

## The Deadliest School Attacks In US History

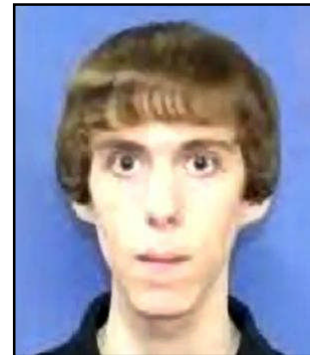
5/18/1927 – Bath, Michigan – **Andrew Kehoe**, 55, detonated three bombs in his hometown, killing 38 elementary school children, two teachers, and four other adults. At least 58 others were injured. Kehoe was the school board treasurer, and was incensed after being defeated in the spring of the 1926 election for township clerk. He reportedly viewed the bombings as his opportunity for revenge.



4/16/2007 – Blacksburg, Virginia – **Seung-Hui Cho**, 23, shot up his campus at Virginia Tech University where he was enrolled, killing a total of 32 people before turning the gun on himself. The killings occurred during two separate attacks just hours apart from each other. He was armed with a Glock 19 and a Walther P22. Cho had a history of mental illness and his precise motive is unclear.

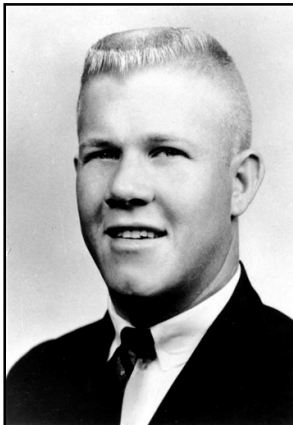


12/14/2012 – Newtown, Connecticut – **Adam Lanza**, 20, shot and killed 26 people, including 20 students and 6 administrators at the Sandy Hook Elementary School. Lanza also murdered his mother prior to the attack and subsequently killed himself when confronted by police. Lanza was armed with 2 handguns, a Glock 9mm and Sig Sauer 9 mm as well as a Bushmaster AR-15 rifle. Although his motivation is unclear, it has been speculated that



he may have been upset with his mother about the prospect of having to go through psychological treatment. Lanza's connection to Sandy Hook remains unclear as of this writing although it has been speculated that he was a student there. Prior reports that his mother was a teacher there proved incorrect.

8/1/1966 – Austin, Texas – **Charles Joseph Whitman**, 25, an engineering student and former marine, shot and killed 14 people at the University of Texas campus and wounded 32 others. The shooting occurred in the university's tower where he killed 3 inside

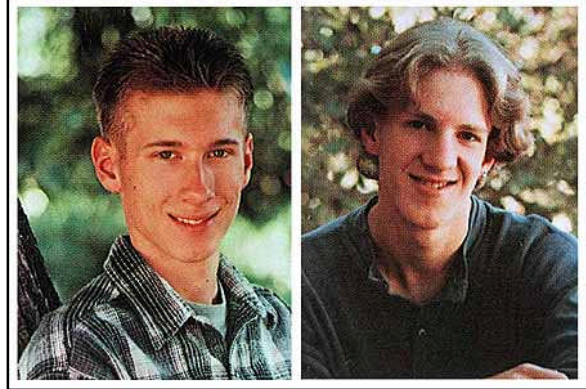


and then over the course of about an hour and a half, took potshots and people from the 28<sup>th</sup> floor observation deck. He was ultimately shot and killed by a police officer. Whitman had murdered his mother and wife the previous evening by stabbing them with a knife.

Whitman used several high powered rifles, a sawed off shotgun and three pistols in the attack on campus. An autopsy revealed that Whitman had a fatal brain tumor and had been prescribed drugs including Dexedrine, which was in his possession at the time of the spree. While a marine, Whitman was court-martialed for gambling, usury, possession of a personal firearm on base and making threats to another marine. He was sentenced to 30 days in the brig, 90 days of hard labor and stripped of his lance corporal rank to private.

4/20/1999 – Columbine, Colorado – **Eric David Harris**, 18, and **Dylan Bennett Klebold**, 17, went on a rampage at Columbine High School, killing 12 students and one teacher using homemade bombs, along with 9mm handguns and shotguns. They also wounded 21 others. The pair ultimately committed suicide at the

school. It was concluded by a group of psychologists who studied the pair that Klebold was “depressive” and Harris was a “psychopath.” Harris had a website that made a number of violent threats against students and teachers at the school that included a hit list of individuals. His website also described his general hatred of society and expressed a desire to kill those who “annoyed” him. These killings sparked an intense debate in the US over gun control laws, bullying and the effect of violent video games on young people.



7/12/1976 – Fullerton, California – **Edward Charles Allaway**, 37, purchased a semi-automatic .22-caliber rifle at a local Kmart and brought it to California State University Fullerton where he

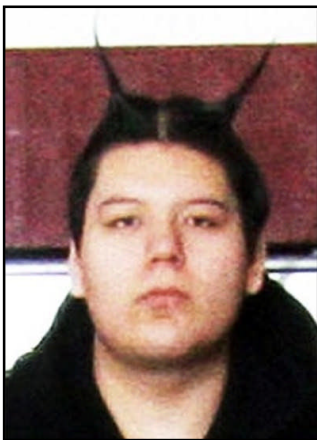


worked as a janitor. He shot and killed 7 people in the school’s library and wounded two others. Unlike many mass-murderers, Allaway, did not commit suicide and was not shot by police. Instead, he called police from a nearby hotel where his former wife worked and turned himself in. Allaway has a history of mental illness and was diagnosed at his trial with paranoid schizophrenia by five separate mental health professionals. Allaway’s motive appears to be that he believed pornographic movies involving his ex-wife were being shown at the school library – which turned out not to be the case. He has been incarcerated at the Atascadero State Hospital after being found not guilty by reason of insanity.

4/2/2012 – Oakland, California – **One L. Goh**, a 43-year-old former student at Oikos University opened fire on the campus with a .45-caliber semi automatic handgun, killing 7 people and wounding several others. He was later arrested and identified as the shooter. Goh was reportedly angry at being asked to leave the university for disciplinary reasons a few months prior to the attack.



3/21/2005 – Red Lake, Minnesota – **Jeffrey James Weise**, 16, and member of the Native American Ojibwe tribe, killed his grandfather and his grandfather's girlfriend on the Red Lake Indian



Reservation using a .22 caliber pistol he had stashed in his bedroom. He then took his grandfather's police issued weapons – a .40 caliber Glock 23 pistol and a Remington 870 12 gauge pump-action shotgun – and drove to Red Lake Senior high school and killed seven others, including an unarmed security guard, a teacher, and five students. Weise left five others wounded and then used his grandfather's shotgun to kill himself. After the shooting it became clear that Weise held a number of extremist views and considered himself a neo-Nazi. Weise had also tried twice to commit suicide the year before the attack and was under treatment for depression.

2/14/2008 – DeKalb, Illinois – 27 year old **Steven Phillip Kamierczak**, an alum of Northern Illinois University, returned to his former campus and entered the lecture hall in Cole Hall armed with three handguns, a knife, and a 12 gauge Remington

Sportsman 48 shotgun concealed in a guitar case. The pistols he had included a 9mm Glock, a 9mm Kurz Sig Sauer P232, and a



.380 Hi-Point CF380. Kamierczak proceeded to open fire on the assembled students with his shotgun, shooting a total of 25 people, of whom 5 were killed. Before police arrived on the scene Kamierczak shot himself, dying on the spot. Kamierczak was considered an exemplary student when he was enrolled at the university, and most considered him a caring individual who showed no prior signs of

aggression. However, it is apparent that Kamierczak did a great deal of research in prior school shootings, particularly the Virginia Tech Massacre, and it is believed he adopted Cho's MO in a copy-cat like attack.

11/1/1991 – Iowa City, Iowa – **Gang Lu**, 28, a former graduate student from China at the University of Iowa returned to campus and used a .38-caliber revolver to murder 4 faculty members and a student from his department before killing himself. Lu was reportedly infuriated that his dissertation had not been selected for a \$2,500 academic award. Lu had received his PhD in Physics and Astronomy six months prior to the shootings. He has been described as a loner and reported to have had psychological problems and abusive tantrums.

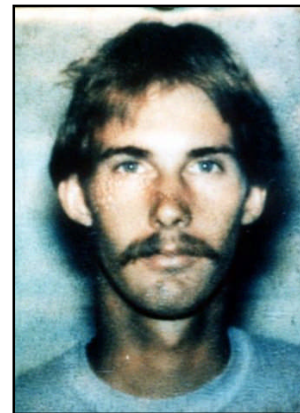


10/2/2006 – Nickel Mines, Pennsylvania – **Charles Carl Roberts IV**, a 32-year-old milk truck driver, armed himself with a Springfield XD 9mm handgun, a Browning 12 gauge shotgun, and a Ruger .30-06 bolt-action rifle before entering the West Nickel

Mines School, an Amish one-room schoolhouse. Once inside Roberts barricaded the school doors and tied up the hands and legs of his hostages. He released all the male students as well as a pregnant woman and three parents with infants. Roberts shot the remaining hostages, ten girls ranging from 6 to 13 years of age, execution style before killing himself. Three of the girls died on site, while two others died while in critical condition the next day. His suicide note stated that he was angry at God for the death of his infant daughter and that he had been daydreaming about molesting young girls.



1/17/1989 – Stockton, California – **Patrick Edward Purdy**, 24, shot up the Cleveland Elementary schoolyard using an AK-47, firing 106 rounds in three minutes. He killed five school children and wounded 30 others, including a teacher. The majority of his victims were Cambodian and Vietnamese immigrants. Purdy then fatally shot himself using his pistol. Purdy was considered a disturbed drifter as well as an alcoholic and sometime drug addict. He harbored a particular hatred towards Asian immigrants, whom Purdy believed were stealing jobs from native-born Americans. Purdy was arrested several times prior to the shooting for such offenses as selling weapons and attempted robbery.



5/1/1992 – Olivehurst, California – **Eric Houston**, 20, returned to his former Lindhurst High School and shot and killed 4 including 3



students and a teacher. 10 others were wounded in the attack. Houston, who was armed with a 12-gauge shotgun and a sawed off .22-caliber rifle, ultimately surrendered to police, following an 8-hour seige. He had taken as many as 80 students and faculty hostage before giving up. Houston claimed that he was despondent over losing his job and unhappy that he never graduated or received his GED. He also claimed that he held a grudge against a civics teacher that

had given him a failing grade. Houston was found guilty of all charges and sentenced to death. He currently sits on death row at San Quentin State Prison.

3/24/1998 – Craighead County, Arkansas – **Mitchell Scott**

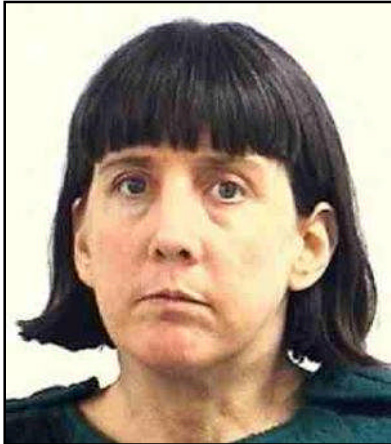
**Johnson**, 13 and his cousin, **Andrew Douglas Golden**, 11, murdered 5, including 4 female students and a teacher at the Westside Middle School where they had previously been students. 10 others were wounded in the attack. They



were armed with seven weapons (two semi-automatic rifles, one bolt-action rifle and four handguns), stolen from Golden's grandfather. The pair lured the students and faculty out of the school by pulling a fire alarm and then open fired on them from a position in the nearby woods when they emerged. The pair were tried as juveniles and convicted on 5 murder counts and held in a juvenile facility until they each turned 21. Since their release, Johnson has been arrested and convicted on unlawful possession of

a firearm, drug possession, theft, ID theft and fraud. He is currently in prison.

2/12/2010 – Hunstville, Alabama – **Amy Bishop**, a biology professor at the University of Alabama, attended a regular faculty



meeting for members of the biology department before pulling out a 9mm handgun and firing on those nearest to her, execution style. Bishop killed three professors and wounded three others.

Bishop had a history of violent outbursts – the most notable incident was when she shot and killed her brother using a shotgun in 1986. The killing was ruled an accident thanks in part to the testimony given by

Bishop’s mother. It is believed that the motivation for Bishop’s rampage at the University of Alabama was the fact that in the spring of 2009 she was denied tenure, and expected not to have her contract renewed after March of 2010. Bishop appealed the decision to the University’s administration, but her appeal was denied.

10/28/2002 – Tucson, Arizona – **Robert Stewart Flores, Jr.**, 41, a nursing student at the University of

Arizona, shot and killed 3 teachers before committing suicide. The divorced father of two and Gulf War veteran was armed with 5 handguns. Flores was reportedly distraught because he was flunking out of the school. Flores had made a threat about putting “something under the college” and “ending it all” a year and a half before to



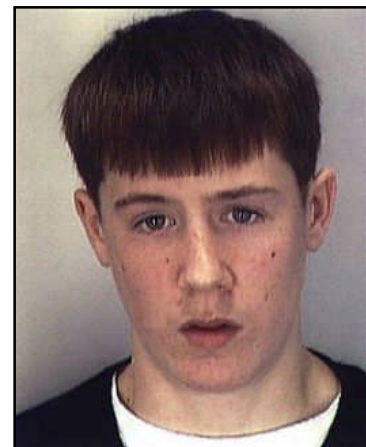


the attack. He had also reportedly displayed aggressive behavior and stress prior to the incident.

2/27/2012 – Chardon, Ohio – **Thomas M. “T.J.” Lane, III**, 17, fired ten rounds into a group of students at the Chardon High School cafeteria, fatally injuring 3 and wounded 3 others. Lane, who was armed with a .22-caliber handgun and a knife, was a student at the school. He was chased by the football coach and apprehended by police shortly after the attack. Lane has been indicted on three counts of aggravated murder, two counts of aggravated attempted murder, and one count of felonious assault. It was revealed by authorities that Lane had been arrested twice in December 2009 in two separate incidents for assault. Lane will be tried as an adult.



5/21/1998 – Springfield, Oregon – **Kipland Philip Kinkel**, 15, returned home after being suspended pending an expulsion hearing from Thurston High School for bringing a loaded stolen handgun onto campus, retrieved a rifle from his parents’ bedroom and shot and killed them. The next day Kinkel returned to school armed with a 9mm Glock 19 pistol, a Ruger .22-caliber semi-automatic rifle, and a .22-caliber Ruger MK II pistol. He entered the school cafeteria and proceeded to fire upon the assembled students. Kinkel killed 2 and wounded 25 others before being pinned down by a group of students. Kinkel explained at trial that he killed his parents in order to prevent them



from experiencing embarrassment from his impending expulsion. He also explained that he wanted the police to kill him, and that he had wanted to commit suicide after murdering his parents but could not bring himself to do it. Two psychiatrists testified at trial that Kinkel showed signs of paranoid schizophrenia. He reportedly had a history of antisocial behavior and disciplinary problems and had gone through some psychological counseling and had been prescribed Prozac. Kinkel plead guilty to murder and attempted murder and is currently serving out his 111 year sentence at Oregon State Correctional Institution in Salem, Oregon.

Data compiled by Matthew R. Marquet, Research Analyst, Marquet International, Ltd.