'm a father. I don't want my children to get on the Internet and see that kind of garbage. Nobody's going to make any money off of this."

Troche said he's been offered as much as \$60,000 for the name.

Early reports that the Columbine suspects published hate material on the Web led thousands to search for those pages last week.

This was not good news for The Trenchcoats, a Seattle-based a cappella singing group whose Web address is www.trenchcoats.com. Its site carries a prominent message: "We are not affiliated with the tragedy in Colorado."

Nor was it good news for Impact Productions, a Florida adult content provider that took down its X-rated pictures after media reports that the Columbine suspects were connected to www.trenchcoat.com.

In a note posted Tuesday, owner James Miles reiterated that he had nothing to do with last Tuesday's events, but unlinked the erotic material because so many children were visiting the site.

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1723

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Youths claimed theft from van was their first crime

Jeffco magistrate questioned two during '98 plea

By Howard Pankratz
Denver Post Legal Affairs Writer

Thirteen months before they killed 13 people at Columbine High School, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold tried to convince a skeptical magistrate they were first-time criminals and would stay out of trouble in the future.

Wayne Harris and Thomas Klebold, the fathers of the two teenagers, were equally adamant during the March 25, 1998, appearance before Jefferson County Magistrate John A. DeVita. The fathers said getting caught breaking into a van in Deer Creek Canyon and stealing some tools didn't mean their boys were hardened criminals.

"We think this was the first time," Wayne Harris said on newly released tapes of the juvenile court hearing. "We are glad he got caught the first time. We haven't had any indication of any other prior problems."

Thomas Klebold said the incident — in which the youths took tools and electronic equipment from the van — was a "rather

traumatic experience."

But "it's probably a good experience that he did get caught the first time. And as far as I can tell, this was the first time," Thomas Klebold said.

DeVita particularly grilled Harris, then a Columbine junior. When Harris said it was the first time he had done anything illegal, DeVita responded: "Why don't I believe that?"

"First time out of the box and you get caught! I don't believe it," DeVita said. "And if I did believe it, then you got to think real seriously about getting another line of income, because you have no future as a thief. It's a real rare occurrence when somebody gets caught the first time."

Both teens pleaded guilty to first-degree criminal trespass, theft and criminal mischief at the hearing for the Jan. 30, 1998, break-in and theft.

The pleas were part of a deal with the Jefferson County district attorney's office. Under the agreement, the two were placed in the DA's juvenile diversion program. Successful completion of the program would result in the charges being dropped and their records being wiped clean.

During the next 11 months, the two teenagers charmed their diversion officers — even while they be-

gan plotting the worst school shooting in U.S. history. At the end of the massacre, Harris and Klebold killed themselves.

DeVita said he reviewed the tapes and the court files on the case to see if he had missed any "red flags." But he said that one 10-minute hearing in March 1998 was the only contact he had with Harris and Klebold.

When he first heard their names

after the massacre, DeVita didn't recognize them. His review of the tapes showed that neither was belligerent. They acted appropriately, were there with their fathers and were very polite, with Harris repeatedly calling him "Your Honor."

There were simply no clues to the brewing bloodshed, DeVita said.

At the time, DeVita recalled, he

was pleased that Harris was working at a pizza shop and that his father had imposed tough curfews on him.

DeVita was more concerned about Klebold, whose grades were in the C to B range.

"I bet you're an A student if you put the brain power to the paper work," said DeVita.

When Klebold wavered about his ability to make good grades, the

magistrate told him he had better shape up fast.

"You've got one year of school left," DeVita said. "When are you going to get with the program?"

"Look at your dad and make him a promise. You look him right in the eye and you make him a promise about whatever you are going to do to get the kind of grades you are capable of."

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From Van was their first
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Crosses for Harris, Klebold join 13 others

By Tillie Fong
News Staff Writer

On top of a hill near Columbine High School, 15 crosses are aligned.

Two bear the names of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold.

Those two crosses drew praise as well as criticism from the steady stream of mourners paying respects.

Each of the crosses bears a name and photograph. Flowers are strewn at their bases. No one was able to say who erected the two new crosses.

On both Eric Harris' and Dylan Klebold's crosses, someone wrote "Hate breeds hate" and "I forgive you."

On Klebold's cross was also the simple question: "Why?"

A number of people stopped to read the sayings, with some adding their own.

Jean Carney, 79, of Denver wrote "May God have mercy on your soul. Sorry we all failed you" on Klebold's cross.

"We allowed all this horrible violence on TV and the movies," he said. "The whole society failed them. . . . I'm glad to see they put something up for them."

Others left notes at Klebold's cross.

One read: "For all those names unspoken and faces unseen, you will never be forgotten and your death was not in vain."

Sharon Dunn, 45, of Littleton was glad to see Harris' cross.

"It says a lot about this community," she said. "The community is willing to embrace these individuals. We are all affected. It's going to affect so many people, and there isn't a hatred held against anybody."

See **CROSSES** on 12A

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Rocky Mtn News

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Wednesday, April 28, 1999

'There is a lot of love here. This is going to heal the community'

CROSSES from 4A

She said it was unusual to see this kind of tribute.

"How many other places would allow this and not have it taken out of the ground already?" she asked.

"There is a lot of love here. This is going to heal the community."

But not everyone liked the additions.

"I don't think it's right to have the killers up here with the victims," said Anna Whitcomb, 21, of Denver. "I don't think they should be recognized. I think it does an injustice."

She wants the two crosses taken down.

"People come here to mourn and to pay respect to the innocent victims," she said. "Dylan and Eric were not the innocent."

Joe Jostes, 15, of Denver knelt before Harris' cross and prayed.

"I just pray that he will come to God and not do stuff like that," he said.

Melissa McBryde, 29, of Denver wrote on Harris' cross: "He is still God's child and is loved."

"Even though he did a horrific thing, God will forgive him," she said.

She approved of the crosses for Harris and Klebold.

"They were hurt as much as anybody else."

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Thursday, April 29, 1999

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH**SWAT team blameless,
Sanders relative says****By Cindy Brovsky**
Denver Post Staff Writer

A relative of slain Columbine High School teacher Dave Sanders said the Sanders family does not believe he would have survived his shotgun wounds if police SWAT teams could have gotten inside the school earlier.

"The end result would not have been any different for David," said Sanders' sister-in-law, Melody Smith. "We put the blame on the two boys who did the shooting, not on anyone else."

But Smith said the family understands why one of Sanders' three daughters, Angela, lashed out at police in a television interview aired Wednesday. She was upset that police had forced two students who were helping her father after he was shot to leave him behind as they evacuated the building.

For nearly three hours, the students tried to stop the bleeding from Sanders' wounds by using their clothes as tourniquets. The boys took family photographs from Sanders' wallet and showed him the pictures to keep him from going into shock, Smith said.

"We were all angry at first, trying to find someone to blame," Smith said. "Each of us will grieve differently."

The family has done several things to comfort the SWAT team. The officers were invited to attend Sanders' funeral Monday, Smith said. This week, they hope to meet with SWAT members who still have questions themselves, she said.

"Some are having a hard time thinking they should have done more or gone in sooner," Smith said. "We personally want to thank them for what they did. The whole community has to pull together rather than pointing a finger."

Smith also asked the community to stop questioning the SWAT team's actions. "We just want everyone to stop badgering them," she said. "They're human. They did the best they could in the situation they were in."

Smith is the older sister of Sanders' widow, Linda. The couple were married for about eight years.

"When I first met him, it was like he had been part of our family from Day 1," Smith recalled. "He treated my sister so wonderful."

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**Sanders'
courage
remembered**

ITEM 2

Dave Sanders will not be forgotten. He touched so many lives over the last 25 years as a coach and teacher, perhaps none more important than the students he saved during some terrifying moments.

Survivors of the massacre at Columbine High School last Tuesday have made it clear — Sanders died a hero.

Sanders, who was 47, will be recognized in an annual award open to Colorado high-school coaches. The Denver Post will institute the first Dave Sanders Colorado Coach of the Year Award in June. The Post will present the award at the conclusion of each school year to the coach who best exhibits Sanders' courage and dedication to youths in athletics.

The Sanders family has been notified and welcomes the opportunity to keep his name associated with Colorado high-school sports.

A Rebels coach and teacher for 25 years, Sanders was one of 13 victims shot and killed April 20 at Columbine in Jefferson County. Most recently the Rebels head coach of girls' basketball, Sanders, a business teacher, also coached softball and track.

— Neil H. Devlin

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Page 1 of 1
Denver Post
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Thursday, April 29, 1999

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

Deafening fire alarm slowed search

By Mark Eddy
Denver Post Staff Writer

The deafening screech of the fire alarms drowned out all other sounds as Denver SWAT officer Jamie Smith ducked through a front door at Columbine High School.

Training called for the men to move quickly toward the sound of people screaming and gunfire because that's where the officers would be needed most, Smith said. But the overwhelming noise forced them to search every room as they moved down the hallway.

"Upon entering the building we never heard any shots, and I believe it's due to the noise of the fire alarm," Smith said Wednesday in his first interview since the April 20 massacre. "It was pretty much impossible to hear anything."

The scene inside the school was chaos, said Smith, who led the first SWAT team into the school within 30 minutes of the first 911 call for help as Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, carried out the carnage.

"There were backpacks lying everywhere; there were shoes that kids had run out of. There were open doors, there were tables tipped over. Desks and chairs that were tipped over. We didn't know where they were, and we had to search every classroom we went by to make sure they weren't in there hiding with more hostages."

They'd been told they were searching for two to six gunmen possibly with body armor and dressed like SWAT teams, he said. Because Smith, who had been at home a mile away doing yardwork, and several of his men were wearing jeans, they were concerned they would be mistaken for the shooters and fired upon by police.

They moved from room to room, looking for anyone they could evacuate while always keeping watch for gunmen they didn't even know if they'd be able to identify.

"One guy would hold the hall with his gun, the



Denver Post file photo / Shaun Stanley

SWAT officers move toward Columbine High after shooting began at the school April 20.

next guy would duck in the classroom behind him, run the walls, look under all the desks and behind the teachers' main desk and the closets, then come right back out and get ready to do the next one. We leapfrogged down the hall trying to clear as many rooms as we could."

Some doors they couldn't open so they peered through windows, knowing they were targets if a gunman was inside. They used tables as makeshift battering rams to enter other rooms. They freed four adults in the three-plus hours they spent in the school but didn't find any students or the gunmen.

Many of the rooms showed evidence the shooters had been there, Smith said.

"They shot up computer screens. There were a lot of bullet holes around the school, a lot of shells dropped on the floor. . . . I think they were running around the school freely until they saw us coming up behind the fire truck."

Although Smith said he believes he and his team did everything in their power to save lives, the fact that people died is a heavy burden, and his thoughts are clouded with doubt.

"I think we did as much as we could as fast as we could, but we'll probably never know."

1727

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

Tough situation greeted SWAT team, officer says

By Mark Eddy

Denver Post Staff Writer

In the week since the Columbine High School massacre, the responding SWAT teams have faced criticism from students, other officers and the public for supposedly not acting fast enough.

But SWAT officers nationwide say it's impossible for the public to know what was being done, and one of the first officers at the scene said he and his team were in the school within 30 minutes of the first shots.

"I didn't even take the time to change clothes, I just threw on a bulletproof vest, a tactical vest, my helmet and my gun," said Denver SWAT officer Jamie Smith. Smith was enjoying a day off mowing his lawn about a mile from the school when a neighbor told him about the shooting.

SWAT teams spend most of their time knocking down doors during drug busts and dealing with one or two gunmen barricaded in a house. But they also train for situations where they must enter quickly and hunt down suspects who are killing hostages, Smith and others said.

"We call them shooting sprees when the suspect is in there taking lives and you don't have time to formulate a plan, you don't have time to wait for the equipment van to get there," Smith said. "It's just chaos."

Smith and his partners — Ken Overman, Ross Monahan, Mark Lewis and Tony Iacovetta — moved from room to room through the school looking for what they were told were two to six shooters who may or may not be students, he said.

"Our philosophy is if we can stop the killing of lives right now, we do it," Smith said. "Typically we take the first few officers on scene, we don't wait for an entire team, and we become the aggressors. We go in, we listen for the sounds of the shooting, the screams, the chaos and we try to track down whoever's doing this."

But listening at Columbine was nearly impossible, he said, because of the blaring fire alarm.

"The alarm was so loud that you couldn't hear any gunshots, you couldn't hear any screaming," he said. "We couldn't direct our efforts to any part of the building because we didn't know where they were. So the tactics we normally would do in this case were defeated by the noise. At that point we pretty much had to search every classroom we went by."

Nothing at Columbine worked in the officers' favor, said Larry Glick, director of the National Tactical Officers Association.

"That incident in Denver ... was truly the worst-case scenario ever encountered by SWAT," he said.

The combination of an unknown number of unidentified shooters moving through a large building with lots of kids being shot or held hostage created something no SWAT team ever wants to face, he said.

We call them shooting sprees when the suspect is in there taking lives and you don't have time to formulate a plan.

Jamie Smith
Denver SWAT officer

said.

Glick, who watched live television reports of the shootings, said it's understandable that the public feels the SWAT officers didn't move in fast enough.

"I watched the first 30 minutes of the live broadcast and even my emotions started to rise, wanting to know why it appeared we weren't doing more," he said.

But he called officers he knew in Jefferson County and was told SWAT teams already were in the building.

Some relatives of Dave Sanders, a teacher who bled to death as SWAT teams moved through the school, and students who tried to help him have criticized police because they took students out first and then carried out the injured teacher.

But the main job at that point is to get uninjured people to safety and then tend to the wounded, Glick said.

The tactical organization is reviewing the response at Columbine as well as the command, control and communications at the scene, Glick said.

"The situation where you have an active shooter with a number of potential victims, we've only experienced that now with the recent shootings at schools over the last three or four years — yet tactical teams have always trained" for that scenario.

Because of durable construction and complex layout, and because they house large numbers of students, schools are ideal for maniacs determined to cause as much death and destruction as possible, said Major Steve Ijames, head of a SWAT unit in the Springfield, Mo.

"You really can't pick a better place than a school," Ijames said.

In the aftermath of the Columbine slaughter, Denver police sent officers to every high school to familiarize themselves with the layout and asked for blueprints of all the schools, Smith said.

Ijames said SWAT teams around the country had better prepare themselves for more school attacks.

They'd "better sit down with pen and paper and figure out a way to counter that type of thing if it happens," he said.

Mark Eddy's e-mail address is wmarkeddy@aol.com.

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Denver, CO

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THE INJURED

Two students who were wounded at Columbine High School last week were released from hospitals Wednesday.

Lisa Kreutz, 18, suffered multiple gunshot wounds to her body in the tragedy. She spent more than a week at Denver Health Medical Center and was allowed to go home Wednesday afternoon.

Michael Johnson, a 15-year-old who also was shot, was released from Centura St. Anthony Central Hospital around 10:15 a.m. Hospital spokeswoman Bev Lilly said he was in good condition.

"He's made great progress, and I'm sure going home will allow him to continue his healing," Lilly said.

Here are the conditions of the others who were injured:

■ At Swedish Medical Center

Richard Castaldo, 17, five gunshot wounds to the chest, back and arm. Condition: fair.

Sean Graves, 15, one gunshot wound to the back, three to the abdomen. Condition: fair.

Anne Marie Hochhalter, 17, single gunshot wound to the chest. Condition: serious.

■ At Denver Health Medical Center

Lance Kirklín, 16, multiple gunshot wounds to the face, chest and legs. Condition: critical.

■ At Craig Hospital

Patrick Ireland, 17, gunshot wounds to the head. Condition: fair.

■ At Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center

Kasey Ruegsegger, 17, gunshot wounds to the shoulder and hand. Condition: fair.

■ At University Hospital

Mark Taylor, 16, gunshot wounds to the arm, body and legs. Condition: good.

■ Treated and released

Brian Anderson, Jennifer Doyle, Stephen Austin Eubanks, Nicholas Foss, Makai Hall, Joyce Jankowski, Mark Kintgen, Adam Kyler, Stephanie Munson, Patricia Nielsen, Nicole Nowlen, Jeanna Park, Valeen Schnurr, Danny Steepleton.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE

■ United Airlines is offering discount tickets and dedicated customer-service assistance for immediate family members, students and faculty affected by the shooting. The special discounted fares are available between Denver and more than 100 cities served by United and United Express.

The fully refundable tickets are valid through May 31. For more information, call 1-800-841-0460.

■ Denver International Airport is offering transportation help for family members and friends arriving on flights during the next several days. Transportation is being provided free or at reduced rates by several rental-car and ground-transportation companies at the airport. The DIA Columbine Family and Friends Transportation Hotline is 303-342-2287, or outside Denver, 1-800-AIR-2-DEN, ext. 2287. The hotline is open between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. MST.

For information on special rates: call United Airlines, 1-800-841-0460; for SuperShuttle, go to the SuperShuttle counter in DIA at level 5; for Avis Rental special rates, call 1-800-557-6689.

■ The Holtze Executive Village in the Denver Tech Center is offering free rooms to out-of-town family and friends of the shooting victims. Call the hotel hotline at 303-290-1219. Denver-area Super 8 Motels will also provide free rooms for families of victims. Call the reservation line at 1-800-800-8000.

■ Local La Petite Academies are offering free child-care services through Friday to those directly affected by the tragedy. Contact the academy director at either of these two locations: 9994 W. Geddes Ave. at 303-978-9515 or 11550 W. Burgundy Ave. at 303-972-1998.

■ AAA Colorado will coordinate travel arrangements for family members returning to Colorado. Call 303-753-8800, ext. 8820, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

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1729

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THE DENVER POST

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

Terror won't fade away

Survivors of library killings paint a picture of horror

By Jason Blevins
Denver Post Staff Writer

Of the more than 40 students gathered in the Columbine High School library on April 20, 10 never made it out alive.

One of them was Isaiah Shoels, whose funeral today marks the final burial for the victims of the deadliest school shooting in U.S. history.

As Shoels is laid to rest, the library survivors continue to grapple with the warlike horror of watching Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold laugh as they executed fellow students.

There is the audiotape of a 911 call from a frantic librarian. Wailing alarms and gunshots are heard as a woman, identified only as Patricia, screams for help and begs students to stay down.

There's the video of 17-year-old Patrick Ireland. His body riddled with gunshots, Ireland slowly pulled himself through a shattered library window, dropping limply from the second floor into the waiting arms of police. The math-whiz basketball player is in critical condition with three gunshot wounds to his head.

There are reports from officers on the bomb squad. Denver police bomb squad officer Alex Woods Sr., the father of two Columbine graduates, was one of the first outsiders to view the carnage in the library.

"What I saw was death and destruction, ugliness and evil, pain and sorrow," he wrote in a cathartic letter to The Denver Post. "But in my mind I could also visualize

what it was the kids were doing prior to this tragic event: homework, chatting about weekend events, flirting. And what kids do. It made me want to hug each one of them as they lay there."

And then there are the words from survivors. Incoherent sobs from some, strangely unemotional accounts from others. But each story details an unimaginable horror.

"They just took off their coats and started shooting," said Byron Kirkland, a 15-year-old sophomore who estimated about 45 students were in the library. "I thought it was a joke."

Time for math

Aaron Cohn, 15, spends his lunch hour in the library, catching up on math homework. It was about 11:20 a.m. when he looked up from his books to see a pipe crashing through a window and exploding on the floor. The freckled sophomore with a mouthful of braces lived through a military ambush in his school's library that Tuesday.

"First they threw a pipe bomb into the library and then they said, 'All the jocks stand up. We are going to kill you,'" he said.

"Nobody stood up."

Cohn whirled around to a girl standing behind him. His shirt was labeled with sports logos. Instinctively, the girl jumped on top of him, covering the shirt as they huddled under a desk.

That girl, Bree Pasquale, a junior at the school, shook and sobbed as she retold her tale outside the school Tuesday afternoon.

Although she was unscathed, her clothes were splattered with blood.

"One of them put a gun in my face, to my head, and asked me if I wanted to die," she said, adding that one of the shooters was wearing a vest full of shotgun shells. "He said he was doing this because people were mean to him last year."

The impact of the schoolyard taunts that Harris and Klebold, both seniors, reportedly said prompted their massacre can be measured by the pair's demeanor inside the library that day.

"It's like they were having the time of their lives," Cohn said. "They said they'd never had so much fun."

"They talked about how long they had been waiting to do this. They'd shoot someone and then start hooting and hollering."

Killers enjoyed themselves

"They were sick," Kirkland said. "They were getting a big joy out of this."

One of the shooters walked up to a girl as she cowered under a desk.

"He leaned over and said 'Peek-aboo,' and he shot her in the neck," Kirkland said.

Cassie Bernal, an 18-year-old senior known to bring her Bible to school, was praying when one of the killers asked her if she believed in God.

"I heard her say yes, and then I heard a shot," Cohn said. She died.

Evan Todd, also a 15-year-old sophomore, was hiding behind the main library desk when the killers

approached him.

"They ... pointed a gun at my head and asked if I was a jock. They said it's revenge time on jocks for making us outcasts," Todd said. "They were asking people why they should let them live. I said I had no problem with them. Obviously I was B.S.-ing for my life, because obviously I have a big problem with what they do."

Shoels, a black senior athlete, was hiding next to Cohn when Klebold and Harris started their bloody rampage. He remembers the killers homing in on Shoels.

"I wasn't looking up, but I saw the gun barrel pointed at my head. They had just shot Isaiah like three times. They kept asking if he was dead and then they'd shoot him again in the head. 'Is he dead?' 'No.' Boom. He was right next to me. They said: 'Look at that (kid's) brains. Cool.'"

Both Cohn and Todd also said the two killers spoke about using a knife instead of a gun.

"Maybe we should start knifing people. That would be funner," Todd said he heard one of the killers say.

After about 45 minutes in the library, Harris and Klebold returned to the cafeteria. The students in the library did not miss their opportunity.

Cohn stepped over several bodies before reaching the door and running.

Denver Post staff writers Ann Schrader, Marilyn Robinson and Diane Carman contributed to this report.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

Page: 1 of 1
Denver Post
Denver, Co

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1730

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Denver, CO

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Poetry of death preceded stabbing

'Goth' teen serving
time for attempted
murder of his father

*"Murder, murder, runs through my mind/
Gets all my thoughts into a bind/
I want to kill, to take a life/
Not with a gun, but with a knife/
I'll cut his throat, it will be a thrill/
At first he'll suffer and then grow still/
Because I made my excellent kill."*

By Susan Greene
Denver Post Staff Writer

Fourteen-year-old Lakewood student David Riddle wrote this poem, "My Excellent Kill," months before he and a friend stabbed his father, Cliff, and left him for dead.

David and his accomplice, Marilyn Morrison, are serving time in state prison for attempted murder in connection with the August 1997 stabbing.

Both Alameda High schoolers considered themselves "Goths" — members of the dark subculture with which last week's Columbine High School killers, Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, are said to have been linked, at least peripherally.

"I knew there was a problem beyond just my son," Cliff Riddle said of the Columbine ram-

page. "If my son had still been at school, he could have been one of those kids.

"People think it's never going to happen to them," he said. "But never say never."

As Riddle tells it, David idolized shock-rocker Marilyn Manson. He emulated Manson's dark cloths, black trench coat and white face make-up.

And, Riddle said, his son was obsessed with knives and death.

"My Excellent Kill" is one of several of David's poems glorifying murder.

In another, "The Knife I Held," he wrote: "I did not mean to stab the man/I needed to feel blood on my hands/... I got him straight in the gut,/I know, I know, you think I'm a nut."

Before his stabbing, Riddle was aware of such poems and of his son's macabre preoccupations.

David had acted depressed and withdrawn.

He dropped out of school. He had been arrested for a burglary. And he had attempted suicide.

Although father and son were attending family therapy sessions before the stabbing, Riddle said he "still sensed we were heading for disaster."

On Aug. 13, 1997, he arrived home from work at a local car dealership and the two teens were waiting for him with 9-inch butcher knives. "Goodbye, Daddy-o," they told him.

Then, Marilyn stabbed him in the back while David stabbed him in the chest.

Both teens ran away and were arrested shortly thereafter.

Riddle managed to call for help. He was in-

jured in his spleen, diaphragm, liver, kidney and lungs. He required 14 units of blood in two operations that night.

More than a year and a half later, Riddle speaks of the incident "like a dream, a nightmare."

Being stabbed is one thing, but by your own son...

"He's a sick kid, what can I say?" he said during an interview Wednesday in his Lakewood apartment.

Riddle has removed David's photo from his billfold.

He twice has visited his son at Buena Vista Correctional Facility, where, now 16, he's serving the second year of his 16-year sentence.

David could not be reached for comment there Wednesday.

Riddle said that he still loves David and has forgiven him but that "some dark voice" still makes his son "unable to fully understand what he did to me."

Immediately after the stabbing, Riddle said, he felt some responsibility for his son's troubles. He wondered if his divorce from David's mother might explain things, or whether he just didn't spend enough time with his son.

Finally, Riddle concluded David is "genetically predisposed" to violence and that, as a father, "I couldn't help this kid."

And so, Riddle is considering suing his health insurance company for "ignoring the signs" and for not better protecting him from his son.

"Ethically, they should have done something," he said. "They should have seen I was in danger."

170A-DA-57419-390

1731

Man gets lawyer in sale of handgun

By David Olinger,
Peter G. Chronis
and Mike McPhee
Denver Post Staff Writers

Authorities believe they have found the man they say sold a banned handgun to the teenagers who killed 12 of their classmates and a teacher last week at Columbine High School.

Sources told The Denver Post on Wednesday that the gun seller has retained a lawyer and wants to negotiate the terms of his arrest regarding the sale of a semiautomatic handgun to killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold.

Call to sheriff's office

Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone confirmed that the lawyer called his office Tuesday and was put in touch with the lead investigator on the case.

"The attorney has contacted us and is trying to arrange a meeting," Stone said Wednesday night. "He just said he had a client. He wanted to know if he could meet with us and discuss the thing before an arrest was made."

Three of the four guns — two shotguns and a rifle — used in the April 20 attack were provided by Klebold's prom date, 18-year-old Robyn Anderson.

Anderson is considered a witness, not a suspect, because under Colorado law an 18-year-old without a felony record can legally buy rifles and shotguns and give them to minors. Sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis called Anderson an "extremely important" witness because she may provide clues into whether anyone else was involved

in the worst school shooting in U.S. history.

It's believed Anderson purchased the guns in November or December at the Tanner Gun Show north of Denver. The federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has requested records of all exhibitors at the show since June, said owner Jimmie Tanner.

Many of the vendors at gun shows are not licensed dealers. Those selling as collectors are not required to keep records, and may sell a rifle or shotgun to someone under 18.

Tanner said he doesn't know how many of the vendors at his shows have federal firearms licenses. Typically, between 100 and 150 vendors come to one of his gun shows, displaying their wares on 600 eight-foot tables.

Authorities believe Harris and Klebold ended their deadly rampage by turning their shotguns on themselves.

The fourth gun, a TEC-DC9 semiautomatic, which can no longer be made in the United States, followed a circuitous route from its Miami manufacturer to the two teenagers, The Post has learned.

Sold five years ago

Its maker, Intratec, sold it five years ago, about the time the Brady Act banned further manufacture of the company's similar TEC-9 and other assault weapons. It was purchased by Zander Sporting Goods, a firearms wholesaler in a small southern Illinois town, which then sold it to a Federal

Please see **SALE** on 9A

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Gun Seller

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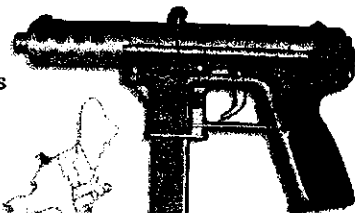
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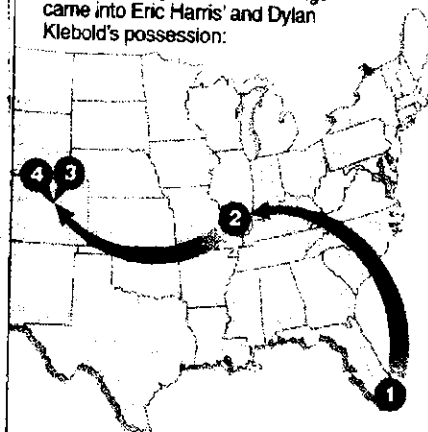
1744-DH-50419

Tracking the TEC-9

How a handgun used in the Columbine High School shootings came into Eric Harris' and Dylan Klebold's possession:



The gun:
Modified version of the TEC-9, a semi-automatic, 9mm paramilitary style with a 36-shot magazine.



1 Gun is manufactured by Intratec Firearms of Miami in 1994.

2 Gun is sent to Zanders Sporting Goods, a distributor in Baldwin, Ill.

3 Gun is shipped to a metro Denver gunstore and sold within the last 18 months to a retail customer.

4 The gun is resold to Harris and Klebold.

The Denver Post

Cops close in on gun seller

FBI/DOJ

1744-DH-50419-392

1732

Banned gun's seller found, sources say

SALE from Page 1A

Heights gun store called Just Guns. The owner of the now-closed store said he then turned the pistol over to an associate to sell on consignment at a Colorado gun show.

Where the TEC-DC9 went next is unclear. But ATF agents tracing its path showed up Tuesday afternoon at the pizza place where Harris and Klebold worked. Sources told The Post that a pizza delivery driver may have introduced Harris and Klebold to the seller of the semiautomatic, now represented by lawyer Robert Ransome.

Ransome denied that any of his clients have been questioned by authorities in relation to the Columbine shootings. He declined to comment further.

The pizza delivery driver could not be reached for comment.

Harris, 18, and Klebold, 17, worked at a Blackjack Pizza in Littleton. Its owner, Christopher Lau, described them as excellent employees who worked as cooks.

"We are cooperating with investigators in every way possible and will continue to do so," Lau said. "I have no comment on the questions being asked by investigators."

A manager of Blackjack Pizza said several ATF agents interviewed Blackjack employees Tuesday afternoon. ATF is tracing the ownership of the guns, Sheriff Stone said.

According to law enforcement authorities, the seller of the TEC-DC9 is most likely to be charged with providing a handgun to a minor.

In this case, the federal charge carries a much more lenient penalty than the state charge.

Penalties differ

Under federal law, the crime is a misdemeanor. Under state law, the crime is a Class IV felony, which carries a jail term of two to six years. If it is sold under "aggravated conditions," such as the seller knowing it will be used in the commission of a heinous crime, the penalty can be 12 years in prison.

Meanwhile, sources said Harris, who was rejected by the Marine Corps five days before the rampage, had been taking the prescription drug Luvox. The Marine Corps denied his application for enlistment because he was taking the medication and had lied about it in an earlier screening interview.

Luvox is prescribed for obsessive-compulsive disorder and depression. Although it is approved by the FDA in the United States only for treating obsessive-compulsive disorder in children and adolescents, it is widely used as an antidepressant in Europe, according to doctors.

The drug, which is among the 10 most prescribed psychotropic drugs, is from a family similar to that of Prozac. It works to make more serotonin — a neurotransmitter chemical that helps to regulate mood and intrusive and repetitive thoughts — available in the brain.

Common side effects include insomnia, diarrhea and headache. Luvox has more of a sedative effect on a patient than Prozac and has not been associated with agitation like Prozac.

If Luvox is suddenly stopped, symptoms quickly intensify and the patient experiences a relapse of the illness.

The Jefferson County coroner's office earlier this week reported that no drugs or alcohol had been found in the bodies of any of the 15 who died.

"Normally that means they found no evidence of prescription drugs or drugs of abuse, including

We are cooperating with investigators in every way possible.

Christopher Lau
Pizza shop owner

alcohol," said Dr. Michael Dobersen, Arapahoe County coroner.

If Harris was on a psychiatric medicine, Dobersen said it would require special testing. The tests can still be done if they weren't done initially, he added.

In other developments Wednesday:

■ Thirty-five investigators now have more than 600 leads to follow. About 40 state and local evidence technicians and investigators are still working inside Columbine High School.

■ A videotape retrieved from a security camera in the cafeteria is still being reviewed by authorities in Quantico, Va., but Jefferson County authorities doubt it will identify any new suspects.

■ Investigators are checking unexploded bombs and fragments for fingerprints besides Harris' and Klebold's, Stone said.

■ Three men detained outside Columbine during last week's rampage were questioned, but are not considered suspects. The men, dressed in camouflage pants and wearing black coats, claimed they heard reports of the shooting on the radio and were just curious.

■ Five pathologists who performed autopsies on the 15 bodies walked through the building Wednesday with crime-scene and ballistics experts.

"We met to try to piece together what may have happened," Dobersen said.

The trail of the TEC-DC9 begins in Miami, where Intratec made thousands of semiautomatic pistols just before the September 1994 ban on assault weapons took effect. Zander Sporting Goods, a wholesale distributor in the tiny Illinois town of Baldwin, confirmed that ATF called last week to ask about a TEC-DC9 it had sold to a Colorado firearms dealer.

The buyer was a former Federal Heights gun store, whose owner said Wednesday that the semiautomatic the two youths used in the Columbine High tragedy had once been his.

"It was my gun," said Royce Spain, who closed his store, Just Guns, at 2695 W. 92nd Ave., No. 3, about a year ago.

Sold by friend

Spain said he personally didn't sell the gun. "Someone working for me did," he said. The gun was sold at a gun show by a friend, whom Spain declined to identify.

"When you surrender your license, all the guns you have left you have to transfer into your own name," Spain said. "I was not able to sell them, so he sold them for me."

Spain said he sold a lot of Interlocks and they were a popular item, although he said he is "not in favor of assault weapons. I didn't like some of the clientele who were buying them. They sort of pushed me out of the gun business. I do believe there is a limit to what we should own. Who are you going to be fighting — an army? We're in America — not Yugoslavia."

Denver Post staff writers Ann Schrader and Marilyn Robinson contributed to this report.

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Thursday, April 29, 1999

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE**Deputies investigate whether killers had keys to the school****By Jeff Kass***News Staff Writer*

Jefferson County deputies are investigating whether either of the Columbine High killers used keys to the school to smuggle in bombs.

Dylan Klebold told one student, who asked to remain anonymous, that he obtained the keys while working on drama productions.

Drama teacher Susan Caruthers did not recall giving the keys to Klebold, and said it would have been difficult for him to make copies.

Hugh M. Woods clerk Gary Sowell has told police he copied security keys for Harris and Klebold.

Caruthers said Klebold did the sound for the production of *Frankenstein* that was performed Halloween weekend.

She did not recall giving the keys directly to Klebold but acknowledged, "It's difficult to remember who had the keys all the time."

Staff Writer Lynn Bartels contributed to this story.

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Thursday, April 29, 1999

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE**Boss: Teens were model employees**

By Burt Hubbard

News Staff Writer

Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold were model employees who showed up for work as usual at Blackjack Pizza four days before their killing rampage at Columbine High School, the outlet's owner said Wednesday.

"Neither Klebold nor Harris gave any indication that they were capable of the horrific acts committed at Columbine High School," owner Chris Lau and co-manager Jason Secor said in a written statement.

Harris and Klebold were working at Blackjack Pizza, 6657 W. Ottawa Place, when Lau assumed

ownership March 8.

They worked three to five nights a week starting at 4 to 5 p.m. and quitting between 8 and 9 p.m., Lau said.

Their last shift was April 16.

"Harris and Klebold performed well in all the duties required by their positions," Lau said. "They were never subject to any disciplinary action."

He said they were cooks who also took takeout orders at the counter.

"They did not deliver pizzas at any time," the statement said.

Blackjack Pizza and its employees are cooperating with investigators.

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Harris told of
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Harris told of ambition to blow up Columbine

Students say attacker was
obsessed with explosives;
investigators study tapes

By Kevin Vaughan, April M. Washington
and Ann Carnahan

News Staff Writers

Eric Harris boasted to friends as long as two years ago that he wanted to blow up Columbine High School.

But none considered it anything more than a teen-age fantasy — until Harris and his friend, Dylan Klebold, stormed Columbine last week with bombs, assault weapons and shotguns.

"Every once in a while, Eric would talk about blowing up the school — but we all talked about blowing up the school, or 'going postal' and shooting someone you're mad at," said Justin Preziodi, 20, who graduated from Columbine in 1997. "But you would never think someone would actually do it."

When the siege was over, Harris, Klebold, 12 fellow students and a teacher lay dead. Another 21 were injured.

Harris' obsession with explosives was a frequent topic of his conversations with fellow students.

"He used to talk about how he found stuff for bombs on the Internet," said Stephanie Hommel, a 17-year-old junior at Columbine. "No one took him seriously."

"He would talk about blowing up the school."

As a more complete picture of Harris' background emerged Wednesday, Jefferson County sheriff's investigators also:

■ Studied several videotapes, including one from the school cafeteria as the attack was in progress, and others showing Harris and Klebold engaging in "Rambo-type action."

■ Cleared three combat boot-clad teens detained outside Columbine of involvement.

■ Linked the purchase of a third weapon used by Klebold and Harris to Robyn Anderson, 18, Klebold's date to the Columbine prom three days before the assault. Investigators earlier said that Anderson had bought two of the four guns used in the assault.

■ Sought to question a co-worker of Harris and Klebold they believe helped the two teen-agers acquire a semiautomatic assault pistol they used at Columbine.

■ Pursued more than 600 leads — some considered very credible.

Investigators were still trying to determine the mind-set of Harris and Klebold before the assault. Sheriff John Stone said Harris' parents and their attorney have agreed to meet with District Attorney Dave Thomas to answer questions.

Klebold's parents met with investigators the day of the assault but have not been interviewed since.

Harris' fellow students said he was pre-

occupied with bombs and war. He used violent themes in creative writing classes and told classmate Rebecca Heins he was excited about the war in Kosovo, said the girl's mother, Margaret Heins.

"He said if we went to war he'd like to be on the front lines so he could kill a lot of people," she said.

Harris wrote "all about guns and violence," but classmates never thought it was serious, she added.

"It kind of shocked me, too," Heins said. "That would be a red flag to me."

Preziodi, who took a second-period Internet class with Harris two years ago, said Harris loved to play a video game called Duke Nukem. In the game, each player tries to kill as many people as possible.

Preziodi said Harris and Klebold often came into the video store in Southwest Plaza where he worked. They favored violent martial-arts movies.

"I know killing is wrong," said Preziodi, who also enjoys violent action movies. "That stuff would never cross my mind. I thought Eric and Dylan knew the difference, too."

Hommel said she usually heard Harris' violent talk in the school's cafeteria. There, in the room he and Klebold tried to obliterate with a large propane bomb, Harris talked about explosives and blowing up the school, she said.

"I'd always tell them that's not funny,"

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Authorities investigate videotapes

SCHOOL from 4A

Hommel said. "In hindsight, if I ever hear anybody talk about that again, I would go to an adult."

Investigators have been busy studying videotapes made by Harris and Klebold.

Sheriff Stone said at least one of the videos shows Harris and Klebold engaging in what he described as "Rambo-type action." He said he could not be more specific.

A source close to the investigation said the tape shows the two performing what amounts to a dry run of the Columbine assault.

At the same time, sheriff's deputy Steve Davis said that three teen-agers, detained outside Columbine shortly after the shooting

Denver Rocky Mountain News

started, had been cleared as potential suspects.

As recently as Tuesday, authorities were skeptical of the story told by the three young men — that they'd gone to Columbine after hearing news of the siege on the radio.

"They are not suspects," Davis said.

Davis said Wednesday that investigators had determined that Anderson bought all three long guns Klebold and Harris used — two shotguns and a 9 mm semiautomatic assault rifle.

Davis termed her a "very important witness" but not a suspect.

"Did she supply the weapons to them with some idea of what they were planning to do with them?" Davis asked. "That's still one of the major things we want to find out."

The one gun whose history was still being traced was a TEC-DC9 semiautomatic pistol.

Stone said investigators believe an employee of a Blackjack Pizza outlet, where Harris and Klebold

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Thursday, April 29, 1999

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

worked, may have acted as a middleman who helped transfer the pistol to the killers.

"Apparently somebody that works at the Blackjack Pizza had put one of the subjects in contact with somebody who had the weapon," Stone said.

The pizza worker could face charges, Stone said.

Jason Secor, co-manager of the Blackjack Pizza, said he doesn't know anything about the recent allegations.

"A lot of rumors abound," Secor said. "We're right now working with and only talking to the ATF and the FBI. I've heard other claims similar to that. But I'm the only manager who's been here for the past seven weeks."

Secor added: "I'm not sure whom they're talking about and I don't know what's really going on. But it's not me."

Among the issues being pursued by detectives was Harris' recent rejection by the Marine Corps after recruiters discovered

he had a medical problem.

Harris, whose father is a retired Air Force officer, was told by a recruiter April 15 that he wasn't fit for the corps.

Harris had been taking the drug Luvox, an antidepressant often used to treat obsessive-compulsive disorder, *The New York Times* and *Washington Post* reported.

Lt. Jeff Sammons, a Marine Corps spokesman, said a recruiter went to Harris' house April 15 and met with the boy and his parents.

The parents revealed that Eric was taking medication for psychiatric problems — grounds for automatic rejection by the Marines.

"His acceptance or nonacceptance into the Marine Corps I don't think has any bearing on what happened," sheriff's spokesman Jim Parr said. "But if he were on medication or not on medication, that would be part of it."

Patients are warned that if Luvox is combined with other drugs, including alcohol, it can cause extreme agitation progressing to de-

lirium, coma and death.

An autopsy found no drugs or alcohol in Harris' body, but did not specify whether the coroner had looked for Luvox.

A Wheat Ridge psychiatrist who is an expert on obsessive compulsive disorders and depression said it was unlikely that Luvox had anything to do with Harris' behavior.

"It's not a killer drug," said Dr. Alan Feiger, who has prescribed it for children and adults. "It's been given to millions of Americans appropriately."

Harris once explained why he wanted to join the Marines.

"He said it's unlike here, where they go for the lowest common denominator, like the teachers helping out the stupid kids," said Brooks Brown, a Columbine senior who knew Harris well. "There, they're going for the best."

News staff writers Karen Abbott, Lynn Bartels, Ann Ince, Tillie Fong and M.E. Sprengbeyer contributed to this report.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Gun buyer known as bright, shy student

Columbine senior 'stunned' by shootings, friend says

By Carla Crowder

News Staff Writer

Why would Robyn Anderson buy three guns?

She was exceptionally bright, taking tough classes such as calculus and Advanced Placement English at Columbine High School.

She had a 4.0 grade-point average and was in the running to be Columbine's valedictorian, said her best friend, Tiffany Burk, 18, a Columbine senior.

And she was identified this week as the gun-buying prom date of Dylan Klebold, 17. He and his pal Eric Harris, 18, used the guns to kill 13 people and themselves in the April 20 Columbine High School killings.



Anderson

On Wednesday, authorities narrowed the connection between Anderson, 18, and the guns.

"We have confirmed at this point that she did buy three weapons, those being the long guns — the two shotguns and the rifle," Jefferson County Sheriff's Department spokesman Steve Davis said.

Burk last spoke with Anderson on April 20, just after the killings.

Anderson was in the school parking lot when the shooting started, possibly headed to lunch, Burk said. Anderson told her friend she spent the aftermath of the shootings huddled in her car for three hours.

"She was actually in the parking lot underneath her car seat because she heard firing," Burk said.

Anderson lives with her mom at the end of a Jefferson County cul-de-sac. Her parents are divorced and she has two older sisters, one a 1997 Columbine graduate who is now in college.

Burk said Anderson and Klebold were pals, confidants. Their relationship was close, but not romantic, she said.

"They were incredibly kind to one another. Dylan had tons and tons of respect for Robyn," Burk said. "She was someone who he confided in."

Anderson and Klebold joined several couples in a limousine for Columbine's April 17 prom.

Anderson told her friend they had a "wonderful time ... and Dylan was being a little more chivalrous that night," Burk said.

Burk, who's been close friends with Anderson since the two met in freshman geometry, said she cannot fathom that Anderson knew of the deadly plans by Klebold and Harris when she purchased the guns.

GUNS from 4A

The shootings left her unbelievably, Burk said.

"She was very shocked, completely stunned."

She recalled Anderson and Klebold joking around about how "the jocks think they owned the school."

Other students say Anderson is shy but pleasant. Normal.

Now that authorities have named her as the source of most of the firepower, she has vanished.

So far, police say, she's a witness, not a suspect.

Supplying guns used in a killing is a violation of federal law. If the

buyer knew the guns were going to be used in a crime, it's a felony.

Agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms said that federal and state prosecutors would work to determine how to handle possible charges against Anderson, but nothing is final.

Troubling questions remain about how much Anderson knew.

In Columbine's senior class photo, she and Klebold have their arms around each other's shoulders, laughing wildly.

Stephanie Hommel, a Columbine junior, was in German class with Anderson and had shared hotel rooms with her during a class trip to Munich in March.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Denver Post

Date: 4/29/99

Edition:

Title: Gun buyer known as bright, shy student

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See GUNS on 32A

"She didn't strike me as a person who would go out and buy guns," Hommel said.

Anderson and Hommel joked around a lot on the trip, talked about everyday stuff — like boys.

John Savage, a Columbine senior who narrowly escaped being shot that day, also knew Anderson.

"She was always pretty nice to me," Savage said.

"I don't think she would have bought them (the guns) if she would have known what they were going to be used for," Savage said.

Why?

"I don't think she hated Columbine."

Anderson's mother, Kay Anderson, teaches elementary school for Littleton Public Schools, spokes-

Thursday, April 29, 1999

woman Karla Langton said.

Langton refused to identify the school, on advice of an attorney.

Neighbors of the Andersons say she and her mother had lived in their home a year or two.

Residents mostly knew of the family because parents of young children got angry about teens, especially boys, speeding in and out of Anderson's driveway.

Other than that, there was never anything suspicious about her, they said.

"She looks as normal as any teen-ager, long blond hair, whatever," said a neighbor who asked not to be named.

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1738

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 4/20/99

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"In my opinion, it was over within 12 minutes after I got there."

Deputy Paul Smoker
second officer on the scene

Gunmen died within minutes

Police accounts show rampage ended before noon, not long after first shooting reports

By Lou Kilzer and Steve Myers

News Staff Writers

The Columbine High School killers were dead for three hours before authorities stormed the library where they lay, the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department said Wednesday.

The department's best estimate is that the shooting ended within 20 minutes of when it began at 11:21 a.m. April 20, sheriff's spokesman Troy Gardalen said.

"In my opinion, it was over within 12 minutes after I got there," said Deputy Paul Smoker, who was the second officer on the

scene, arriving several minutes after the shooting began. He traded shots with one of the gunmen.

Smoker said shooting from inside the school ended after police fired en masse on the second floor

INSIDE

■ Dad's experience as cop saved son's life/34A

of the library, where the killers had taken shots at rescue workers and police.

Police accounts put that shootout sometime before noon.

"It was quiet after that," Smoker said. "The only shots you heard was covering fire we put up for SWAT members and paramedics as they came in and out of the school."

Within an hour of the first reports of shooting, 50 officers were in the school, **Denver** Lt. Frank

Conner said.

But clearing the building took much longer. Many students remained hidden inside, and teacher Dave Sanders lay mortally wounded.

Sheriff's spokesmen have said the caution was prudent. Officers did not know where the gunmen were or how many booby-trapped bombs they were facing.

They did not even know how many gunmen there were and believed an ambush might have been planned, he said.

"Realistically, we can't assume anything, because when you do, that's when people die. That's when you make mistakes," Conner said. "Just because there's no gunfire, that doesn't necessarily mean they've killed themselves. Doesn't necessarily mean the threat still isn't there."

FBI/DOJ

174A DA-57419-402

1739

Denver Rocky Mountain News

Thursday, April 29, 1999

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

Gun show links two slay cases

Rifle in 1995 murders was bought at Tanner

By Dan Luzadder and Kevin Flynn
News Staff Writers

The Columbine High murder investigation isn't the first high-profile case in which the weapons were purchased at the Tanner Gun Show in Adams County.

Four years ago this week, Albert Petrosky killed three people — his wife, a supermarket manager and a Jefferson County deputy sheriff —

using a gun he had purchased at the show, according to Lt. John Kiebusch, who is heading the Columbine investigation.

The Tanner Gun Show operates on a fairly regular schedule in the Denver Merchandise Mart, East 58th Avenue off Interstate 25.

Jefferson County authorities have said that Robyn Anderson, an 18-year-old friend of the Columbine High killers, purchased two shotguns and a 9 mm-carbine rifle at the Tanner Gun Show in November or December.

They haven't made clear how the guns got to Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, or whether they are considering any charges against Anderson.

Agents from the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms have asked Tanner Gun Show officials to supply records including lists of exhibitors from several shows.

While many dealers register with gun-show promoters to rent tables at the several-day events, promoters acknowledge that many private sales also take place around the edges of the shows.

That makes it much more difficult for authorities to trace ownership of guns that are used in crimes.

Petrosky committed suicide in May 1996, two weeks after a jury gave him a life sentence for killing his wife, Terry, Albertsons manager Dan Suazo and Sgt. Timothy Mossbrucker.

Those killings took place two miles west of Columbine High School.

An assault rifle Petrosky used to kill Mossbrucker had been purchased at the Tanner Gun Show.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Security videotape shows terror inside cafeteria

By Kevin Vaughan
News Staff Writer

Some of the mayhem and terror wrought by the Columbine High killers is revealed in a videotape from the cafeteria's security camera.

But the images do not depict the wounding of any of the victims of Eric Harris' and Dylan Klebold's April 20 rampage, said a source close to the investigation.

The first section of the tape shows teacher Dave Sanders entering the crowded cafeteria, where he shouted for students to take cover.

The images depict some of the panic, the source said, and shows people fleeing.

Moments later, the two gunmen enter. The source said it's clear from the images that it was Harris and Klebold.

They set off explosives in the cafeteria, and then they

turned their guns on a large propane-and-camping-fuel bomb in the kitchen that investigators believe could have demolished a large part of the school.

Harris wrote in his diary that he hoped to blow up the school and kill 500 people, police have said.

At one point, the tape showed the duo starting a fire with camping fuel, which triggered the overhead sprinkler system in the cafeteria.

The videotaped images confirm the belief of authorities that Harris and Klebold were the only gunmen in the school the day 15 people were killed and 21 others wounded.

"If we had a third suspect on that videotape, that person would be in jail today," Jefferson County sheriff's Sgt. Jim Parr said Wednesday.

Parr would not discuss the contents of the videotape.

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Parents' worst nightmare: 'It's Dylan'

Family friend helped Klebolds, forced from home by police, through initial shock of finding out their son was a killer

By Lynn Bartels

News Staff Writer

Hour after agonizing hour, Tom and Sue Klebold waited to hear about their son Dylan.

Sheridan police had taken over their Deer Creek Canyon house. The Klebolds and friends hovered outside. Rock formations around the house made their cellular phones nearly useless.

Finally, friend Judy Brown, who had been keeping vigil with the Klebolds, reached her family for an update on the news at Columbine High School.

Stunned, she looked at her friends.

"It's Dylan," Brown said. "They put his name on the TV."

"I think we were just quiet for a while. Everybody was silent. Tom and Sue weren't crying. They were just in shock. We all were."

Nine days have passed since Dylan Klebold and his best friend, Eric Harris, turned the world upside down.

The Klebolds are not talking, on the advice of their attorney. But Brown has been in constant contact with them. She said the couple remains as shocked about Dylan's involvement as they were the first day.

That was April 20. Brown phoned the Klebolds when she learned of the shoot-

ing because of what she heard on TV. She saw a girl who was crying and saying, "It's Eric Harris. It's Eric Harris."

Brown knew the name well. Harris had threatened her family and she had tried to warn the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department that he was violent and obsessed with guns and pipe bombs.

She knew Harris ran around with Dylan Klebold, a boy she had known for years. The Browns' and the Klebolds' sons were about the same age. The families had been close when the boys were youngsters but had seen less of each other in recent years.

Tom Klebold couldn't talk the first time she called. She tried again in 15 minutes.

"I said, 'Do you know what's going on? Are Eric and Dylan still friends?' And he said they were," Brown said. "So I drove to their house. The gate was closed and the police were there."

Sheridan police, who were helping Jefferson County deputies, had taken over the house. Family and friends, restricted to a small area, tried to catch news reports to figure out what was happening. An officer followed the Klebolds and their guests everywhere, even to the bathroom.

"They were very nice, but it was just so amazing," Brown said. "It didn't seem real."

Sheridan police asked the Klebolds about pipe bombs and guns.

"Tom was saying, 'This isn't happening. This is absurd. There's nothing you're going to find. Go ahead and look. I don't care. Dylan's not violent,'" Brown said.

See **KLEBOLD** on 22A

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KLEBOLD from 5A

She said they didn't find anything.

Police eventually made the family go outside.

The Klebolds waited to hear if their 17-year-old son was one of two gunmen killing students at their high school.

"Tom said, 'Judy, if he's part of this, we have to face this — but he's not part of it. He's a good kid.'"

"At the same time," Brown said, "you know Eric and Dylan are friends and you haven't heard from them."

Brown's phone call to her family confirmed their fears. Her husband, Randy, and son Brooks said Klebold's name had been identified on television as one of the suspects.

Brown said after she made the announcement, the couple fell silent.

"Then the police scaled off the house and said it was a crime scene," she said.

The Klebolds considered staying with the Browns that night but realized they needed a more secluded location. They were allowed one trip inside to gather

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what they needed. They took clothes, their bird and two cats.

Media lined the road. The Klebolds drove away first. Brown followed. They went in different directions and hoped it was too dark for anyone to follow.

"When I got home it was 10 o'clock," Brown said. "I think I left for their house at 12:30 (that afternoon). Sometimes, when I think of what happened that day, I just draw a blank."

The next time she saw the Klebolds was four days later at a private memorial service for their youngest son. They wore the

same shocked expressions.

About 15 people attended. They told stories about the Dylan they knew, the Boy Scout and the baseball player, and tried not to dwell on the Dylan they didn't realize he had become.

"It was just really sad," Randy Brown said. "There was an open casket, and Dylan looked just like he always did."

The Klebolds were inconsolable.

"Can you imagine?" Judy Brown said. "They were grieving for their own son and everyone he hurt."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 2 of 2
Denver Rocky Mountain News
Denver, CO

Date: *4/29/91*

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'It's Dylan'

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Brown family photo

Dylan Klebold, left, and Brooks Brown pose for the camera in an undated photo.

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Denver Rocky Mountain News

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE**Society, park district saving items**

By Charley Able

News Staff Writer

Work is under way to archive and preserve the thousands of items gracing impromptu memorials to the victims of the Columbine High School bloodshed.

The offerings placed at as many as 19 memorials and shrines at Clement Park will be inventoried, removed and eventually stored for

posterity by the Colorado Historical Society and Foothills Park and Recreation District.

The park district plans to wait seven to 10 days before removing any items "because we need to be able to move slowly and let people go to the park to grieve," said Edie Hylton, Foothills spokeswoman.

District and Historical Society officials said they recognize the need to preserve the items to help

future generations realize what happened at the school last week. Their representatives spent hours at the site Tuesday trying to gauge the size of the task.

"Each of those donors left a piece of themselves at that site. It became instant history," said Stan Oliner, curator of books and manuscripts for the society.

"Their cards, the handwritten posters, the poems, the pictures:

★ ■ 37A

from Columbine shrines

Each one spoke to victims, they spoke to the people of Colorado. Obviously, they (the donors) were also speaking to themselves, leaving a piece of themselves based around the why and the sheer tragedy."

A permanent memorial could be years away. Oliner and others are faced with protecting the items from wind, rain and snow as well as planning short-term and long-

term storage.

Oliner estimates mourners have placed 4,000 to 5,000 items at Clement Park. The items include letter jackets, jewelry, photos, wind chimes, crosses, freshly cut flowers and, on a hill overlooking the high school where two young gunmen killed 12 of their schoolmates and a teacher, 13 burr oaks are freshly planted in memory of the victims.

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Thursday, April 29, 1994

Denver Rocky Mountain News

World & Nation

e-mail — newsdesk@denver-rmn.c

News Desk — (303) 892-2728

InsideDenver.com/keyword: AP

Two shot in Canadian high school

Space Below

One student killed,
one wounded as teen
opens fire in hallway;
suspect 'unpopular'

By Colin Nickerson

The Boston Globe

In an assault with eerie parallels with last week's murders in Colorado, a 14-year-old student shot two older boys in the hallway of an Alberta high school Wednesday, killing one and critically wounding the other.

50 Miles

Taber

ALBERTA

CANADA

UNITED STATES

MONTANA

News Staff

The ninth-grader, who reportedly wore a blue trench coat, was arrested by Royal Canadian Mounted Police. There was no clear motive for the violence except that the assailant was widely regarded as "depressed" and "unpopular," and had reportedly been regularly taunted by his peers.

Both of his 17-year-old victims were in the 11th grade, and reportedly were only vaguely acquainted with the younger boy.

Canadians, who often consider themselves immune from the gun violence plaguing their southern neighbor, were stunned by the incident at W. R. Myers High School in the small farming community of Taber, about 50 miles north of the border with Montana.

Police refused to divulge the names of either the victims or the suspect. Fellow students described

the shooter as a loner who had few friends and had recently stopped attending classes at W. R. Myers, which has 440 students. He was reportedly in a home-instruction program for troubled students.

"This is a crisis and a catastrophe that no one could even have imagined occurring in small-town Canada," said Sharon Holtman, a mem-

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ber of the school board in the community of 8,000. "It's like a bad dream. Only we can't wake up."

The shooter reportedly offered no resistance when he was taken into custody by an off-duty police officer working at the school. The shootings occurred after he entered the school at lunch hour.

There were conflicting reports on the chronology of events. According to one student, the armed ninth-grader first held a gun to the head of a female teacher, screaming "This is not a joke!" before stalking into the hallway and shooting the students.

"When I walked out of the classroom, I saw his gun right there," Reagan Valgardson, an 11th-grade student, told CTV News. "I asked the guy what he was doing. He told me to get lost." It was unclear whether his gun was a rifle or handgun, and whether he singled out the two victims or shot them at random.

A spokesman for the regional hospital in nearby Lethbridge said the second shooting victim was still in surgery Wednesday night.

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1745

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Officer knew son trapped

Dad's experience on SWAT team helped 16-year-old live through gunmen's attack

By John C. Ensslin

News Staff Writer

Matt Depew huddled behind a barricade of sacks of flour and sugar in a kitchen storage room at Columbine High School last Tuesday.

Inside the room, 17 other people lay on the floor. Outside, two gunmen were shooting at the door, pounding on the walls, demanding that Depew let them in.

"I need you to do me a big favor," Depew whispered into the telephone to Denver police officer John Lietz. "I need you to tell my father I love him because I'm going to die."

Lietz told the youngster not to worry. Help was on the way. Privately, Lietz tried to block out his own fear. His 16-year-old daughter was also somewhere in the school.

Depew and the people in the room with him survived the onslaught by teen-age gunmen Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris. Depew, 16, credits his survival to police tactics he learned from his father, Wayne Depew, a veteran Denver cop and former Metro SWAT officer.

On Wednesday, father and son and Lietz talked publicly about their ordeal for the first time.

Matt Depew said his father had

always taught him to be aware of his surroundings. Matt had been sitting at a table eating lunch when he saw the first victim shot just outside the cafeteria window.

Time froze. He watched in disbelief as the shotgun pellets came out the other side of the victim's shirt.

Matt grabbed a friend by the shirt and pulled him to the ground. Several other classmates were standing, staring out the window. He knocked several of them to the ground.

Then he went looking for a phone, finding one in a cramped, L-shaped storage room. The others — 15 students and two adults — followed him into the room.

He closed the door just as Dylan Klebold entered the kitchen.

Matt could not get through to 911 on that phone, so he called his father's pager.

Wayne Depew, 50, had been dropping a prisoner at police headquarters when he heard the voice message from his son.

"Dad, I need you. There are people coming in here and killing kids," the son recalled saying. "I was begging for my dad to come and save me."

"I was scared to death,"

recalled Wayne Depew, a Denver officer since 1971. He drove to the school, pulling up behind a Jefferson County deputy who was pinned down by gunfire.

He helped load some schoolkids into his patrol car and ordered one to drive it back to the command post.

The father knew his son had been in the cafeteria when the shooting began. Later, one of the adults who worked in the kitchen told him what she knew: All the kids she saw in the cafeteria were dead.

A short time later, a secretary at Denver's District 4 substation told Wayne Depew that his son was alive and on the telephone with Lietz.

He said he didn't believe them. He tried in vain to talk a former colleague in the SWAT unit into giving him a submachine gun. He wanted to go into the school.

The SWAT officer would not give him the gun.

Wayne Depew felt his emotions shift between the clear tactical thinking of his SWAT training and his panic as a parent.

"I was petrified," he said.

In the kitchen, silence reigned but soon led to nervous laughter.

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Matt told them to be quiet. The killers could come back. About 20 minutes later, he said, they did.

"Let us in! We're going to kill you! We know you're in there," one of them shouted.

The killers were so close to the door that Lietz could hear the gunmen firing shotguns and reloading. He could also hear the explosion when they tossed a flash bomb into the kitchen.

While he kept Matt on the line, Lietz got some good news. His daughter had called the station. She was safe.

The gunmen left. Another youngster came to the door. It was a friend of Matt's who pleaded to be let into the storage area. Uncertain if the gunmen were behind him, he reluctantly refused to open the door. The friend later fled the school to safety.

Nearly two hours after the ordeal began, Matt said he heard the voices of SWAT officers. He recognized their jargon, phrases shouted like "shield up" and "clear."

About 45 minutes later, they rammed their way into the storage area. The people in the room spilled out three-by-three. Matt Depew was the last to leave.

He recognized several of the officers, including the one who had

earlier refused to give Wayne Depew a machine gun. The officer now lowered his gun slightly. Matt Depew could see he was crying.

Wayne Depew was standing outside the building when his son emerged. They hugged and both cried.

"I love you," the father told his son.

With his son safe, Wayne Depew had one bit of unfinished business. He strode into the library. He walked past the bodies of students beneath the tables.

He saw one girl with her hands clasped to her chest, as if in prayer. She had a serene expression.

Between two library tables, Depew found what he was looking for: the bodies of Harris and Klebold.

Klebold was lying on his back. Beside him was a 9mm carbine. His black trench coat was off and lay between him and Harris.

Harris was lying slightly on his right side. His feet were next to Klebold's head. Harris wore a belt with a container for ammunition or explosives strapped on.

"I had to know in my own mind that they were dead," the veteran officer said. "I think other people would feel the same way."

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TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

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Officer K...
Son Trapper
04/29/99



Columbine High School student Matt Depew and his father, Denver police officer Wayne Depew, talk about Matt's ordeal during the shootings. Wayne Depew drove to the school to find his son but couldn't get in, while Matt hid in a kitchen storage room.

Steve G. ...
Denver Star Post, 4/29/99

1748

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Parents meet at
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The Denver Post / John Epperson

BREAK TIME: Mark Pautler, Jefferson County deputy district attorney, pauses in Clement Park before holding a news conference there Thursday.

Parents meet at Chatfield.

**By Howard Pankratz
and Kristen Go**
Denver Post Staff Writers

Columbine parents packed the gym, overflowed into the commons area and sat in corridors of Chatfield High School Thursday night listening to what will happen when their students return to school.

Parents were given pamphlets of information and the advice of a psychologist who worked with families from school shootings in Paducah, Ky. and Jonesboro, Ark.

"It was nice because we all got to be together with parents . . . and it wasn't a funeral and it wasn't a memorial and it wasn't a eulogy . . . and I needed that," said Reenee Mendo, whose daughter Melissa is a freshman at Columbine.

Halls were lined with posters from schools near and far that offered support to Columbine students. The rivalry normally seen in gyms and on the athletic field was nowhere to be seen. Today, those same halls will greet Columbine students as they pick up their schedules and go on tours. Classes resume Monday.

Despite the cold, the slashing rain, outside Chatfield Thursday night, there were waves of laughter

Columbine kids will visit today

and an enormous sense of relief among hundreds of Columbine parents.

For five minutes, they gave Columbine principal Frank DeAngelis a standing ovation and cheered when told that Columbine will be rebuilt.

"My daughter said she didn't want these kids to take control over the school and what she does at the school," Dave Mendo said.

His daughter, like other Columbine students, wants to return to school.

Sue Sumida, whose daughter Jennifer is a Columbine junior and son Steven is a Columbine freshman, said it was imperative that her children return to school, even though it will be at Chatfield.

"They need to do this, and they can't wait," Sumida said. "I think it is going to be part of the healing process."

"The kids need to get back together and tell their stories. Each has a story."

Sumida said her son and daughter want things to return to nor-

mal, meaning a return to school, the disappearance of the media and a stop to all the grieving.

She said their attitude is: "I'm tired of grieving. I'm tired of going to funerals, I want to go back to school."

Darryl Bush, whose daughter Dawn Marie Bush is a Columbine junior, said he thought the idea of moving the Columbine students to Chatfield for half-day sessions was excellent.

"I'm glad my daughter is going back to school," Bush said. "It gives the kids an end to the school year."

"It's going to make it easier," he added. "They've done one of the best things."

The parents of an 11th-grade Columbine girl, who asked not to be identified, said it was made clear to the parents Thursday night that their children will receive "a lot of support."

But they said the thing they are happiest about is the fact that their 17-year-old daughter can finish the school year.

"It would be terrible to end the school year now," said the mother. "This is a good way to finish. It will be OK."

W. J. Pankratz

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1749

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Officials again retract statements

By Kevin Vaughan

News Staff Writer

Thursday — for the second time in two days — investigators had to back off statements made by top officials in the Columbine High School murder case.

Mark Pautler, chief deputy district attorney in Jefferson County, said an inability to communicate led to the announcement earlier in the day that an arrest was expected within 48 hours.

"For that communication failure, we take the blame," Pautler said Thursday afternoon. District Attorney Dave Thomas predicted the quick arrest hours earlier on NBC's *Today*.

Pautler said Thomas was briefed Wednesday on developments in the investigation. Between that briefing and the time he went on television, things changed, Pautler said. But Thomas could not be reached before he appeared on *Today*.

A day earlier, sheriff's Sgt. Jim Parr and Deputy Steve Davis announced that investigators had cleared three teenagers who were detained near Columbine High shortly after the shooting started. That announcement came less than 24 hours after the men were classified as potential suspects by Sheriff John Stone.

Pautler characterized the missteps as nothing more than the result of a massive investigation involving several agencies whose detectives are constantly poring over tips and information.

"The investigation goes on," he said. "We're doing everything we can."

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'War room' established

The army of detectives investigating the Columbine High School massacre are now funneling most of their information through a "war room" at the Jefferson County Courthouse in what authorities describe as the most extensive criminal investigation in state history.

The two-room command center is abuzz with activity by the Columbine High School Law Enforcement Task Force. One room houses a lab of 20 to 25 computers, on which the FBI's Rapid Start program is helping to sort leads, and the other room is an operations center with a big-screen TV.

Rapid Start helps manage investigative tips in cases in which large numbers of leads are generated. The Columbine case has produced 1,000 leads, 600 of which are being checked out.

FBI personnel input daily investigative reports, and the computer program cross-checks and sorts them, then spits out a lead sheet. This is the first time the program has been used in a Colorado case.

Relatives discuss Klebold

Dylan Klebold was "very polite with good manners," and his family was shocked when learning of his involvement in the Columbine High School shootings, his aunt and uncle told a tabloid TV show.

On Thursday's edition of "Inside Edition," Janet and Sam Klebold of Toledo, Ohio, said that when the family first heard that Dylan was one of two killers, "the family got together and prayed."

Dylan's parents, Sue and Tom Klebold of Jefferson County, were dedicated to their children, Sam and Janet Klebold said on the broadcast. The couple have another son, Byron, who is older than Dylan.

"Sue and Tom have been very encouraging in education, they were very fine parents in taking care of the boys. . . . It was a terrible shock," they said.

Sam Klebold and Tom Klebold are brothers. When Tom received the news, "it was like a bolt from the blue. . . . He could not believe this happened. . . . They were so shook up about this," Sam said.

Dylan was "just a happy kid . . . very polite with good manners . . . every nice thing that you would want your kid to be," Sam Klebold said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

Denver Post
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Date: 4/2/99

Edition: 11th Floor

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1751

Generous community helps
stitch lives back together

Priceless possessions still locked up

By Joe Garner

News Staff Writer

When Columbine students fled for their lives April 20, many left behind some pretty precious stuff: ID cards, credit cards, expensive calculators, irreplaceable family photos, essays composed for English classes and uncashed paychecks.

Students in gym class fled in shorts and T-shirts, leaving street clothes, wallets and purses in their lockers.

Since then, they've been mending their lives with new driver's licenses, student ID cards, medical insurance cards and all the other documents of daily life.

Everything remains locked in the school while police investigate the nation's worst school shooting. When the investigation is complete, the building will return to control of Jefferson County public schools, which will then be responsible for returning items to their owners.

"I've been wearing my old glasses," said sophomore Nadine Finn, 16, whose new glasses were in the backpack she left behind. "I can see all right, but my mom is going to make an appointment for me."

Replacing No. 2 pencils, rulers and notepads is the easy part. Wal-Mart and other companies have donated school supplies, which volunteers packaged Thursday and will distribute today when students pick up their class schedules at Chatfield High.

But duplicating personal documents is another matter.

"The night they had a concert for Columbine students, I didn't have my ID because it was in my gym locker," said senior Krissa Eggert, 18. "I told them all my stuff is locked up in the school, and they could see I was a Columbine student, so they let me in."

Eggert told of a friend, Michele Fox, whose bank "won't let her withdraw any money because she doesn't have the right ID."

Columbine seniors facing college-entrance deadlines should contact their counselors when classes resume Monday, said Marilyn Saltzman, spokeswoman for Jefferson County public schools.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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"I would think service clubs and other organizations offering scholarships would extend their deadlines," Saltzman said. "We're certainly going to do everything we can to smooth the way for these students."

Gary Kelsey, director of admissions at the University of Colorado, said he had asked the 6,600 members of the National Association for

College Admission Counseling "to be sensitive and responsive" in handling documents from Columbine's college-bound students.

Colorado State University will offer special assistance to Columbine seniors.

"We want to show them the Colorado State University community is a caring community," CSU spokesman Tom Milligan said.

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1752

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 4/30/99
Edition: Metro

Title: Police say teacher was not abandoned

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Denver Rocky Mountain News

Friday, April 30, 1999

Police say teacher was not abandoned

By Gary Massaro

News Staff Writer

JEFFERSON COUNTY — Cops didn't abandon Columbine teacher Dave Sanders, a Denver SWAT commander said Thursday.

"He was never left. The officers stayed with him, and called for a backboard," said Denver SWAT Lt. Patrick K. Phelen.

Denver paramedic Troy Laman, stretcher in tow, was escorted to the room by other SWAT officers.

"He's gone," Laman told them.

Melody Smith, Sanders' sister-in-law, said the family was aware police didn't leave Sanders alone.

Wednesday, Sanders' daughter Angela lashed out at police for not getting to her father sooner after he was shot by Dylan Klebold or Eric Harris, the two killers responsible for 15 deaths last week, including their own.

Thursday, Smith noted that people grieve differently and that the family doesn't blame the cops for Sanders' death.

"The majority of the family feels they did everything that they needed to do," Smith said. "The SWAT members are grieving. Even the parents of those two boys are grieving."

Sanders was bleeding to death in a science room when two Jeffer-

son County SWAT officers got to him about 3 p.m., roughly 3½ hours after Klebold and Harris started their rampage, and roughly three hours after officials say the two killed themselves.

When officers got to the science room, they ushered students out. At that point, SWAT officers did not know Klebold and Harris were dead.

Earlier this week, student Aaron Hancey, 17, said he volunteered to stay in the science room to continue to care for Sanders, but was told to leave with the other students. He and other students had tried to slow the bleeding from Sanders' wounds.

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FBI/DOJ

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1753

Deputy knew of Harris' threats

Lawman at school got report that teen was detonating bombs, talking of mass killing

By Charley Able, Ann Imse and Kevin Vaughan

News Staff Writers
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The sheriff's deputy stationed at Columbine High School received a report a year ago that Eric Harris was detonating pipe bombs and wanted to commit mass murder.

The "suspicious incident" police report obtained by the *Denver Rocky Mountain News* was sent to deputy Neil Gardner, said Jefferson County Sheriff's Sgt. Jim Parr.

"It was sent to him, and he was aware of it, and nothing came of it," Parr said. "There was simply nothing else we could do."

The report was based on information that Columbine parent Randy Brown filed with the sheriff's office on March 18, 1998. It included printouts of Harris' Internet warnings that he was ready to kill.

"God, I can't wait until I can kill you people," read one of the postings contained in report. "I'll just go to some downtown area in some big (expletive) city and blow up and shoot everything I can."

Gardner could not be reached for comment Thursday.

The deputy was at Columbine April 20 when Harris and Dylan Klebold attacked the school with bombs and assault weapons. Gardner exchanged fire with one of the gunmen.

The rampage killed 12 Columbine students and one teacher. Harris and Klebold, both seniors at the school, then took their own lives.

Jefferson County schools spokesman Rick Kaufman said he did not know whether Gardner forwarded the report to anyone else at the school. But he added that such information about a student should be given to the school district.

The report is the latest in a string of warnings about Harris and Klebold that apparently were not pursued by school or law enforcement officials.

The two boys made a videotape for their drama class depicting a school massacre. Several friends of Harris said he was boasting as long as two years ago of his desire to blow up Columbine. Harris also used violent themes in

a creative-writing class.

In one of the Internet postings mentioned in the suspicious-incident report, Harris said his friend VoDKa helped build and detonate pipe bombs. VoDKa is identified in the sheriff's report as Klebold.

"Eric Harris is the instigator," the report said.

Attached to the report is another complaint by the Browns dated April 11, 1998, that their son had received an anonymous, threatening e-mail.

That report says it was sent to John Hicks in the sheriff's investigations division. Hicks could not be reached for comment Thursday.

It was not clear whether either of the Browns' complaints were investigated.

Sheriff John Stone said Thursday he didn't know whether Gardner received the original report.

One problem is that a "suspicious incident" doesn't get the same kind of attention as murder or rape cases, Stone said.

"Those always take priority," he said.

The investigator assigned to the suspicious incident report was put on a high-profile homicide case about the same time — the killing of two small children by their mother, Stone said.

The sheriff also said the department gets "tons" of reports on suspicious incidents — about 60 reports a year on pipe bombs alone.

Asked whether the report fell through the cracks, Stone said, "I can't say that."

"This wasn't on my watch," said Stone, who was elected in November and took office in January, "and I don't want to do anything to be critical of the people here before me."

But the report that Harris and Klebold were building pipe bombs, he said, should have been taken seriously.

"That definitely should have raised a red flag," Stone said.

Randy Brown and his wife, Judy, say they met on March 31, 1998, with a sheriff's investigator who called Harris' violent Internet rantings the worst he'd seen.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 04/30/99
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The Browns also say the detective checked, during their meeting, to see whether Harris and Klebold had arrest records. They said the detective found that a person named Eric Harris had been arrested for breaking into a car.

The district attorney's office, which already had felony charges pending against Harris and Klebold for a vehicle break-in, says it never was told of the Browns' complaint.

One week after the Browns made their complaint, the district attorney's office decided to allow Harris and Klebold to complete a juvenile diversion program of classes and community service in exchange for expunging their records of the break-in.

Randy and Judy Brown said they became fearful of Eric Harris after he threw a piece of ice at the car windshield of their son, Brooks. They became alarmed after reading Harris' hate-filled Web pages.

On one, Harris wrote, "I don't care if I live or die in the shootout. All I want to do is kill and injure as many of you (expletive) as I can." He specifically named Brooks as one of his targets.

The Browns say they called the Sheriff's Department repeatedly last spring to demand an investigation but say they don't believe one was done.

Brooks later made peace with Harris, and Harris warned Brooks away from the school.

See **SCHOOL** on 20A

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1754

Newspaper printed story about report

SCHOOL from 4A

moments before he began shooting.

Denver lawyer Scott Robinson, who reviewed Harris' Web pages, said the reports of building and detonating pipe bombs could have been used as probable cause to persuade a judge to issue a search warrant for Harris' house.

"That would have nipped this thing in the bud," he said.

Mark Miller, the officer who wrote up the Browns' complaint, treated it seriously. Miller noted that Harris wrote three times in the Web pages of "wanting to kill" Brooks Brown and that he "explained about making and detonating pipe bombs and using them against people."

Miller included the Web pages and their Internet address in his report.

The *Columbine Community Courier*, the weekly newspaper serving the area surrounding the high school, printed a story about the Browns' complaint shortly after it was made — but didn't name anyone involved.

In its edition of March 25, 1998,

the *Courier* headlined the report, "Classmate making death threats on Internet."

"A man reported that his son goes to school with a boy who has his own Web page," the story said. "Recently, the man told a deputy that boy has made death threats against his son on that Web page."

"The father downloaded and printed 10 pages in which the boy threatened his son three times. The boy also explained how to make pipe bombs and use them against people."

"The father said he was concerned about his son's safety and that he wanted someone to look into the matter. The case has been turned over to investigation."

Casey Ehmsen, *Courier* editor, said the paper didn't write anything further about the report.

"Normally, we would not do any more investigation or follow-up ... especially if police decide not to follow up or — in this case — even investigate," he said.

Judy Brown said she was frustrated when the Sheriff's Department didn't investigate and sur-

prised that she never heard from the school.

She said she didn't bring the matter to the school's attention for fear of triggering Harris' wrath.

"I wanted to keep Brooks out of it," she said. "We were concerned when (the *Courier*) ran it, afraid that Eric would see it and be mad at Brooks. We were scared for Brooks' life."

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis said the department has received more than 1,100 leads in the Columbine case, 930 of which will be pursued and 600 of which already have been assigned to investigators. Between 8,000 and 10,000 pieces of evidence have been collected.

However, nine days after the worst school shooting in U.S. history, the parents of Harris and Klebold have not been formally interviewed.

"We're trying to set that up," said Mark Pautler, chief deputy district attorney in Jefferson County.

Staff writers Sue Lindsay and Lori Kilzer contributed to this report.

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The Denver Rocky Mountain News
April 30, 1999
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Klebolds thought they were good parents, pastor says

By Virginia Culver
Denver Post Religion Writer

Tom and Sue Klebold "have got to be the loneliest people on the planet," the minister who officiated at their youngest son's funeral said Tuesday.

"They thought they had been good parents," the Rev. Don Marxhausen said. "Tom Klebold told me he thought he had a good finished product."

Dylan Klebold, 17, would have graduated from Columbine High School this spring and was planning to attend the University of Arizona in the fall.

But on April 20, he and friend Eric Harris, 18, killed 12 students and one teacher and injured almost two dozen classmates in the worst school shooting in U.S. history. Harris and Klebold then killed themselves.

The Klebolds "are like people who have been run over by a truck and then the truck backed over them," Marxhausen said. "They lost their son, but their son was also a killer."



Klebold

Marxhausen made it known "through the grapevine" that he would aid the family if they wished.

Word came back that they were interested, and he officiated at Saturday's private service.

Fifteen people attended, including the Klebolds; their older son, Byron; some relatives and friends; and Judy Marxhausen, Don's wife. Marxhausen also asked another Lutheran minister and his wife and a police officer to attend.

With so few people in attendance and such "awkwardness and tension" hanging in the air, Marxhausen said he suggested that everyone "use some time just to talk about Dylan."

"There was an outpouring of love from one of the couples who said their son used to play with Dylan when the boys were little," the minister said.

While friends of Dylan Klebold and Harris said the two wore swastikas, shouted "Heil Hitler!" during bowling class and chose the anniversary of Adolf Hitler's birthday to carry out their rampage, Tom Klebold "said he didn't know where the Nazi stuff or the violence came from," Marxhausen said.

The family kept only a BB gun in the house and used it just to scare away the woodpeckers, Marxhausen said.

Though Sue Klebold was raised Jewish, the family observed religious rituals of both Judaism and Christianity. "They did Christmas, and they did Passover seders," said Marxhausen. Marxhausen used scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments. From the Old Testament he recalled the story of King David, whose son, Absalom, was killed trying to take over his father's kingdom.

Part of the story, in Second Samuel, recounts David's words on hearing of his son's death: "O, my son! Absalom my son, my son Absalom! Would that I had died instead of you."

Marxhausen also cited the familiar 23rd Psalm, which has been used in funerals for several of the Columbine victims, and the Lord's Prayer from the New Testament.

Marxhausen declined to say where Dylan Klebold was buried but said he encouraged the family to bury him in the metro area "so they would have a place to grieve."

Marxhausen said Dylan attended St. Phillip with his parents, but he doesn't remember any other church activities they were involved in.

"They're hardworking, very intelligent '60s kind of people. They don't believe in violence or guns or racism and certainly aren't anti-Semitic," Marxhausen said he had visited their home and found that the Klebolds had "energetic ideas, and I enjoyed talking to them. But I don't know all about the family dynamics."

But he knows from his own daughter that Dylan "was an outcast" at Columbine. Sarah Marxhausen, a Columbine graduate now in college, told her father that Dylan often sat alone in the school cafeteria. She would go over and sit with him and play cards.

Dylan was registered and had already paid his dorm fees at the University of Arizona for the fall term, Marxhausen said. But he said

"there was a part of Dylan's center that wasn't filled. There was some anger, but I don't know at what."

Marxhausen said he has learned from many people that "there was a lot of rage in Harris" and that Klebold followed him "because he was afraid of his safety and that of his family if he left Harris."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Denver Post
Denver, CO

Date: 4/26/99
Edition: Metro

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Character: Religion

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One student told Marxhausen, "With Harris you either follow, or

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1756

Arrests possible in pistol sale

Authorities to interview suspected gun provider

By David Olinger,
Peter G. Chronis,
and Marilyn Robinson
Denver Post Staff Writers

Authorities investigating the massacre at Columbine High School plan to interview the suspected seller of a TEC-DC9 assault pistol today — and say multiple arrests are possible.

The gun seller has become a major focus of Colorado's most extensive criminal investigation because detectives believe killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold acquired the semiautomatic handgun when both were 17 years old. Selling a handgun to a minor is a felony in Colorado.

Jefferson County District Attorney Dave Thomas and Sheriff John Stone both said others may be arrested, but they declined to discuss the number of suspects.

"The probability of making multiple arrests exists," Stone said.

Late Thursday, Jefferson County deputies made their first arrest related to the case. Gary Sowell, the hardware store worker who claimed he saw Klebold and Harris buy galvanized pipes, fuses and other bomb-making materials, is expected to be charged with giving false information, Stone said.

After Sowell made his claim earlier this week, detectives discovered it was a "complete fabrication," said Sgt. Jim Parr.

The Denver Post reported Wednesday that attorney Robert L. Ransome was retained by the seller of the TEC-DC9, who may have been introduced to Harris and Klebold by a co-worker at Blackjack Pizza. Ransome said Thursday that his client had not yet talked to authorities, despite news reports saying otherwise.

Ransome refused to publicly dis-

cuss any other aspects of the case, including whether his client knew what Harris and Klebold intended to do with the gun and when the purchase was made. He also would not say when his client would surrender.

Selling a handgun to a minor is a Class 4 felony under state law and could result in a prison term of two to six years. If the seller knew the gun would be used in a crime, the prison term is 12 years.

Harris, 18, and Klebold, 17, two members of an outcast group called the Trench Coat Mafia, brought four guns and dozens of homemade bombs to Columbine High on April 20 — Adolf Hitler's birthday.

The teens, who sometimes spoke German and dabbled in collecting Nazi memorabilia, killed 12 students and a teacher and wounded 23 others, then turned their guns on themselves. It was the worst school shooting in U.S. history.

Nine days later, investigators still had not formally interviewed the parents of either Harris or Klebold, citing scheduling problems and the parents' need for time to grieve.

"The parents will be interviewed," Stone said. "We've contacted the attorneys for the parents, tried to make the arrangements. Their attorneys have not been able to arrange dates."

He said investigators have plenty to do, and the delay in meeting with the parents "has not harmed the investigation in any way."

Stone also confirmed the existence of a homemade video that depicts Harris and Klebold firing guns. He said investigators want to determine when and where their target practice occurred.

Please see ARRESTS on 6A

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Arrests Possible in Pistol Sale

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Police to interview suspected seller of assault pistol

ARRESTS from Page 1A

While investigators pored over bomb and bullet fragments and interviewed witnesses to the shootings, the last of the 13 victims was buried and thoughts of school resumed.

Isaiah Shoels, 18, was remembered at a funeral service attended by Gov. Bill Owens, Martin Luther King III and almost 5,000 other mourners.

Thursday night, an overflow crowd of Columbine parents toured Chatfield High School, where their children will resume classes Monday. The parents gave Columbine Principal Frank DeAngelis a standing ovation and heard a welcome from Chatfield Principal Sally Blanchard.

Today, 1,900 students from Columbine will pick up their books and their schedules for the remainder of the school year at Chatfield.

On Monday, Chatfield will begin split sessions, with Chatfield students attending in the morning and Columbine students in the afternoon.

In other developments Thursday:

■ It appears all four guns used in the massacre were traded at Colorado gun shows last year. Larry Russell, a Westminster resident, remembers selling the TEC-DC9 on behalf of Royce Spain after Spain's gun store closed a year ago. He said he sold it at a July or August gun show but didn't recall who bought it.

"Somebody could have bought it at the show and it transferred two or three times before it got to the kid," he said.

Manufacture of the TEC-9 and TEC-DC9 semiautomatic handguns, made by Intratec Firearms of Miami, was banned by the Brady Act in 1994. However, thousands of the guns made before the ban may still be legally bought and sold, along with high-capacity magazines that hold 32 rounds of 9mm ammunition. A later version of the TEC-9, the AB-10, complies with federal restrictions.

Authorities say the three other guns recovered at the high school — two sawed-off shotguns and a semiautomatic carbine — were acquired by Robyn Anderson, an 18-year-old friend of Klebold's, reportedly at the Tanner Gun Show north of Denver. It is legal in Colorado for an 18-year-old to buy shotguns and rifles and give them to a minor. Harris did not turn 18 until April 9.

In an interview with NBC's Dateline aired Thursday night on 9News, a close friend of Anderson's said Anderson would not condone anything like last week's shooting.

"She knows that what has happened is terrible, and she knows that Dylan and Eric are responsible," said the friend, Tiffany Burk, an 18-year-old senior at Columbine. Burk said she would be "very shocked" if Anderson were somehow involved.

■ Investigators expect their crime-scene analysis of Columbine High to continue for several more days. They estimate there are 8,000 to 10,000 pieces of evidence inside and outside the school.

Denver Post staff writers Howard Pankrat, Mark Obmascik and Mike McPhee contributed to this report.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Friday, April 30, 1999

Thornton

Denver Rocky Mountain News

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

gun dealer sold pistol

How semiautomatic
TEC-DC9 reached hand
of Columbine killer
remains a mystery

By Dan Luzadder

News Staff Writer

Thornton firearms dealer Larry Russell sold the semiautomatic pistol used in the Columbine High School killings at the Tanner Gun Show.

But Russell said Thursday that he kept no record showing who bought the weapon.

The TEC-DC9 ended up in the hands of Eric Harris, one of the two Columbine killers.

But between the time it left Russell's sale table at the Tanner show in the Denver Merchandise Mart and when police found it in the high school's library, its whereabouts remain a mystery.

"I wouldn't have sold it to a minor," Russell said. "I would have looked at some identification. But unless a customer asked for a receipt, I didn't keep track of who was buying those guns."

Russell said he took about 30 weapons and a large number of

ammunition clips on consignment from Royce Spain, a gun dealer in Federal Heights who gave up his federal firearms license and closed his Just Guns shop late last year.

Russell opened his business, Guns & Pawn, in the same space early this year.

Russell, who became a licensed firearms dealer in October, sold the weapons at the gun show before he got his firearms license. But he said he doesn't remember exactly when.

Officials with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, which is tracing the weapons used

in the deadly rampage, could not be reached for comment.

Miami-based Intratec made the gun five years ago. It was shipped to a wholesaler, Zander's Sporting Goods of Baldwin, Ill., which then sold it to Just Guns.

The person who sold the weapon to Harris has come forward to negotiate a deal with police, Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone said this week.

ATF agents have interviewed him about the sale of the gun, Russell said. They showed him pictures of Robyn Anderson, the 18-year-old Columbine High student who

bought the 9 mm assault rifle and two shotguns used in the rampage.

Russell said he also looked at photos of Klebold and Harris but didn't recognize either.

Stone said a co-worker of Klebold and Harris, who worked with them at a Blackjack Pizza franchise on Ottawa Place near the high school, was a middleman in the sale of the gun.

Police have not identified the individual who has allegedly acknowledged that he sold the weapon to Harris.

Staff writer Kevin Flynn contributed to this report.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Rocky Mountain News

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Thornton Gun Dealer
Sells gun

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Title: School districts banning trench coats

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School districts banning trench coats

By Robin Estrin

Associated Press

BOSTON — School districts around the country are banning trench coats and considering uniforms to keep pupils from smuggling weapons and to break up cliques and create more conformity in the aftermath of the Columbine High School tragedy.

"Kids have always had different styles and fashions and fads that indicate rebelliousness, but when it reaches a point where it can also conceal weapons, then you need to address the potential danger," said Ron Stern, an elementary school administrator in Granite City, Ill. The school board in the St. Louis suburb is considering a ban on trench coats.

Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, who killed 13 people before committing suicide April 20 at Columbine, wore trench coats.

Supporters of trench coat prohibitions — in place already in Portsmouth, N.H.; Henrietta,

N.Y.; Hamblen County, Tenn.; and Scottsboro, Ala., for example — consider the rule akin to use of a metal detector. Harris and Klebold were apparently able to smuggle in the weapons under their long black coats.

Other dress code measures are aimed at imposing conformity and reducing feelings of isolation.

In the Memphis suburb of Collierville, Tenn., Alderman Sidney Turnipseed has asked the county school board to consider a uniform. A clothing code, he said, might prevent cliques and the mean-spirited singling out of kids who dress differently.

Critics said such rules are misguided.

"Just because we have chains and spikes doesn't mean we're going to go shooting people," said Patrick Connor, a 15-year-old in the western Massachusetts community of Pittsfield, where the City Council this week narrowly defeated a bid to prohibit "flamboyant and excessively morbid" dress.

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15 crosses traced to mystery builder

Arvadan tells how he
and other volunteers
gave Chicago man
a hand with project

By Tillie Fong
News Staff Writer

A man who identified himself as a contractor from Chicago built the 15 crosses atop a hill near Columbine High, said a volunteer who helped him.

"He said he drove out from Chicago, and he had just gotten in that day," said Jeremy Monsma, 24, of Arvada who met the man Tuesday at Clement Park.

But Monsma said he didn't remember the man's name even though they were briefly introduced.

Monsma said on Wednesday that he was at the park around 6 p.m. Tuesday when he spotted activity at the top of the hill.

"(The contractor) brought them all up the hill and started digging the holes," he said. "He started asking people up there to help him. I jumped in."

The wooden crosses stand about 6 feet tall and 3 feet wide. The ends are capped with metal. Each bears a black and white photo and name.

"He was telling somebody else that he's done other memorials, and he wanted it (this one) to be permanent, and that he got a permit to do it," Monsma said.

But no one took out a permit for the crosses, said Carolyn Keith, manager of recreation for Foothills Park and Recreation district, which oversees Clement Park.

"We have not issued any permits," she said. "We were asking ourselves about the source" of the crosses.

The man and a friend brought all the supplies including photos.

Monsma said he put two crosses into the ground, and wrote the

name for one, Daniel Rohrbough.

He estimated about 20 people, including some children, helped erect the crosses. The work took a little over an hour.

And then the contractor and his helper disappeared.

"His truck was parked at the bottom of the hill, and they took off pretty quick," Monsma said.

The crowd responded immediately to the additions.

"I couldn't believe how fast people came up and started putting stuff around them," Monsma said.

Two of the crosses have drawn some controversy — the ones for gunmen Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold.

"I can go either way," Monsma said of those two crosses.

"I can see why they shouldn't be up there. I can see it from the parents' side, where he killed all these people. But they were victims, too. They were picked on a lot by other people."

So he wrote, "May God have mercy on your souls" on Harris and Klebold's crosses. He said he drew pictures on many of the others.

Keith said the park district has

no immediate plan to take down any of the crosses.

"We're trying to be very, very sensitive to an incredibly overwhelming outpouring of communi-

ty support and involvement," she said. "Certainly, every effort will be made to be sensitive to the situation and to all the items that have been left."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

Date: 4/28/94
Edition: Metro

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: 1742 Bldg 274/19

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/24/02 BY SP5JCL/NE

#934178

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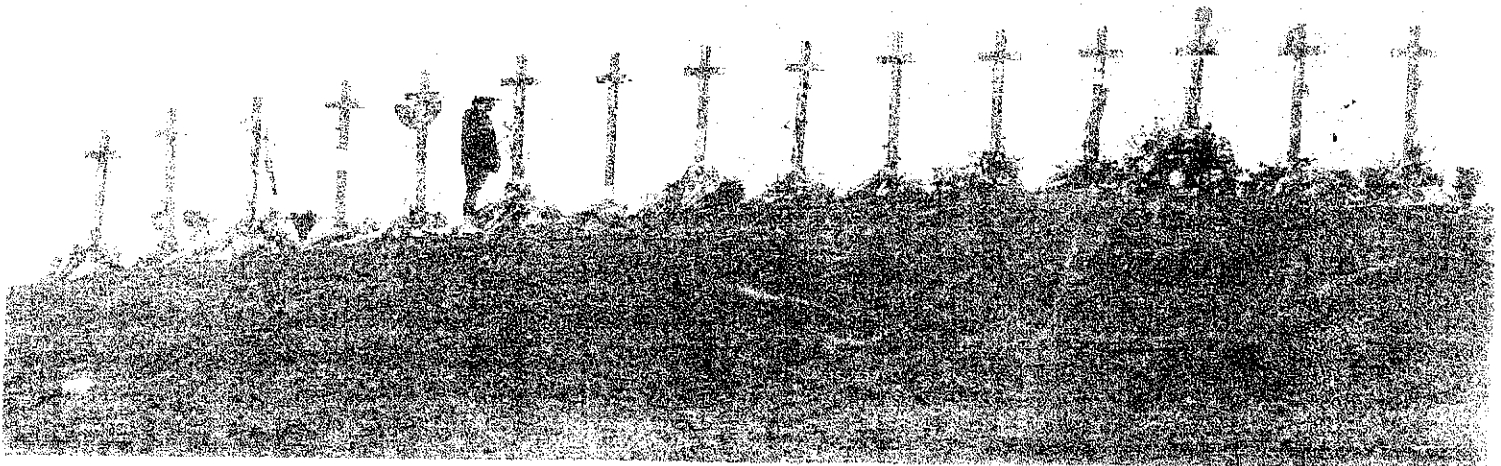
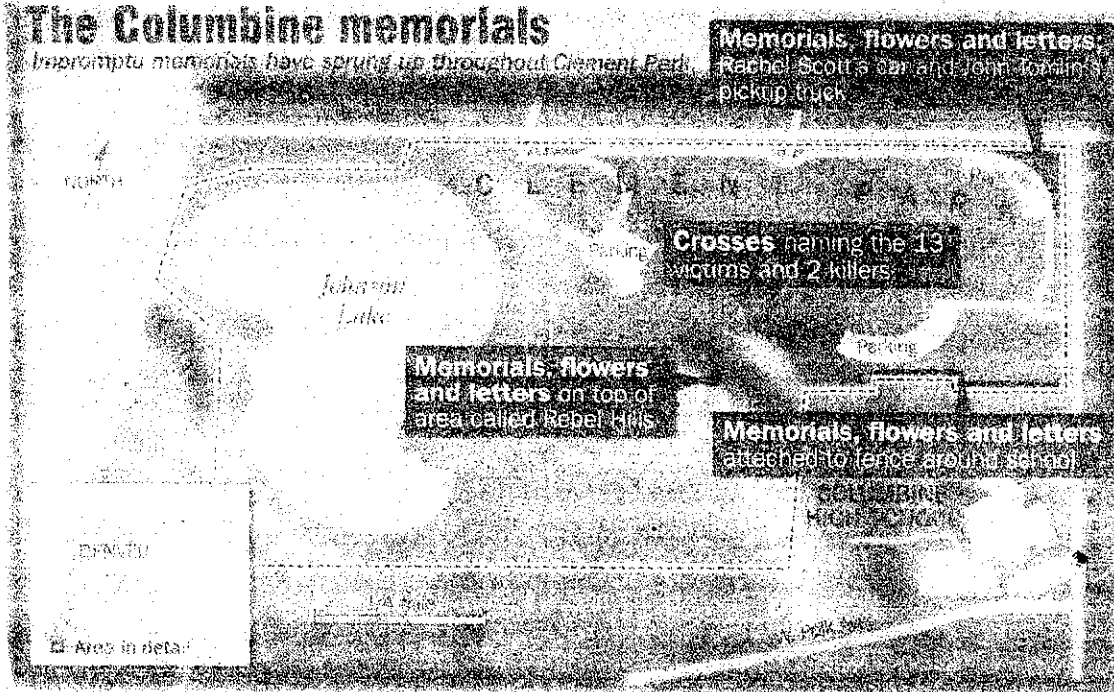
1761

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Date
Edition

Title



A person inspects the crosses. Top story in Clement Park. There's one for each of the 15 people who died, including the two per-

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Friday, April 30, 1999

RW

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

Store clerk charged with false reporting

By Kevin Vaughan

News Staff Writer

Authorities arrested a Hugh M. Woods clerk Thursday, charging him with making up a story that he sold bomb supplies to the two teen-age killers who stormed Columbine High School.

Gary Sowell, 50, had claimed that he'd sold five large propane tanks to Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, the weekend before their April 20 attack on Columbine High School that left 15 dead and 21 injured.

"Maybe this will slow down some of these crackpot calls that we're getting," Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone said.

Sowell was booked into the county jail on a misdemeanor charge of making a false report to

authorities.

Sowell caused a stir Wednesday when he claimed that Harris and Klebold had bought the large propane tanks as well as nails and other supplies that could be used to make bombs. In addition, Sowell claimed that he had copied keys to Columbine High School for the two.

Stone said investigators examined inventory records and receipts at the Hugh M. Woods store on Kipling Street at West Bellevue Avenue as they tried to verify Sowell's story.

Early Thursday evening, they concluded that he had lied.

"Hugh M. Woods didn't even have the inventory that he said he sold," Stone said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Denver Post
Denver, CO

Date: *4/30/99*

Edition:

Title: *Store clerk*

charged with
false reporting

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

174A-DN-57419

1/24/02
SP5JC/AE
#934178

WJH/KM

FBI/DOJ

174A-DN-57419-420

1763

Teen says ex-student waved gun from auto

By Bill Briggs

Denver Post Staff Writer

As the investigation continued Thursday into whether a third gunman participated in the Columbine High School slaughter, a 17-year-old junior said Thursday that he saw a former student waving a weapon out a car window after the rampage started.

Student Jon Ungerland said the passenger in a beat-up Geo Metro with faded red paint was leaning halfway out the window, holding a handgun and pointing it in the air.

The driver was speeding toward the triage center off Yukon Street, a few blocks from the school.

"The only thing I was worried about was the way he was headed, toward the emergency triage section behind the school," Ungerland said. "They were driving really fast."

Ungerland said he recognized the two males in the car as former students — one a dropout and the other a 1998 Columbine graduate — who belonged to the Trench Coat Mafia, an outcast group to which killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold belonged.

Ungerland said he gave detectives the names of the two. Three possibilities come to mind about why the three were there, he said:

- They were to be the getaway drivers for Harris and Klebold.

- They had shown up late for the rampage.

- "They could have been participating in the school (attack) and then getting away."

Several students have told reporters and authorities they saw a third gunman during the April 20 rampage, but officials said Thursday that they have not been able to confirm that.

Ungerland was in a math study hall when he heard an explosion and gunfire. A teacher opened some doors to the outside, and the study-hall students escaped unhurt, Ungerland said.

Ungerland was driving to nearby Leawood Elementary School which authorities had established as a rendezvous spot, to find his sister and girlfriend when he saw the Geo Metro.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 5/1/02

Edition:

Title: Teen Says 4th Student Waved Gun from Auto

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

176-A DN-52414

1/24/02 SP5TC/AG #434178

4/25/02

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FBI/DOJ

1764

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

On Rocky Mountain News
Denver Co

Date: 4/30/99

Edition:

Final

Title: Cost of Shooting
tops \$1 million

Character:

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Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

174A-DN-57419

VS

R.M.

Friday, April 30, 1999

Cost of shooting tops \$1 million

By Steve Caulk and Charley Able

News Staff Writers

The cost of the tragedy at Columbine High School and its aftermath to Jefferson County is already more than \$1 million and expected to go higher.

"It's going to easily be a million, easily," said Commissioner Pat Holloway, who chairs the county Board of Commissioners. "And we haven't even seen the sheriff's overtime."

The killings at the high school required the equivalent of a full week's work for 77 extra people at the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, said Capt. Gary Grainger, who is in charge of support services.

Through Wednesday, the sheriff's department had logged 3,072 overtime hours by its staff of 540 people, costing the agency \$104,460 and putting it on pace to go well over budget for the year, Grainger said.

At least a dozen agencies responded to the tragedy April 20. The Colorado State Patrol, for instance, contributed 2,832 overtime hours costing \$99,120. All the agencies could be eligible for

some federal relief.

The U.S. Justice Department manages an emergency fund designated for "unanticipated major expenses related to law enforcement activity," said Dick Weatherbee, a spokesman for the department.

"It's a small fund, about \$2 million for the whole country, and it's largely depleted," Weatherbee said. "But they'll find a way to pay it."

President Clinton announced last week that Colorado would receive \$1.5 million in aid, but that is earmarked for victims' compensation. Agencies such as the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department will have to cover any expenses not eligible for the Justice Department's emergency fund.

The county projects it already has spent more than \$420,000 for supplies and equipment involved in setting up a multi-agency administrative crime lab at the county's Administration and Courts Building in Golden and a command and media center at Columbine Library.

Staff writer Michael Romano contributed to this report.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/24/02 BY SP-11/AF
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174A-DN-57419-422

FBI/DOJ

1765

Tom Klebold no stranger to loss, grief

Couple coping 'moment by moment'

By Peggy Lowe
Denver Post Staff Writer

Tom Klebold has lost family before.

When he was just 6 years old, he lost a parent. He lost the other parent when he was 13.

Now, he's lost a son, 17-year-old Dylan, who also happens to be responsible in the murders of 13 others.

Tom Klebold, 52, talked of those losses when he called his friend and former co-worker Ed Berg on Monday.

"He's remarkably intact. He's moving out of the shock and into grief and anger, as is normal," Berg said Thursday.

But Tom's wife, Susan, is "pretty much shattered," Klebold told Berg.

"He said, 'I've dealt with this before, but it's much harder on Susan,'" Berg said.

"We are surviving moment by moment,"



Klebold

Berg said Klebold told him.

Susan, 50, lost her parents a few years ago, when they were in old age, Berg said. Berg didn't know which of Tom Klebold's parents died when, but Klebold talked Monday of growing up without them.

"My desire was to let the poor guy talk," Berg said, adding that he wasn't shocked that Klebold returned his call, "just moved."

Berg, a vice president at Thomasson Partner Associates Inc., knew Klebold when he worked for the Downtown Denver oil and gas firm. Klebold left the company about three years ago and now runs a mortgage and property-management company out of his Deer Creek Canyon home.

The two men talked about the April 20 Columbine High School shootings during their half-hour

He's remarkably intact. He's moving out of the shock and into grief and anger, as is normal.

Ed Berg

friend and former co-worker of
Tom Klebold, father of Dylan
Klebold

conversation Monday. Klebold was grief-stricken, saying Dylan was "pure normal" and his best friend.

Klebold also talked of the incessant barrage of influences that children hear, Berg said.

"He said, 'Our society feeds off our children.' He was just talking about the marketing of images, the marketing of guns, things that drag down their value system," Berg said.

Ironically, Klebold and Berg used to argue about gun control. Berg is a member of the National Rifle Association and shoots competitively. Klebold is a liberal who is "strongly pro-gun control," Berg said.

A friend of the two men called Berg this week and fondly remembered their arguments. Most of all, the caller remembered that the two men could argue about the issue yet remain friends.

And that's the message Berg would like to send to the country in the days after the Columbine shootings. People may have dramatically different opinions on gun control, but neither side should be demonized nor ridiculed, he said.

"The relationships are so much more important than anything else."

Peggy Lowe's e-mail address is plowe@denverpost.com.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 04/30/99

Edition:

Title:

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Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

174A DN-000419

1/24/02 SP5JC/RE
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FBI/DOJ

11-1A-200-423

1766

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Police continue search for accomplices

Officials suspect more than 1 person knew in advance of Columbine attack plans

By Kevin Vaughan, Sue Lindsay,
Charlie Brennan and Gary Gerhardt

News Staff Writers

The conspiracy theory is widening.

Detectives believe more than one person had specific, advance knowledge that Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold intended to attack Columbine High School, Sheriff John Stone said Thursday night.

"We're not stopping at anything," Stone said. "I think this thing is wider."

Investigators have been interviewing

people who were close to Klebold and Harris and continue to come up with new information, the sheriff said.

At least two people have hired lawyers.

Stone would not disclose how many potential suspects investigators were looking at except to say it was "more than one."

Robyn K. Anderson, Klebold's 18-year-old prom date, is cooperating with investigators, Stone said.

She purchased three of the guns Harris and Klebold carried into Columbine when they launched their attack, police said.

Officers also want to question a Blackjack Pizza employee who worked there with Klebold and Harris.

They believe the worker may have arranged for the killers to purchase a TEC-

DC9 assault pistol.

The pursuit of a wider conspiracy comes as two Denver lawyers have been hired to represent teen-agers who were close to Harris and Klebold.

John M. Richilano acknowledged he is representing Chris Morris, who was a member of the Trench Coat Mafia clique that Harris and Klebold belonged to.

Richilano confirmed that Morris worked recently at a Blackjack Pizza outlet which also employed Klebold and Harris.

Asked why his client's name continues to surface in connection with the TEC-DC9 assault pistol, Richilano said, "I wonder about that too. I think tomorrow you will find out he had nothing to do with it."

"My client has cooperated fully with law

enforcement and the police are happy with the information he's supplied. They don't consider him a suspect in this case."

Richilano, 49, is a partner in the Denver firm of Richilano & Ridley PC, and graduated from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1975.

The other attorney, Robert L. Ransome, 54, acknowledged he was representing someone in the case but declined to say who.

He is a partner in the Lakewood firm Ransome & Thomas. He worked from 1970 to 1980 in the Jefferson County Public Defender's Office.

Staff Writer Gary Gerhardt contributed to this report.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Dr. Koenig Int'l. News
Denver, CO

Date: 04/30/99

Edition:

Section:

Title: Police continue search for accomplices

Character:

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Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

114A ON 07419

FBI/DOJ

114A-ON-54419-484

1767

Friday, April 30, 1999

Clipping in Space Below

Heed the warning signs

Can we really blame the parents for the sins of the sons?

As ripples of horror and grief continue to ebb across our communities, few people have publicly blamed the parents of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, whose bombs and guns killed a dozen teenagers and a teacher, injuring 23 more.

Indeed, family friends and church ministers have been springing to the parents' defense, insisting they had no way of knowing their sons were this sick.

Only Gov. Bill Owens and Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone have publicly said the parents should have known.



BILLIE STANTON

Most of us feel compassion for these parents, who not only lost their sons to suicides, but also surely feel some responsibility for the deaths of 12 other children and a beloved teacher.

Many people have said the Harrises and Klebolds are wonderful parents who couldn't possibly have cracked

their sons' secrecy. Indeed, teenagers are notorious for providing their parents with less than full disclosure.

And Eric Harris was on psychiatric medication, proof that his parents had pursued treatment for their deeply troubled son.

Still, it is difficult to believe that some adult didn't notice these boys' signals of distress.

Friends say Tom and Susan Klebold never knew anything was wrong with Dylan. Their minister said the mother sensed a finality to her son's "goodbye" before he headed for school April 20. And the father had noticed four days earlier that the boy seemed stressed.

Yet before any victims or suspects had been identified in the Columbine High massacre, Tom Klebold called police to offer assistance, saying he suspected his son was involved. If the father never had a clue as to the depth of Dylan's problems, why did he call to help during such an unbelievable outburst of violence?

Harris' parents, meanwhile, had a son who — albeit diagnosed with mental problems — was allowed to spend hours playing the wildly violent Internet game "Doom" and who even created a version of the game using a floor plan of Columbine High.

Together, these boys built 67 bombs over the course of a year.

Both teens' parents are well-off suburbanites who probably wouldn't have hesitated to help their sons if problems were obvious. But could preoccupation with other priorities have kept them from giving these boys adequate attention and supervision?

And even if the parents were oblivious, why didn't anyone else react to the red flags that repeatedly popped up around these teenagers?

Randy and Judy Brown called Jefferson County sheriff's deputies repeatedly after Eric Harris threatened to kill their son Brooks, 17. They even printed out the harshly violent threats that Eric had posted on the Internet, then took those printouts to deputies, to no avail. Where were law enforcement officials when they received this strong early warning of violent tendencies? Not paying sufficient attention, apparently.

Likewise the teacher at Columbine High who viewed the two boys' videotape, depicting themselves shooting school athletes to death. The film teacher refused to let Eric and Dylan show the video to the school because it had guns in it. If it was too vile for other students to even view, didn't that raise questions as to what prompted these two students to make such a bizarre and frightening film?

Denial is not a river in Egypt. Just because we don't want to believe it doesn't give us license to ignore it.

Somewhere along the line, the adults in the lives of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold decided not to look at reality. Now we all face a reality far more gruesome than we ever could have imagined.

With youthful violence becoming increasingly lethal every year, adults must start paying serious attention to signs of trouble in children — especially our own.

Billie Stanton is a deeply worried mother and a member of The Denver Post editorial board.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 5/1/99
Edition:

Title: Heed the warning signs

Character:
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Classification:
Submitting Office:

Indexing: 174A-DW 57419

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1768

FBI/DOJ

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Friday, April 30, 1999

— newsdesk@denver-rmn.com

Boy with gun, hit list arrested

California case one of several copycat threats and rumors

Associated Press

A 13-year-old California boy with a loaded handgun and a hit list of 30 names was arrested at school Thursday — the most serious of another wave of bomb scares and threats to disrupt schools since the Colorado massacre.

Authorities pulled the boy out of class at Sierra Middle School in Bakersfield, Calif., after his classmates said they saw a gun under his shirt and saw him loading it outside. A .40-caliber semiautomatic handgun and 13 rounds of ammunition were found on the boy, said Kern County sheriff's Cmdr. Don Youngblood.

In the boy's backpack were 30 pieces of paper, each one with the name of a classmate or teacher, a drawing and the words "because they deserved to die" scrawled at the bottom, Youngblood said.

In Enid, Okla., a school employee found a pipe bomb in a restroom of a high school Thursday. Classes were canceled for the 1,400 students, and state troopers disabled the device.

A middle school in Petaluma, north of San Francisco, was evacuated after five devices that looked like pipe bombs were found in the backpacks of two students. The devices were detonated but contained no explosive material, Petaluma City Schools Superintendent Carl Wong said.

Threats and scares at the nation's schools have intensified since two students killed 12 classmates and a teacher in Colorado.

In Tavares, Fla., a 10th-grader playing hooky Thursday was arrested for making bomb threats that led to the evacuation of 27,000 students from all 39 Lake County schools in central Florida.

A threat found on the Internet led school officials in Sylvania in northwest Ohio to close two high schools for the day so the buildings could be searched. An 18-year-old student was charged for threatening that Sylvania would be the target of a rampage worse than the shootings in Colorado.

The student told detectives the computer message was a prank.

A day after bomb threats at seven Detroit schools, the police chief promised to prosecute those involved in such incidents.

"The hysteria has got to stop," Police Chief Benny Napoleon said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 6/13/99
Edition:

Title: Boy with gun, hit list arrested

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

Indexing: 174A DN: 57419

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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#934178

FBI/DOJ

1769

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Canadian suspect charged

14-year-old accused in killing
at high school in rural Alberta

Associated Press

TABER, Alberta — A 14-year-old boy was charged Thursday with first-degree murder and attempted murder in a shooting at a Canadian high school that left one student dead and another seriously wounded.

The suspect is accused of firing four shots Wednesday from a .22-caliber rifle at W.R. Myers High School, police said. The teen, who was not identified because he is a juvenile, was to appear in juvenile court.



Jason Lang

Killed was 17-year-old Jason Lang. His friend Shane Christinas, also 17, was at a hospital Thursday after surgery. "He's still in pretty tough shape," said hospital spokesman Mark Gregory. Gregory refused to reveal the nature of the boy's injuries.

Police refused to say Thursday whether they believed Wednesday's shooting was influenced by last week's slayings at Columbine High School near Denver.

Although some students initially told reporters the shooter was wearing a trench coat, police later said he was wearing a knee-length parka of the type common here.

It was the first fatal Canadian high school shooting in 20 years, the Canadian Press news agency said. Taber, an Alberta farm town of 8,000, is 185 miles southeast of Calgary and 50 miles north of the Montana border.

"May God have mercy on this broken society and all the hurting people in it," Lang's father, the Rev. Dale Lang, said at a news conference Thursday. "We pray that people will see by this incident that lots of things have to change in our society. Lots of things need to be healed."

Many of the 400 students scattered and others hid when the young gunman opened fire moments after lunch hour.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date: 4/25/94
Edition:

Title: Canadian suspect charged

Character:

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Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

1747-DN-57419

Greg Tomcala, 14, said he saw the boy aim a rifle at a student sitting against a locker doing schoolwork. "I looked down the hall, and I saw him shoot one kid," Tomcala said. "He was shot point-blank in the chest. He fell to the ground and then crawled away."

The bespectacled gunman then shot another student. The shooter was arrested by a police officer who worked at the school. The suspect's motives remained a mystery Thursday.

Student Carl Jarvis, who said he has known the shooter for four years, described him as an avid television watcher and computer buff who left Myers and started home schooling because he didn't like the teachers or the school's curriculum.

"Nobody really had anything against him. He was just sort of there. He just did his own thing a lot of the time," Jarvis said.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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#934178

FBI/DOJ

11A 11-19-94-427

1770

Rocky Mtn News

Friday, April 30, 1993

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

TV coverage of rampage lifts news audience ratings

By Dusty Saunders

News Broadcasting Critic

The Columbine High School tragedy has produced soaring audience ratings for cable news channels and an increase in viewers during early evening network newscasts.

From April 20, the day of the shootings, through Wednesday, 24-hour audience ratings on the Fox News Channel were up 59 percent in total households over the previous week, and showed an increase of 40 percent during evening prime time (6 to 9 p.m. on cable, Mountain time).

CNN showed a 41 percent audience gain during the period, while soaring to a 52 percent increase in prime time. CNN's Headline News registered a 1 percent gain

in 24-hour household figures and was 16 percent higher in prime time.

MSNBC's 24-hour average during the eight-day period showed a 46 percent increase overall and a 56 percent gain in prime time.

Gains for CNBC: 19 percent in the 24-hour average and 34 percent in prime time.

During that week, NBC's *Nightly News* was up 11 percent in total viewers compared with the previous week, while ABC's *World News Tonight* grew by 3 percent. CBS showed a slight gain. In TV households, NBC's newscast was up 12 percent from the previous week, compared with ABC's 4 percent increase. CBS was up 2 percent.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Rocky Mtn News
Denver, CO

Date: 5/1/93

Edition:

Metro

Title: TV Coverage of Rampage

Life News Channel

Character:

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Classification:

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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1771

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Rocky Mtn News
Denver CoDate: 05/03/99
Edition:Title: Suspected Pistol Seller to
Face Felony Charges
this week

Character:

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SP-5/AF
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744-DN-57419

Denver Rocky Mountain News

Monday, May 3, 1999

Suspected pistol seller to face felony charges later this week

Fingerprints could ID possible conspirators

By Burt Hubbard and Mike Patty
News Staff Writers

The person suspected of selling the semiautomatic pistol used by two teen-agers to kill their classmates at Columbine High School is expected to surrender today and be charged with a Class 4 felony, Jefferson County Sheriff John P. Stone said Sunday.

He said he expects to find people who knew about the attack in advance.

"The evidence is being developed, but I suspect we will have more arrests before this case is over," Stone said.

Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, used a TEC DC-9 semiautomatic pistol and three other guns April 20 to kill one teacher and 12 students before killing themselves.

Jefferson County District Attorney Dave Thomas said he does not know if the suspect will plead guilty to any charges.

It is a Class 4 felony in Colorado to sell or provide such a weapon to anyone under 21 years of age. The penalty is two to six years in

prison and up to a \$500,000 fine.

Attorney Robert Ransome, who represents the seller, didn't want to comment Sunday.

It could be the first of several charges filed against people connected to the killings.

More than 100 investigators are still sorting through thousands of pieces of evidence, Stone said.

"I spent several hours today in a briefing with some of the investigators and am very pleased with the progress we are making," he said.

"But we still have a lot of work to do until we get to the bottom of this thing."

So far, Thomas said, investigators have not been able to link the more than 50 homemade bombs to anybody but the two gunmen, he said.

"We don't have any evidence at this point that anybody assisted them in making any of these devices, although we're still looking at that," Thomas said.

Investigators are fingerprinting the bombs and bomb debris.

The TEC DC-9 was manufactured in Miami five years ago and shipped to a wholesaler in Illinois who sold it to a Denver gun dealer. The Denver dealer went out of

business and gave it to Larry Russell to sell on consignment.

Russell recalled selling it at a gun show, which is legal. He has said he doesn't know the name of the buyer, but has said the buyer wasn't a minor.

Thomas and other top Colorado law enforcement officials left for Jackson, Miss., Sunday night to talk about the Columbine tragedy as part of a panel on school violence at a meeting of the National Association of Attorneys General.

"We're going just for one day," Thomas said.

Joining Thomas will be Colorado U.S. Attorney Tom Strickland; Colorado Attorney General Ken Salazar; chief legal counsel to Gov. Bill Owens, Troy Eid; Denver District Attorney Bill Ritter; and Colorado Public Safety Director Ari Zavaras.

Strickland spokesman Dick Weatherbee said the meeting already was scheduled when the Columbine shootings took place. Weatherbee said the Colorado officials were asked after the shootings occurred to present a panel discussion.

Staff writer Karen Abbott contributed to this report.

FBI/DOJ

744-DN-57419-429

1772

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7A

Picking up pieces at memorial

Healing is the theme at Red Rocks event

By Gary Massaro

News Staff Writer

You'd probably never think an empty beer bottle would be anything other than an empty beer bottle.

But there's an *unless* in here, as in *unless* you attended the Columbine Memorial Sunday at Red Rocks Amphitheater. There, it became a symbol.

Here's why:

Shortly after the memorial started at 3 p.m., a gust of wind toppled a Fat Tire bottle someone at a previous event had left on the roof of a shed near Row 27.

That bottle shattered at the feet of two Columbine students who were walking up the steps.

The bottle just missed the girls, just as bullets and bomb shrapnel missed many of others April 20 during the killings at Columbine.

The brown glass scattered along the steps.

The girls were startled, but shook off the scare and continued up the steps.

As soon as they got past Row 28, five strangers came together to pick up the shards, piece by piece. They each made two trips to a trash can without looking at or talking to each other.

That's the way Columbine is coming around — people pitching in to pick up the pieces and move on.

About 4,000 came together Sunday. They wanted to be alone — together.

Some folks came prepared for a lot of tears. One student had a box of facial tissue strapped to his backpack.

"It's not going to be enough to go around," he said. "We've got about 20 boxes here."

But it wasn't like that at all.

There were scattered tears, but not the breath-stealing sobs the world has seen for nearly two weeks.

A mom, dad and their freshman daughter came, he said. "for closure."

Did they get it?

"I don't know," he said, declining to give his name. "My daughter was in the science room (where teacher Dave Sanders bled to death). She's 14. My other daughter was in the choir room. Everybody's been real upset."

The freshman daughter said the ceremony helped her get through Sunday. But she's not sure about today.

"This definitely helped," she said. "I broke down Friday night. I know I'll probably do it again Monday."

But if the promises students made Sunday stand up today, she'll have plenty of people to comfort her.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

King Mtn. News
Denver, CO

Date: 05/02/99

Edition:

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Title: Picking up pieces
at Memorial

Character:

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174A-DN-57417

Victim updates

News Staff

Five students remained in hospitals Sunday:

SWEDISH MEDICAL CENTER

Richard Castaldo, 17, remained in fair condition with gunshot wounds in the chest, back and arm.

Sean Graves, 15, was in fair condition with four gunshot wounds, one in the back and three in the abdomen. He was able to sit up Sunday.

Anne Marie Hochhalter, 17, remained in serious condition with two gunshot wounds.

DENVER HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER

Lance Kirklin, 16, remained in stable condition with gunshot wounds in the face, chest and legs.

CRAIG HOSPITAL

Patrick Ireland, 17, was in fair condition while undergoing rehabilitation for head injuries.

EXHIBIT CONTAINED
154/02 SUSPENSE
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1773

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Builder abruptly removes crosses at Clement Park

By Peggy Lowe
and Andrew Guy

Denver Post Staff Writers

The wooden crosses atop a hill near Columbine High School were abruptly taken down early Sunday by the Illinois carpenter who erected them just last week.

Greg Zanis received so many nasty telephone calls about the 15 crosses he planted at Clement Park — one for each of the 13 victims and two for the killers — that he drove all night Saturday and removed them early Sunday.

The 8-foot-high crosses that towered above the huge, heart-felt memorial in Clement Park have been controversial since Zanis erected them on Wednesday. Many people, including the father of a Columbine shooting victim, were angry that two of

Carpenter upset by controversy

the 15 crosses represented the two killers.

On Friday, Brian Rohrbough, whose son, Daniel, was murdered, took down the two crosses for Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17.

Rohrbough said it wasn't appropriate to honor the shooters in the same place as the victims.

Reacting to that outrage and negative barrage of calls, Zanis on Saturday made his second 14-hour drive to Colorado in a week. He took down the crosses at 6:30 a.m. Sunday, said Edie Hylton, manager of community service for Foothills Parks and Recreation District.

"He got in his car, he drove here and he took them all down. He was so disturbed by the reaction he got (to erecting crosses for the killers). He was trying to do something good," Hylton said. "It's a sad comment."

Zanis decided on his own to remove the crosses. Law enforcement officers at the Columbine command post were surprised to see them missing, said Steve Davis, a spokesman for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department.

"When the sun came up (Sunday) morning, they saw the crosses were gone," Davis said.

The hundreds who lined up to walk to the crosses on the Clement Park hill on Sunday were also mystified when they

Please see **CROSSES** on 5A

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were missing. Photographs of the hill with the dramatic landscape of wooden crosses have been published in newspapers and magazines around the country.

"You build a memorial for someone, then you take it down? That doesn't make sense to me," said Wayne Haubenschild, who visited the memorial Sunday.

Haubenschild's wife, Holly, said she didn't like that crosses for the killers were on the hill. But she said she'd like to see the 13 crosses remain on the hill that overlooks the school and park.

"When you're up here, it's so breathtaking. This hill is symbolic," Haubenschild said.

Zanis was not available for comment Sunday, as he was en route to his home in Aurora, Ill. But his 16-year-old son, Chris, who helped erect the crosses, wished they were still planted in the park.

"People look at that (the crosses), and they know that violence is really bad," Chris Zanis said.

"It helps them to let (their grief) out."

Zanis builds the crosses in the garage of his Aurora home, said his daughter, Maria. Her father hastily decided to leave for Colorado at 5 p.m. last night because "he thought the people were upset about them," she said.

Hylton said her office has received many calls about the crosses, too.

"We got calls in the office both ways, that they were glad to see the 15, and they were disturbed to see the 15," Hylton said.

Another visitor to Clement Park on Sunday, Aaron West, said it was fitting that the crosses were on the hill.

"Hopefully, the crosses will be preserved for a museum or other kinds of tributes," he said.

Denver Post staff writers Jason Meyers and Andrew Guy contributed to this report.



Associated Press

These are some of the crosses that were removed early Sunday from the makeshift shrine atop a hill in Clement Park. The carpenter who built the crosses removed them after a father took down two crosses carrying the names of the two gunmen.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state)

Rocky Mtn News

5/23/99

Metro

Carpenter Removes Crosses
He Had Erected for the DeadCharacter:
or

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Carpenter removes crosses he had erected for the dead

By April Washington

News Staff Writer

Greg Zanis arrived at a hillside behind Columbine High School at dawn Sunday.

Just five days after he had put up 15 crosses to honor the Columbine dead, Zanis took down the remaining 13 crosses from the hillside at Clement Park.

Two were already gone, removed by a man whose son was killed in the April 20 shootings.

"(Zanis) drove up the hill where the crosses sat, took them all down and placed them in his blue pickup," said Mike Gentelmen, a park employee. "He wasn't happy. I guess he got a lot of flack."

Zanis, an Illinois carpenter, was traveling Sunday and couldn't be reached for comment.

Family members said Zanis removed the crosses to avoid further controversy, despite the urging of friends and family to leave the crosses in place.

"We drove 16 hours straight to put them up because someone asked us to," said his son, Chris Zanis, who helped his father erect the crosses. "The whole thing has caused problems, and he'd rather take them all down."

But Zanis' latest actions further fueled the controversy.

Brian Rohrbough, the father of slain student Daniel Rohrbough, accused Zanis of "adding insult to injury." On Friday, he destroyed the

crosses erected for gunmen Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold.

"He should have left the 13 other crosses standing," Rohrbough said. "Instead of doing the right thing to honor the victims of those two murders, he comes back and tears down whole thing."

Rohrbough said he was outraged when Zanis erected a Christian symbol to honor the gunmen, who killed 13 and injured 21 before killing themselves.

"I question his motives. His agenda was to create problems," Rohrbough said. "To have their crosses mixed in with their victims' is completely evil."

Chris Zanis, 15, said his father's intentions were pure.

"It's his way of making us take a look at the

violence happening," said Chris Zanis, whose father travels throughout the country erecting crosses for victims of violence.

Hundreds of people snaked around the park Sunday waiting to view the muddy hill where the 15 crosses once stood.

Some said the gunmen's crosses should have been placed on a spot away from those for their 13 victims.

"If they want to put crosses up for them because they were just two disturbed kids, that's fine," said Karen Albright, a 38-year-old Columbine alumna. "They were the ones who killed those people we came to mourn."

Rina Poitras of Alberta disagreed. She had hoped to place flowers on all the crosses.

"They should have left them all up, even the two boys who did the killing," said Poitras, 56. "They are victims, in many ways, of our violent society."

One bright spot lifted the cloud that dampened the day for many.

An unidentified man erected a large, wooden cross Sunday afternoon on a hill facing the mountains, near the spot where the 15 crosses stood.

"People don't realize what the cross means to the Christians who came to the park to remember and mourn," said Chris Odom, a 32-year-old Denver carpenter as he rubbed the new cross. "It's a symbol of forgiveness and healing."

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Weapon seller will surrender

Suspect given time to put affairs in order

By David Olinger and Peggy Lowe
Denver Post Staff Writers

The man suspected of selling the semiautomatic handgun used in the Columbine High School massacre is expected to surrender today, after investigators gave him the weekend to get his affairs in order, Jefferson County Sheriff John P. Stone said Sunday night.

The man, whom one official close to the case called "a local young adult," will be charged with a class 4 felony — selling a handgun to a minor, the sheriff said. It is a state, not federal, offense.

Stone did not divulge the suspect's name.

One of several guns used

The suspect met with sheriff's investigators Friday. Stone said the suspect asked for, and was allowed, the weekend to put some things together.

He added that the suspect told investigators he had no idea what the weapon was going to be used for when he sold it to the underage buyer. However, Stone said, when a weapon of that sort is sold to a teenager, no seller can assume it will be used for a good purpose.

The weapon was one of several used in the April 20 rampage that killed a teacher and 14 students, including the two gunmen. Twenty-three were injured.

The gun is an Intratec TEC-DC9. It was banned under the 1994 Brady Act. But thousands of the weapons, made before the ban, still may be legally bought and sold by adults.

Robert Ramsome, the attorney representing the gun seller, could not be reached for comment Sunday night.

Thousands of leads

Investigators took a much-needed day of rest from the case Sunday, although many attended a service for Columbine students, families and staff at Red Rocks Amphitheatre.

There literally are thousands of leads and pieces of evidence in the shootings.

But this week will be "a good week, a busy week," said sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis. This week also marks a return to classes.

— Please see GUN on 5A

Gun seller expected to surrender

GUN from Page 1A

for the Columbine students and faculty.

Beginning today, they will attend afternoon sessions at nearby Chatfield High while Chatfield's students attend morning classes.

When Columbine's students enter Chatfield today, they will receive new ribbons — blue for Columbine and burgundy for Chatfield — bound together in the shape of a heart. Columbine's 1,960 students each also will receive a T-shirt that has a single "C" on the front with clasped hands, symbolizing the two schools.

The Columbine building still is a massive crime scene. The Jefferson County school district has said it won't be reopened until the fall, but administrators want Columbine staff and students together for the rest of this school year.

"I will not allow this tragedy to erase the 27 years of excellence that Columbine represents," Columbine Principal Frank DeAngelis said at the Red Rocks memorial.

Columbine students also will be bringing along plenty of new school supplies.

On Friday, students received book bags full of supplies, thanks to donations from area stores.

Most kids left their bags and belongings behind when they fled the school during the attack.

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1776

Researchers say Harris reconfigured video game

Boy turned 'Doom' into school massacre, investigators claim

By Burt Hubbard

News Staff Writer

Eric Harris reconfigured a violent computer game called *Doom*, possibly as a dry run for the deadly shootings at Columbine High School, researchers at the Simon Wiesenthal Center say.

The game, found among Harris' computer files, was changed from a shooting competition into a massacre, Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the Los Angeles-based center, said Sunday.

It had some dying characters crying out, "Lord, why is this happening to me?"

The Wiesenthal center investigates hate crimes and groups.

"What is quite shocking and disturbing is something that might be a diversion for other kids could have been a dry run for Harris," Cooper said. "Basically, what we're looking at is a massacre."

Harris, 18, and his friend Dylan Klebold, 17, killed a teacher and 12 students April 20 at Columbine and wounded 21 others before killing themselves.

Witnesses said the teens methodically walked into the school and moved from room to room shooting guns and throwing homemade bombs.

Cooper said one of the center's Internet investigators found files several hours after the shootings that appear to come from Harris' Web site. They included several versions of the computer game *Doom* that Harris had created.

The investigators estimated Harris had spent up to 100 hours reconfiguring his versions of the game.

See **DOOM** on 14A

Monday, May 3, 1999

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE Altered 'Doom' version called 'a massacre'

DOOM from 4A

Harris and Klebold were *Doom* fanatics, friends said. Players travel to a planet where they hunt and kill armed enemies and, in turn, can be killed by demons and enemies. Players are rewarded with weapons as they reach higher levels.

However, the center found a version of the game apparently created by Harris that allows the player to be invincible, Cooper said. The game starts with the player armed with unlimited weapons and ammunition and the enemies unable to hurt him, he said. The player simply mows down all the other characters.

That version is called "God mode." Harris had used God mode to transform the game.

"It changes *Doom* from a space version of the shootout at the OK Corral to what's more along the lines of the massacre," he said.

Investigators who played the game found Harris' e-mail address embedded in some of the animated walls in the game, he said. In another version of *Doom* created by Harris, he thanks Klebold for his help.

But Friday night, the Wiesenthal investigators made a chilling discovery.

In some locations in Harris' version of the game, the dying characters talk to God to ask why they have been shot.

"It was very eerie," Cooper said.

During the rampage at Columbine, the gunmen asked several students whether they believed in God before they shot them.

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Cooper said his investigators are almost positive the audio is not part of the regular game.

"I'm going to conjecture that it was either downloaded from another game or it was recorded and laid in there," he said.

Cooper said the center will alert authorities in Colorado.

"Considering we are all trying to understand what made him tick, this particular game is shocking," he said.

It wasn't the only time Harris apparently had modified *Doom*.

Neighbor Judy Brown said she has been told that Harris modified the game so that the setting was their neighborhood and the Brooks home was the target.

Staff writer Lynn Bartels contributed to this report.

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1777

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Shoels family plans to sue over massacre

By The Associated Press

DETROIT — Geoffrey Fieger, the former attorney for Dr. Jack Kevorkian and a former Michigan gubernatorial candidate, will represent the family of one of the students killed in the Columbine High School massacre in a lawsuit.

"This isn't about money, it's not about bringing Isaiah Shoels back, it's about changing things for the better," Fieger told WDIV-TV in Detroit in an interview broadcast Sunday night.

Fieger, who met with the Shoels family in Colorado over the weekend, said he will start by filing a lawsuit against the parents of Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris. He said he may also file lawsuits against gunmakers and those who sold the weapons to the gunmen.

Fieger is in the midst of trying a \$50 million lawsuit against "The Jenny Jones Show."

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Greater Denver

Steve Myers, City Editor — (303) 892-5201 • e-mail — metro@denver-rmn.com

Jeffco man arrested in gun sale

Sheriff says former Columbine student sold young gunmen pistol they used in rampage

By Ann Carnahan and John Ensslin

News Staff Writers

A 22-year-old former Columbine High student was arrested Monday on charges he sold a semi-automatic pistol to the Columbine

gunmen, one of four guns used in the killings.

Mark Manes, whose mother is a member of an activist group called Handgun Control, was booked into the

ing \$15,000 bond. Manes' attorney, Bob Ransome, said his client has admitted he sold the gun.

Jefferson County investigators said they do not know whether Manes knew what the TEC-DC9 assault pistol would be used for, but Ransome insisted his client didn't know.

"He had absolutely no idea," Ransome said. "He was horrified when he put two and two together.



Manes

Jefferson County jail for investigation of providing a handgun to a minor. He was released after post-

and it didn't take long."

The charge carries a maximum sentence of six years in prison. Manes is scheduled to appear in court Monday.

Ransome said Manes' father, Michael, and mother, Diane, are anti-gun and that there never are guns in the family home in Columbine Hills in Jefferson County, a short distance from the high school.

Both are devastated by their

son's connection to the Columbine case, Ransome said. Diane Manes belongs to the Washington-based Handgun Control, chaired by Sarah Brady, wife of James Brady, who was shot during the assassination attempt on President Reagan.

Despite that, Mark Manes "was always interested in guns. I tell you he's lost that interest," Ransome said. "My client suddenly does realize Mom was really right

See GUN on 20A

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Accomplice is still a possibility

GUN from 4A

all along."

Ransome said Manes, who works with computers, is "scared to death."

"It's pretty obvious that people need to direct their anger somewhere. He's probably the only viable target for their anger," Ransome said.

Manes is the first person to be arrested on charges of helping Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, arm themselves prior to the April 20 shootings.

The pair killed 12 students and a teacher and wounded 21 others before committing suicide.

Ransome said Manes bought the gun recently at the Tanner Gun Show, the same place where Klebold's prom date, Robyn Anderson, purchased the three other guns used in the Columbine assault.

Manes sold it in March, but Ransome wouldn't say which of the two gunmen purchased it.

Asked what Manes thought Harris and Klebold would do with the gun, Ransome said, "It never occurred to him... Mark had been up there in the mountains shooting with them."

Ransome said Manes was introduced to Harris and Klebold by a friend who worked with the gunmen at a pizza shop. The friend lives just a block from Manes.

In other developments Monday:

■ Investigators said they have not ruled out the possibility of an accomplice.

"They've always, from Day 1, had a feeling that there had to be some people who had some knowledge or helped them plan or build some of these bombs," Jefferson County sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis said.

The coroner found traces of a prescription drug in Eric Harris' body that is commonly prescribed for depression or obsessive-compulsive disorder.

pulsive disorder.

■ Authorities were still trying to interview the Harris family. Harris' parents have declined to talk unless they are granted immunity.

■ Davis said it appears unlikely that the pizza shop employee who introduced Manes to Harris and Klebold will be arrested.

■ Investigators said they have received 1,418 leads in the case. So far, they've finished checking about 200 of them.

■ The parents of senior Brooks Brown, who had filed complaints a year ago with the Sheriff's Department accusing Harris of making death threats, strongly criticized Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone.

Stone said Monday he is suspicious of Brooks Brown.

"The Brown family made these allegations, yet their son was still running around with this guy," Stone said. "Would I rule Brooks Brown out? No, I wouldn't. Would I call him a suspect? No. Am I suspicious of him? Yes, I am."

"These guys coming by with a gun and saying, 'You better leave.' That raises some red flags."

Brooks Brown's father, Randy, said his son was in no way involved in the shooting.

"Let's make it clear that while Eric told Brooks to leave outside the school in the parking lot, Brooks' younger brother Aaron was in the school cafeteria in harm's way. Aaron was shot at and he barely escaped with his life. It is not possible to believe that Brooks would ever allow that to happen."

"Why doesn't he just admit the Jefferson County sheriff's office didn't do their job and leave my children alone?"

This isn't the first time Manes has been in trouble with the law. Between 1993 and 1997, Manes was cited four times for underage drinking, three times in Jefferson County.

He also was stopped five times

for traffic violations.

The last time he was cited for drinking was in February 1997 in Jefferson County. He was 19 years old, and he paid a \$48 fine.

One of the traffic tickets, in November 1994, cited him for attempting to elude a police officer after midnight. The day before he got a ticket for failing to have his lights on while driving his car at 3:15 a.m.

The underage drinking and traffic tickets showed he went to high school at Colorado's Finest Alternative School in Englewood and later attended Arapahoe Community College.

Other tickets had him working at Pizza Hut and later an Armadillo restaurant in southern Jefferson County.

Chris Mann, 21, attended high school with Mark Manes.

Mann remembers Manes as a nice guy and a "rocker" who favored long hair, leather jackets and tight jeans.

"Mark wasn't part of the popular crowd," Mann added.

Andy Brungardt, who lives on Manes' street, recalled seeing kids in trench coats walking past his home to a rundown house on Chatfield Avenue more than once over the past couple of years. Harris and Klebold were part of a group at school called the Trench Coat Mafia.

A Jefferson County schools spokeswoman said Manes attended Columbine from fall 1991 to winter 1993 without graduating.

Davis said investigators interviewed Manes for four hours Friday. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms traced the TEC-DC9, found its last owner and that led them to Manes.

Ransome said Manes went to police before they went to him.

"My client has taken the high road. He really wanted to be forthright," Ransome said.

Ransome was asked to explain Manes' fascination with guns.

"To me, I think it's a classic example of the effect of the media's constant bombardment of using violence, showing violence, the effect that has on subconscious minds of our youth who have grown up with it from Day 1."

Staff writers Burt Hubbard, Jr., Kass, Sue Lindsay and Marlys Dure contributed to this report.

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Denver Rocky Mountain News

TRAGEDY AT COLUMBINE

Columbine killers robbed van

Harris and Klebold arrested in 1998 for stealing from vehicle

By Ann Linse and Jeff Koss
News Staff Writer

Authorities may have dismissed warnings about the Columbine High killers' mass murder plot, but they responded in force to a 1998 car break-in the teens committed.

Six Jefferson County sheriff's deputies generated 40 pages of paperwork and took 22 photographs in dealing with the Jan. 29 theft, even though the stolen items were recovered before the victim knew they were gone, according to a police report.

The break-in was Eric Harris'

and Dylan Klebold's only brush with the law, and they were quickly arrested and sentenced to diversion.

A diversion officer saw the boys twice a month for the rest of 1998.

About the same time as the car break-in, Randy and Judy Brown warned deputies that Harris had a Web site in which he threatened to kill people, including their son Brooks, and described how to make and explode pipe bombs.

Deputies wrote a report and forwarded it to Columbine's in-school deputy, but no one contacted Harris' parents or took any preventative action.

Sheriff's spokesman Wayne Holverson noted a difference between the two cases.

The Browns filed an "incident" report that is more informational in nature, and not a criminal re-

port, said Holverson. The Browns, noted Holverson, requested that Harris and Klebold not be contacted because it could endanger Brooks.

"It's hard to question them about something they said about Brooks without talking to them," Holverson said.

Threats related to pipe bombs are common, Holverson said. So are car break-ins, and Harris and Klebold botched theirs.

The boys broke into a mechanical services company van sitting unoccupied on a lonely country corner at Wadsworth Boulevard and Deer Creek Canyon Road. The hapless thieves tried breaking the passenger window 10 times with fists and a hefty rock before succeeding.

Deputy Tim Walsh broke the case inside an hour.

On routine patrol, he came upon the youths while they were sitting in Harris' car in the parking lot at Deer Creek Canyon Park after hours. Walsh walked up to the car.

The teens were listening to music and examining their newly acquired hoard, which included a metal briefcase, sunglasses and a volt meter.

When Harris opened his door to put the items in the trunk, he found the deputy standing there, watching.

At first, the boys claimed they'd found the items. Then Klebold later confessed.

As Walsh and another deputy took the boys to the station and called their parents, they had another deputy check the scene of the crime. Deputy Mark Miller found a van with a broken window.

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1781

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

5 gunshot victims still in hospitals

By Mike Patty
News Staff Writer

Sean Graves, 15, regained some feeling in his left foot and was able to move it Monday afternoon for the first time since he was wounded, said a spokeswoman at Swedish Medical Center.

Sean is one of five Columbine High School students who remain hospitalized after the April 20 shootings that killed 15 and sent 23 to hospitals. He remained in fair condition with gunshot wounds in the back and chest, but doctors said the movement in his foot is encouraging.

Sean also has been wheeling himself around the hospital floor in a wheelchair, and has been working out with hand weights.

Richard Castaldo and Anne Marie Hochhalter, both 17, also remain at Swedish. Richard remained in fair condition in the multitrauma unit with wounds in the chest, back and arm. He has been sitting up and engaging in physical therapy.

Anne Marie remains in serious condition with a wound in the chest, but has been sitting up in a chair each day and undergoing some physical therapy.

Elsewhere, Lance Kirklin, a 16-year-old sophomore, remained in serious but stable condition at Denver Health Medical Center. He is recovering from gunshot wounds in the face, chest and legs, and faces more surgery, a hospital spokesman said.

Patrick Ireland, 17, continued his recovery and therapy Monday at Craig Rehabilitation Hospital.

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NOTES

West students protest security

Fifty Denver West High School students walked out of school Monday to protest what they say is overzealous security.

"They frisked me," Sarah Martinez Chavez, a ninth-grader, said. "They send kids home for wearing fatigue pants."

West High, like most schools in the metro area, has increased security since the April 20 shootings.

Among the measures:

- Students can enter only the front entrance; the other 25 are locked from the inside.

- Students must wear their IDs around their necks.

- Backpacks are frequently checked. Lockers are checked if there is probable cause.

- Students aren't allowed to wear trench coats or capes.

"Maybe we did overreact," Principal Irene Jordan said. "But we had parents calling, wanting assurance their children are safe. We wanted to be able to say these are things we're doing."

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Healing time for returning students

'We're going to be known
as school that overcame this'

By Brian Weber

News Education Writer

Columbine High School teachers and students cried, hugged and celebrated life Monday — their first day together since the tragedy that ravaged their school two weeks ago.

Classes resumed at 12:50 p.m. at Chatfield High School with an upbeat assembly where faculty and students cheered each other with a new sense of purpose.

"The message was we're going to be known as the school that overcame this," senior Mandy Dugan said. "We're not going to be known as the school that was overcome."

"We're going to move on, but we're not going to forget."

That attitude flowed into the halls, classrooms and out the door when school ended at the unusual hour of 6 p.m. Banners and posters of welcome and love plastered hallways.

"We couldn't have scripted a better first day," Columbine principal Frank DeAngelis said.

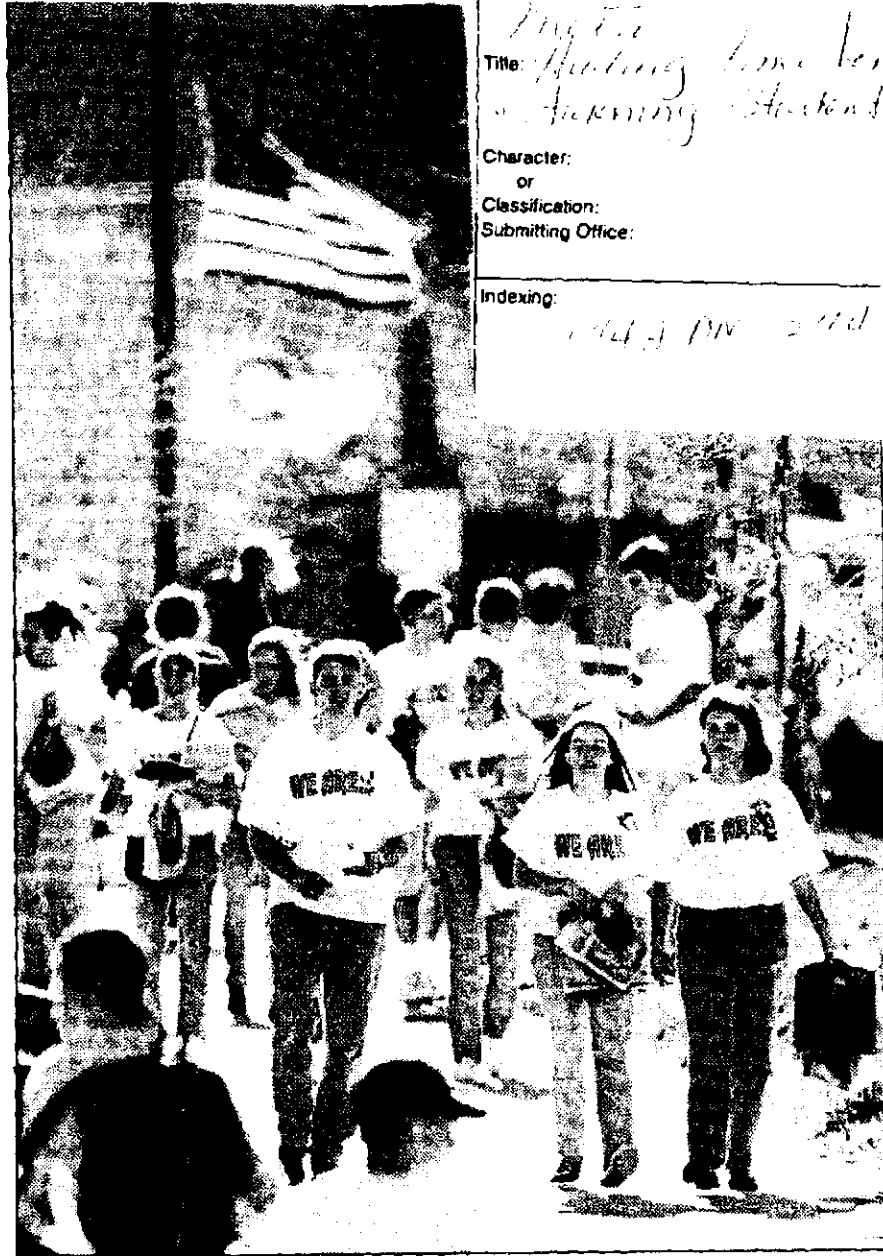
"Right now everyone is in different stages of healing," senior Casey Stoner said.

The abnormal day brought normal attendance — 95 percent of the 1,950 students and all of their teachers came. Ninety percent of Chatfield kids attended, slightly below average, district officials said.

Some Chatfield students, who now attend class only in the morning, stayed through the afternoon as guides.

"We were all crying all day, arms around each other," sophomore Kim Fox said. "The tears were not always sad but tears of joy, too."

"People would say, 'Glad to see you,'



Ahmad Terry/News Staff Photographer

Columbine students leave Chatfield High on Monday after their first day back in school since the shooting two weeks ago. Classes ended at 6 p.m.

and then they'd start crying."

They began the day where they left their last one at Columbine — in fifth period when Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold sprayed bullets and bombs throughout the school.

Kids listened and counseled each other.

"We're all just happy to be together again," Dugan said.

In shortened classes of 40 minutes,

they were somber as discussion centered on the shootings.

"Right now the priority is not academics, it's healing and getting over this," senior Sergio Gonzales said. "It was good to talk. Only we know what we went through. We can only be helped by people who know what we went through."

Staff writer Manny Gonzales contributed to this report.

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Doom level a 'dry run,' rabbi suggests

By Kevin Simpson
and Jason Blevins
Denver Post Staff Writers

As authorities examine Eric Harris' customized versions of a violent video game, those who played Doom over the Internet with Harris say he created a game level based on Columbine High School's floor plan.

Investigators at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, which flags hateful and racist Web sites, have uncovered several home-made versions of Doom found on Harris' now-defunct Web site. The versions include a "God mode" in which heavily armed

players are invincible to enemy bullets. Harris also thanks Dylan Klebold for his help in creating the typed-up levels.

Doom is "basically a game of skill and a game of competition," said Rabbi Abraham Cooper, associate dean of the center. "The version we found on (Harris') Web site is not a game of skill. It's a game of massacre.

"Here, they set the rules," Cooper said. "This was maybe even a dry run for the massacre that took place in real life."

Cooper said his center's investigators also stumbled upon a disturbing aspect of the game

found in Harris' files. As characters lay bleeding from gunshots, they shout out, "My Lord, why did you do this to me?" he said, similar to reports that Harris and Klebold asked fellow students if they believed in God before shooting them.

"It is reflective of somebody's mindset," Cooper said. "There's not a question that this was kind of the precursor for what they acted out in real life."

While Cooper said the center's investigators could not positively say Harris created a level based on the school's floor plan, authorities said they confiscated a copy of the

floor plan from Harris' house that noted good places to hide and spots with poor lighting.

And some Doom players say they recall Harris introducing such a level over the Internet.

"He actually made a level of Doom that was the same layout as the high school," one metro-area young man, who asked not to be identified, said during a visit to the memorials set up at the school. "He called the level 'CHS.' It was as close as you can get for a computer game. It wasn't the entire school — you couldn't make levels that big. But it was

Please see DOOM on 11A

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

Doom level may be a 'dry run,' rabbi says

DOOM from Page 10A

definitely part of it.

"That game was basically kill everything that moves," he said.

Chris Charia, editor of Next Generation magazine, a publication aimed at video gamers, said it's not unusual for players to create levels of familiar places.

"If you go back and see what levels were posted on bulletin boards, the first level someone made was their house or school or work," Charia said. "It helps to make a level of something you know."

Harris also created a level that outlined his own neighborhood, with the home of classmate Brooks Brown as the primary target to be destroyed before advancing, according to a complaint Brown's parents filed with the sheriff's department in early 1998.

Harris' profile on his America Online account lists "professional doom and doom2 creator" as his hobbies. And his online nickname was "Rebdoomer" — an apparent reference to Columbine's Rebel mascot.

Harris, 18, used to play regularly

on a now-closed bulletin board service called "Rec Zone" and "you could count on seeing him (online) two or three times a day," said the young man.

Another video game aficionado familiar with Harris' online persona said that judging from subsequent bulletin board postings he believes Harris also created a Columbine High School level of the game "Duke Nukem," a more recent generation of the Doom-style games. Included as weapons in that game were pipe bombs — a key element in Harris and Kle-

bold's real-life April 20 assault on the school. They killed 12 students and one teacher and wounded 23 others before killing themselves.

The aficionado, who also asked not to be identified, cited a message-board posting from a fellow gamer that read, in part: "I just realized (sic) that yesterday I played him about a year ago on a map he made in dukenukem 3d dude. Guess what the map was made of? The freaking school. His school."

Jason Blevins can be reached at JBlevins@aol.com.

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THE DENVER POST

MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH

DA summit focuses on youth violence

By Kieran Nicholson
Denver Post Staff Writer

In the aftermath of the senseless massacre at Columbine High School two weeks ago, the nation's top prosecutors gathered Monday in Mississippi in a unified attempt to stop youth violence.

The Presidential Summit on Youth Violence and School Safety in Jackson had been planned for about a year, but the recent shooting deaths of 12 Columbine students and a teacher at the hands of two heavily armed students has intensified the need to prevent such a tragedy from happening again.

A delegation of Coloradans, including Attorney General Ken Salazar and Jefferson County District Attorney Dave Thomas, participated in the opening day of the summit, which ends today.

"We talked about the unified response and where do we go from here as far as looking for solutions and taking care of the victims," said Thomas.

The conference is sponsored by the National Association of Attorneys General.

"It was really important for them to hear the message we had to bring," said Thomas. "Society and leaders of our communities need to take a real hard look at it and try to prevent it from ever happening again."

The Columbine tragedy is the

most deadly high school shooting in the nation's history, but it's not an isolated incident.

Over the past 19 months, 31 people have been killed and 72 wounded in school violence across the country, said Salazar. Fatal shootings and bombings have taken place in Oregon, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Kentucky and Mississippi.

A report authored by Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, president of NAAG, calls for a minimum of four components to stop violence in schools:

■ Every school should have a security and crisis management plan in place.

■ Schools and law enforcement must formalize partnerships.

■ Anonymous crime-reporting systems within schools should be used.

■ Conflict resolution programs should be used as an alternative to violence.

Still, in order to guard against youth violence in schools, the entire community — not just government and school officials — must become involved, Salazar said.

Salazar called on the media, businesses, churches, parents and youngsters to get involved.

About 40 state attorneys general attended the summit and the remaining offices sent other representatives, Salazar said.

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15 crosses going back up — on 2 hills

Greg Zanis says he's coming back with 15 more crosses.

The Chicago contractor first erected 15 crosses on a hillside behind Columbine High one week ago, only to remove them Sunday because of criticism that he shouldn't have mixed the gunmen's crosses with those of the 13 people they killed.

This time he'll take a different approach.

"I'm going to put 13 (crosses) on one hill, and two on another," he said.

He plans to stop by Columbine after he erects crosses in New Mexico, where six children were killed in a bus accident Sunday.

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Park district to remove memorials

A cross is silhouetted against the sky at Greiner Park on Monday. Foothills Park and Recreation District employees will begin today removing flow-ers and other memor-ials of the Columbine shooting left on "Rebel Hill." The flow-ers will be made into popovers. The removal is necessary for public health and safety, according to the Colo-rado Historical Soci-ety. Memorials in other areas of the park will remain until May 10.

Armed Staff Special to the News

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Some students advised to stay out on first day

By M.E. Sprengelmeyer and Sue Lindsay

News Staff Writers

School officials suggested that some friends and associates of the Columbine High gunmen stay home Monday when classes resumed.

Senior Brooks Brown stayed home after a counselor told his parents, "Maybe he shouldn't be there today," said his mother, Judy Brown.

Jefferson County public schools officials said they offered tutors or other options for eight to 10 students who knew seniors Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. Only six took the offer, but others joined their classmates without any problems reported, said Rick Kaufman, the district's communications director.



Brown

Those students are not considered suspects, but they are witnesses, said spokesman Steve Davis of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department.

"We believe it was in the best interests of those students and the students returning to school," Kaufman said. "There were a number that said, 'Thank you for the offer but we'd like to finish out the school year,' and we said that's perfectly fine."

Judy Brown said her son was not offered alternative education, but Kaufman said it is available to any student not ready to go back to classes.

Brooks Brown said he chose to stay home.

"People from the school are being accusatory," he said. "It's not something I need."

Brown was once friends with Harris, but he also filed complaints that Harris threatened to kill him and to cause mass destruction. His family has criticized authorities for not investigating the threats.

Harris and Brown apparently reconciled sometime before April 20. That day, just before the shooting began, Brown was outside smoking a cigarette when he met Harris, who told him: "Brooks, I like you. Get out of here. Go home."

Brown was supposed to be in the choir at a memorial service Sunday but left the stage after classmates taunted him.

He said he is not ready to return to classes.

"The general feeling around school is that I knew about this beforehand," he said. "Not only do I have to deal with the deaths of four of my friends, I also have to deal with the fact that two of my friends are the ones who killed the other two."

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Harris had medication in his blood

By Ann Schrader

Denver Post Medical/Science Writer

Jefferson County authorities confirmed Monday that Eric Harris had a psychotropic drug called Luvox in his bloodstream, but an expert said there is no scientific evidence connecting such medication to behavior changes that involve hostile outbursts.

Harris had a lower midlevel therapeutic amount of Luvox in his blood when he apparently shot himself after the Columbine High School shooting spree.

The Jefferson County coroner's office reported Monday that initial toxicology testing on shooting suspects Harris and Dylan Klebold was negative for drugs, but additional testing was done once it was indicated that Harris may have been taking a psychotropic drug.

"The standard screening was done for illicit drugs, the commonly abused prescription drugs and many over-the-counter medications," the coroner's office said in a written release. "Many prescription medications are not identified on standard screening tests. Further testing for specific medications or chemicals is done only when indicated."

The finding of fluvoxamine, the generic name for Luvox, "does not change the cause and manner of death," said the Jefferson County coroner, Dr. Nancy Bodelson.

It's not known what the Luvox level was in Harris' blood, and it's not known what Harris' diagnosis was or how long he might have been on the drug.

The military has said Harris' application for the U.S. Marine Corps was rejected five days before the shootings because he was on Luvox and because he lied about his use of the drug at a previous medical screening.

Dr. Robert Davies, director of the anxiety and mood disorders clinic at the University of Colorado, said there is no evidence connecting drugs such as Luvox to behavior changes that involved hostile outbursts.

Luvox, like Prozac, is a serotonin selective reuptake inhibitor, or SSRI, which helps to boost the level of the neurotransmitter serotonin — which regulates mood and intrusive and repetitive thoughts — in the brain.

Luvox has been on the market only since 1994. Studies before it was put on the market indicate that the drug triggered mania in 1 percent of the cases. Davies, however, said those were people who actually had bipolar affective disorder, in which there are swings between a "high," agitated mood and depression.

Davies said Luvox isn't tracked with blood tests during therapy. Instead, monitoring of drugs such as Luvox is done during doctor visits. Doctor and patient discuss whether symptoms are easing and whether there are side effects, and the dosage is adjusted. A therapeutic level of Luvox is the amount needed to control symptoms, Davies said, so it varies from patient to patient.

Davies, who noted he knows nothing about Harris' diagnosis or treatment, said he is concerned that media coverage of Harris' use of Luvox will dissuade people from seeking treatment. The drugs are effective in many cases, he said.

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Columbine students return to classes, eager to move on

By Ann Schrader
Denver Post Staff Writer

Monday was supposed to mark a return to routine, but emotions lingered as 1,300 Columbine High School students returned to school for the first time since a dozen of their classmates and a beloved teacher were murdered.

"It's really weird," said Columbine sophomore Lauren Beachem as she resumed classes at nearby Chatfield High School. "It's hard going to classes and having certain people missing. We need time to get back."

At first, Beachem was opposed to finishing the school year at Chatfield. "But they've made us feel so welcome. We were rivals, but they made us feel so welcome."

A few minutes earlier, Chatfield ninth-grader Dustin Bernall had finished a school day cut short to accommodate the Columbine students.

Bernall, a cousin of slain Columbine student Cassie Bernall, wore a picture of Cassie on a button.

"We want to get back to normal," he said. "We're opening our

arms to them," he said of the Columbine students.

The schools' new unity was symbolized by three huge banners above the main entrance. One proclaimed, "Welcome Columbine." Another sported the now-familiar memorial ribbon in Columbine silver and blue. The third added, "We Are One."

Gina Schreck, mother of 15-year-old Columbine student Jacob Schreck, was moved to tears by the display.

"The Chatfield students have done so much to take these kids in," Schreck said. "I sobbed when I saw how every inch of the school inside is covered with posters and banners, saying, 'We love you, Columbine. You are in our hearts.' We used to be rivals. It takes a tragedy to bring this out."

Security was heavy, counseling was available to every Columbine student and the school's day began with an emotional, hour-long assembly — the first formal gathering of the whole school since April 20.

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Columbine students return to classes

RETURN from Page 1A

Columbine Principal Frank DeAngelis urged his students to remember the past but to move on.

"The assembly cheered us up," said ninth-grader Allison Reardon. "We were all in it together again as a school. We cheered for a lot of people."

Casey Stoner, a 17-year-old senior, agreed. "It was great to be back and see the unity our school has," she said. "Everybody is in different stages of healing."

Monday's first priority was healing, not academics.

The school day consisted of "mostly just talking about how we felt and what will be going on for the rest of the year," said Robby Dart, a Columbine junior.

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The Denver Post: Karl Gehring
Columbine ninth-grader Brittany Barry, right, clutches a notebook as she heads to school Monday at Chatfield High.

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Eager to graduate

Before entering the school, Columbine senior Everett Wolfe listened to the song "Friend of Mine" as it echoed through the neighborhood. "It's a dream you want to wake up from," Wolfe said. "I just want to get on with it and graduate."

"Friend of Mine" was written by Columbine students Jonathan and Steven Cohen and their youth minister in memory of those slain at the school.

Chatfield students will attend school from 7 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. and then clear the parking lot within 15 minutes to make way for Columbine students who are in class from 12:50 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Some Columbine students showed up early Monday, only to find traffic snarled and parking lots overflowing. Side streets for blocks around Chatfield, located at 7227 S. Simms St., were lined with students' cars.

The Woodbourne Homeowners Association, where Chatfield is located, has waived parking restrictions.

Heavy security

Jefferson County schools officials said 94 percent of Columbine's students and 100 percent of its teachers were at Chatfield on Monday. Chatfield students' attendance was at about 90 percent.

Security was heavy around the building. There were Jefferson County sheriff's deputies, campus security officers from Columbine and Chatfield, and parent volunteers from Chatfield in and around the building.

The campus is closed so students can't come or go after the school day begins. Students can enter and exit only through the main doors and must carry identification cards.

Because they have no lockers, Columbine students must carry everything in their backpacks. If backpacks or other items are left unattended they can be confiscated, school officials said.

Many Columbine students left personal belongings behind as they fled the April 20 rampage, and those won't be released until the end of the school year.

Counseling was available Monday for every Columbine student, with the offer open as long as they need it. A "safe" room also was set up for students.

During the packed assembly, Columbine's advanced choir sang "The Star-Spangled Banner" and Chatfield's student body president welcomed them.

"It felt pretty good. We have to start moving on," said Columbine student Alicia Juarez.

Columbine students then went to their fifth-hour classes — about where many of them would have been when the shootings began. Students said they got into groups and talked about the ordeal, where they were and why it happened.

Then they went through the remainder of their class schedules.

After school, Columbine freshman Nick Bondar, his arms loaded with books and other school items, said Columbine is "bigger but it's less confusing."

Sophomore Sarah Green said "it was hard to find your way around."

Many of her fellow Columbine students got lost in the halls, she said, but most teachers weren't angry if they arrived to class late.

Denver Post staff writers Carlos Illescas, Kieran Nicholson and Janet Bingham contributed to this report.

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Man says he sold killers gun

Admission spurs first arrest directly linked to massacre

By David Olinger,
Howard Pankratz
and Peter G. Chronis
Denver Post Staff Writers

A 22-year-old man from a quiet neighborhood south of Columbine High School has admitted selling an assault pistol to the students who used it in a massacre at the school.

Mark E. Manes surrendered to Jefferson County authorities at 1:45 p.m. Monday to face a felony charge of selling a handgun to a minor. He was released from jail after posting a \$15,000 bond and is scheduled to appear in court next Monday.

Manes is the first person arrested on a charge directly related to the April 20 massacre that left 15 people dead and 23 others wounded. Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, the students who brought four guns and dozens of homemade bombs to school, ended their bloody rampage by killing themselves.

Manes, a computer programmer, could not be reached for comment. But his law-

yer, Robert Ransome, said Manes told investigators during a four-hour meeting Friday that he had no idea Harris and Klebold planned to attack the high school with the gun he provided.

"He admits giving the weapon. He was horrified," Ransome said.

"His mom and dad have been very anti-handgun, very anti-gun. And all of a sudden he has a whole new attitude. Really all of a sudden, it's like, 'Mom, you were right.' He has really changed his tune."

Manes did not know Harris or Klebold well, Ransome said, but did shoot guns with them three times, including one trip "up in the mountains."

"These kids loved to go shooting," he said.

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has obtained a homemade video of Klebold and Harris practicing with weapons in the mountains, reportedly with two men and a woman. It has not been disclosed whether Manes was among their companions on the

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tape.

Sheriff John Stone said he believes Harris, 18, and Klebold, 17, had help planning the deadliest school shooting in U.S. history — and expects some of that evidence to come from a painstaking fingerprint analysis of bullets and bomb materials.

"I think the evidence will show there were more than two people involved in this," the sheriff said. "You've got a lot of stuff that was supposed to blow up, and it didn't blow up."

Stone said witnesses have told investigators that others were involved, and detectives are looking at physical evidence to corroborate those claims. He predicted "there will be an arrest made of somebody that had direct knowledge — one or more."

Manes lives about 2 miles south of Columbine High and attended classes there. He was introduced to Harris and Klebold by Philip Duran, a 23-year-old delivery driver who worked with the teens at a Blackjack Pizza parlor, Ransome said.

Duran, who lives three blocks down West Alder Avenue from Manes, has been unavailable for comment.

There may not be any evidence to support criminal charges against Duran, the sheriff's spokesman said.

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MASSACRE AT COLUMBINE HIGH



The Denver Post / CBS

Mark E. Manes, 22, has admitted to selling an assault pistol to the teens who used it in the at Columbine High School.

The handgun Manes sold to Harris and Klebold, an Intratec TEC-DC9 semiautomatic pistol, was banned from manufacture as an assault weapon in 1994. Those already in circulation can be sold at retail stores or in private gun trades, but no handgun can be purchased legally from a firearms dealer by anyone under 21 or from a private seller by anyone under 18.

Manes is accused of selling his TEC-DC9 to a 17-year-old, a felony in Colorado that can bring a prison term of two to four years and a fine of up to \$500,000. Harris didn't turn 18 until April 9.

The three other guns Harris and Klebold brought to school — a semiautomatic rifle and two shotguns with sawed-off barrels — were purchased at a Colorado gun show by Robyn Anderson, a friend of Klebold's. Police have been treating Anderson as a witness, not a suspect, because she was 18 years old and eligible to buy rifles and shotguns at the time of her purchase. Giving long guns to a minor is not a crime unless the provider knows they will be used for criminal purposes.

Did Anderson know?

"She is not cleared," Davis said. "There are several people who have not been cleared at this time."

Neither Anderson nor her attorney could be reached for comment. Ransome declined to name Manes' employer, the price Harris and Klebold paid Manes for the TEC-DC9, and whether he sold ammunition to the teens.

He said Manes bought the gun at a Denver-area gun show, and that "to the best of my knowledge, I think it was his only transaction" as a gun seller.

Manes parents' have been "devastated" to learn their son sold a gun to the Columbine High killers, he said.

The Manes family lives in a modest ranch house with red brick trim, in a neighborhood just north of Chatfield State Recreation Area. Isaiah Shoels, one of the students killed at Columbine High, lived just around the corner.

Most neighbors knew little about the parents or the grown son who lives with them, a tall, thin guy with a ponytail who was sometimes seen taking his girlfriend for a stroll on Alder Avenue.

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A Jefferson County School District official said Manes attended Columbine High from 1991 until he withdrew in 1993. But a neighbor said Manes graduated in 1995, and in a 1997 court filing Manes said he went on to attend Arapahoe Community College.

Manes' parents are "good people. Mark had a job and a life," said

Tim Dawson, a 23-year-old friend and neighbor.

Mark Manes has been ticketed several times for underage drinking and once was charged with trying to elude a police officer. Court records show no previous felony charges.

Denver Post staff writer Marilyn Robinson contributed to this report.

Killers' friends opt to be home-schooled

By Patricia Callahan
Denver Post Staff Writer

Some "friends and associates" of the two gunmen responsible for the deadliest school shooting in U.S. history did not return to school Monday with their classmates, opting instead to finish the semester at home, district officials said.

School district officials offered the home-schooling option to eight to 12 students, and four to six of them accepted, said Rick Kaufman, a Jefferson County schools spokesman. The rest will finish the school year at Chatfield High School with their classmates.

"We wanted them to be aware that because of their association with Eric (Harris) and Dylan (Klebold) there may be some students who may be upset," Kaufman said. "We were trying to be sympathetic to those individual students as well as the students returning to school."

District officials singled out the students based on their own

investigation, information from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office and media reports.

"They were not suspects," Kaufman said. "However, they may have provided witness information."

The district offered the students and their parents tutors, home-based teachers or materials so that parents could teach their own children until classes end May 27, Kaufman said.

"It's a decision that parents, students and the school district need to make together," said Larry Sullivan, assistant executive director of the National Association of School Psychologists in Bethesda, Md. "These kids are probably as traumatized, if not more so, than many of the students."

The district did not reveal the names of the students who will be home-schooled.

Patricia Callahan's e-mail address is pcallahan@denverpost.com.

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The Denver Post / Lyn Alweis

Although the crosses are gone, 15 piles of flowers and other mementos still sit atop a hill in Clement Park. Officials plan to start removing the memorials today.

Hill memorials to be taken down

Beginning this morning, flowers and other mementos left on top of "Rebel Hill" since the April 20 shooting will be removed.

Citing public health and safety concerns, the Colorado Historical Society announced Monday that employees of the Foothills Park and Recreation District will begin removing the items at 6:30 a.m. The flowers will be processed into potpourri, and the other mementos will be placed in temporary storage.

The hill, west of Columbine High School, has been a gathering spot for mourners since 15 large crosses were erected there to remember the dead. Long lines of people trekked through thick, slippery mud throughout the weekend to pay their respects atop the hill, named for the Columbine Rebel mascot.

Controversy erupted Friday when the father of one of the victims removed the two crosses made for killers Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. By Sunday morning, the Illinois man who built the crosses had removed them all.

Today, the rest of the memorials scattered around Clement Park will begin coming down. The Colorado Historical Society and the Littleton Historical Museum will coordinate teams of volunteers to remove the items. It's expected to take three to four days.

The park district and Jefferson County's commissioners will decide where and how the mementos will be stored on a long-term basis.

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Groups lose school space for meetings

By Virginia Culver
Denver Post Religion Writer

There's a space crunch in Jefferson County because of the tragedy at Columbine High School.

And it goes beyond the problems of scheduling Columbine classes and events.

Nonschool groups, which often have night sessions in school buildings, must look for new locations because Jefferson County has closed all its 143 school buildings to nonschool events after 6 p.m.

For many such groups, such as Boy Scouts, homeowners' associations and other nonprofits, the next hope is the local church. But in many cases, churches are booked solid seven nights a week.

"We're like a 7-Eleven," said Joe Seefried, business manager at St. Frances Cabrini Catholic Church, 6673 W. Chatfield Ave. "We'd try to accommodate if we are asked, but it would be difficult because we have about every inch of our space under use."

He said the religious education and youth programs, as well as non-church events, keep the place swamped until 9 or 10 p.m. most days.

"Plus, we have to be careful about what we schedule. We can't have a basketball game going on next door to a prayer service," said Seefried.

The Columbine tragedy "has put a lot of pressure on the whole community," Seefried said.

Jefferson County schools decided soon after the April 20 school shooting to close their buildings to all but school-related events. "It was a way to tighten security, and probably will last until the end of the school year," said Nancy Hagee, of Jeffco schools' communications department.

Refunds will be given to groups that paid in advance to use the schools, she said.

Law enforcement officials are

Ellen Oltn

investigating the possibility that the Columbine gunmen had access to the school and took bombs into Columbine in advance of the actual assault on the school.

All Jefferson County schools now leave only the front door open, though people can leave from any exit. "Sometimes there's only one custodial person on duty and he can't watch every entrance," Hagee said.

"A lot of people have been displaced in the aftermath of the tragedy," said Ellen Olin, who schedules activities at Light of the World Catholic Church, 10306 W. Bowles Ave. "We're busy every night, plus we keep open a space for Jeffco Mental Health to use for counseling people because of the tragedy. This is a busy community."

"I understand the school situation, but we've already got 12 Scouts groups meeting here plus our own activities, like church meetings and Bible study," said Dot Schick Tanz at Columbine United Church, which is a congregation of Presbyterians, United Methodists and United Church of Christ members.

"We have fine arts groups and Scouts and AA meetings and other nonprofits, but we might be able to rent on some Tuesdays and Fridays," said Jerry Long, administrator at Littleton United Methodist Church.

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