

# The Denver Post

## Columbine daily notes

**April 30 –**

'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.

### Bomb hoax rattles school

Students were evacuated from Arvada Middle School on Thursday morning after a student reported finding a "suspicious device" behind a toilet in the boys' bathroom.

The Arvada police bomb squad determined the device was a hoax.

"It looked like a simulated bomb," said Rick Kaufman, spokesman for Jefferson County public schools. He urged parents to talk to their children about the "seriousness of these types of pranks and hoaxes."

### Reno suggests gun-use test

In the aftermath of the Colorado school shootings, U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno recommended requiring would-be gun owners to demonstrate they know how to use a gun safely and legally.

She offered the idea during her weekly news conference Thursday. But she did not propose any specific test or licensing procedure, and Justice Department officials said no legislative proposals along this line are being prepared.

Earlier this week, President Clinton sent Congress a series of lesser gun-control measures, including tougher penalties on adults who transfer guns to children and a one-gun-a-month limit on handgun purchases. "What we have got to do is make sure that before a person possesses a gun, they have exhibited by test that they know how to safely and lawfully use the weapon and by experience that they are capable of doing that," Reno said. "Nobody, even the most ardent advocate of guns, wants somebody sitting across from them who doesn't know how to use the weapon, who doesn't know how to lawfully use the weapon, or who has exhibited an unwillingness to do so." Asked if she was advocating federal or state testing and licensing of gun purchasers, Reno replied, "We've got to figure out how we address the issue. ... There could be different ways of doing it, and I think this is an area we should explore." She predicted the one-handgun-a-month purchase limit, if enacted, would "diminish the number of guns that reach the streets for illicit purposes and get into the wrong hands."