

Klebolds saw no hint of son's rage, letter says

By Beth DeFalco and Evan Dreyer

Denver Post

June 18

Dylan Klebold's parents saw no hint of the rage building in their son "until we watched in helpless horror with the rest of the world" on April 20.

That's what Sue and Tom Klebold wrote to the families of the 13 Columbine High School shooting victims killed by their son and Eric Harris.

The letter to Brian Rohrbough - whose 15-year-old son, Daniel, was one of the slain students - was read on NBC's "Today Show" earlier this week.

"Our hearts are breaking for you over the loss you've experienced," the Klebolds wrote to the Rohrbough family. "Dan was so young, yet so full of selfless courage. He'll never have the chance to do any of the things he wanted to do because he was taken from you in a moment of madness."

"We'll never understand why this tragedy happened, or what we might have done to prevent it. We apologize for the role our son had in your son's death. We did not see anger or hatred in Dylan until the last moments of his life when we watched in helpless horror with the rest of the world."

Rohrbough said in an interview with The Denver Post he disagrees it was just a moment of madness.

"This wasn't a moment of madness," Rohrbough said. "It was planned for a year."

Rohrbough said he feels that some of the wording in the letter came from the Klebolds' lawyer. The family retained an attorney almost immediately. They and the Harris family have been sued by slain student Isaiah Shoels' parents for \$250 million.

Despite his concerns with the letter, Rohrbough said he would like to meet with the Klebolds, who reportedly initiated the idea of a gathering.

"I have some questions for the parents," he said, and "I would like to hear from their perspective on what happened."

Rohrbough said he's called the Klebolds' minister, the Rev. Don Marxhausen of St. Philip Lutheran Church, to talk about a meeting.

Marxhausen could not be reached for comment Friday, but Lisa Simon, a spokeswoman for the Klebolds' attorney, said the Klebolds are interested in a meeting.