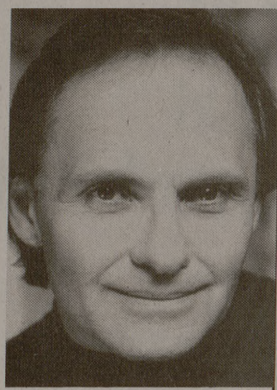


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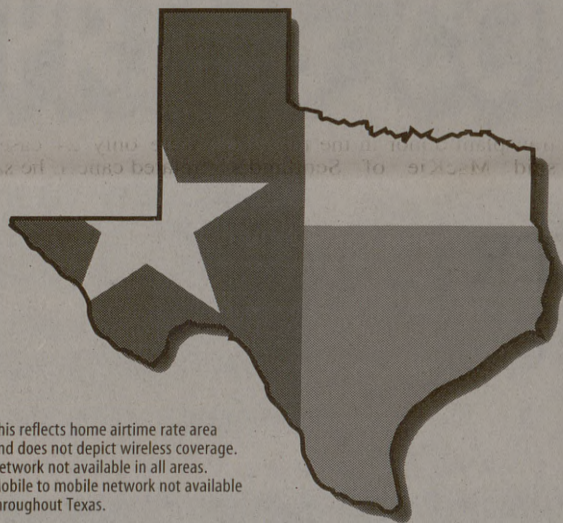
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Student opens fire at Colorado school

By Colleen Long
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WESTMINSTER, Colo. — A boy fired several shots in a Ranum High School courtyard Wednesday after confronting another student in a hallway, authorities said. No injuries were reported.

A police officer assigned to the school chased the boy and captured him nearby, Adams County sheriff's Capt. Craig Coleman said.

The 14-year-old boy, who is a freshman at Ranum, was taken to the Adams County Jail, Coleman said. All 24 schools in Adams County School District 50 were locked down.

The boy and a 15-year-old student were involved in a confrontation in the hallway and the younger boy waved his hand inside his coat pocket, indicating that he had a gun, Coleman said.

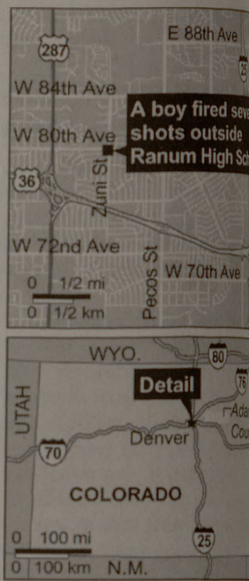
The two went out into a school courtyard, where the boy pulled out a small semi-automatic handgun, authorities said. The older student and two others in the courtyard ran inside as the boy fired at least four shots, hitting the building's facade twice, Coleman said.

"This is pretty tragic. I certainly hope it wasn't his parents' gun, but I can't imagine where else he would have gotten it," Coleman said.

The boy was expected to face attempted murder charges, Coleman said.

Shell casings were littered around the grounds of the school. Yellow police tape stretched across the courtyard.

The school near this north-



SOURCES: Associated Press, ESPN

west Denver suburb is about 10 miles from Columbine High School, where two student gunmen killed 13 people on April 20, 1999, then killed themselves.

Freshman Sara Brazas, 14, said her first class was about to begin when she heard shots Wednesday. "Every day there are normal high school problems, but I've never seen this before," she said.

Her father, Mike Brazas, was in tears when he arrived to pick up his daughter. He has seen a news bulletin about shooting while watching Secretary of State Colin Powell address the United Nations about tensions with Iraq.

"We're a nation at imminent war and I wonder why kids are to think guns are the answer. It's ludicrous," the elder Brazas said. "I wonder why parents don't pay attention to what their children are doing."

Harris says husband's death was an accident

By Mark Babineck
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON — The dentist accused of running down her orthodontist husband after confronting him with his lover last summer took the stand in her own defense Wednesday, describing how their marriage crumbled under the weight of his infidelity.

"We were best friends. We were very much in love," Clara Harris said of her 10-year marriage to David Harris, which ended July 24 in the parking lot of a suburban Houston hotel parking lot when she ran over him with her Mercedes-Benz after catching him with his acknowledged lover.

"We are mature people. We had both gone through divorce. We felt like there was no better couple than us. We were a perfect team," she said.

Clara Harris claims the death was accidental. Prosecutor Mia Magness contends it was intentional, making it murder.

Harris spent about 90 minutes on the stand Wednesday morning before a lunch break and defense attorney George Parnham had not yet questioned her about the night of David Harris' death.

Shortly after the break, however, Parnham grew woozy and buckled in a courthouse hallway, according to witnesses.

He appeared alert as deputies and associates, then paramedics,

tended to him while he lay on the floor with a towel over his forehead. He was taken to a hospital.

Clara Harris and other witnesses involved with the trial were at a distance by deputies for some 20 minutes Parnham was on the floor.

After meeting with the attorneys involved in the case, State District Court Judge Charles Davies said testimony would resume Friday morning.

Wendell Odom, one of Parnham's partners, attributed the possible fainting spell to a combination of flu and stress.

"George is all right and the trial will continue as soon as we get him back," Odom said.

In her testimony, Harris explained how the couple met associates at a dental office during their eventual marriage, birth of twin sons and the establishment of their separate practices in Lake Jackson, a Brazoria County city about an hour south of Houston, and his in the southeast Houston.

Their life together was progressing well heading into 2001, Clara Harris said, when David Harris began to change during summer.

"He was a little bit more retracted. He was a little bit more stressed. He was a little bit more intolerant of the boys," she said, although she attributed some of the stress to the construction of his new orthodontic practice.

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