

VIRGINIA TECH TRAGEDY

KILLER'S FINAL MESSAGE

Between shootings, gunman sent video manifesto, photos to NBC

INSIDE

Colleges review campus security plans
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BY ALLEN G. BREED
The Associated Press

BLACKSBURG, Va. - In Cho Seung-Hui's twisted and tortured mind, the Columbine killers were martyrs on a par with Jesus Christ. And the world had forced him to join their ranks.

Friendless by choice, he accepted Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold as his brothers, and dreamed that his violent acts would bear "children."

"You had a hundred billion chances and ways to have avoided today," the 23-year-old Cho growled in a harsh monotone on a self-made video mailed to NBC News after he began his deadly assault on the Virginia Tech campus. "But you decided to spill my blood. You forced me into a corner and gave me only one option. The decision was yours. Now you have blood on your hands that will never wash off."

In a package addressed by his murderous alter ego, Ismail Ax, Cho left his final message to the world: A series of videos, pictures and writings filled with violent, expletive-filled language at a world he felt was slowly killing him. It didn't ex-

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The Associated Press

ANGRY TIRADE: These images made from NBC on Wednesday shows gunman Cho Seung-Hui in part of a package apparently mailed to the network on Monday between Cho's first and second bursts of gunfire on the Virginia Tech campus.



The Sentinel-Record/Alison B. Harbour

'IT'S A BIRD ...'

Lakeside students, from their vantage points in the school-yard habitat, noted and identified various species of birds Tuesday from posters hung in distant trees. Youngsters in grades K-4, assisted by members of Kathey Roberts' high school environmental science classes, participated in the "Bird Fest" program.

LANDMARK VICTORY

Supreme Court backs nationwide ban on abortion procedure in 5-4 decision

BY MARK SHERMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court's new conservative majority gave anti-abortion forces a landmark victory Wednesday in a 5-4 decision that bans a controversial abortion procedure nationwide and sets the stage for further restrictions.

It was a long-awaited and resounding win that abortion opponents had hoped to gain from a court pushed to the right by President Bush's appointees.

For the first time since the court established a woman's right to an abortion in 1973, the justices said the Constitution permits a nationwide prohibition on a specific abortion method. The court's liberal justices, in dissent, said the ruling

chipped away at abortion rights.

The 5-4 decision written by Justice Anthony Kennedy said the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act that Congress passed and Bush signed into law in 2003 does not violate a woman's constitutional right to an abortion.

Siding with Kennedy were Bush's two appointees, Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito, along with Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas.

The law is constitutional despite not containing an exception that would al-

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Arkansas delegation splits
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MOUNTAIN PINE CITY COUNCIL

Health complications compel Mountain Pine chief to resign

BY JAMES JENNINGS
The Sentinel-Record

MOUNTAIN PINE - The Mountain Pine City Council will meet tonight to name a new chief executive for the city.

Mayor John Clark, who was elected to the office in November, resigned April 4 due to health problems.

"The doctor informed me that I will not be getting any better and that I must now have constant care and cannot live alone," Clark wrote in his letter of resignation. "I am relocating to Louisiana."

City Clerk Tambrea Bailey confirmed Wednesday that Clark moved to Louisiana the same day he submitted his resignation.

"He was just unable to continue as mayor," Bailey said. "He was in some bad health."

Clark wrote that "the workload is more than I can physically handle at this time."

Bailey said that the city council

has two options at tonight's meeting: Appoint an acting mayor to chair the meeting, or appoint a mayor to fill out Clark's unexpired term.

Garland County Judge Larry Williams will be present at the meeting to swear in a new mayor if the council chooses the second option.

Bailey said that no list of potential candidates has been compiled.

Clark edged incumbent Mayor Frank Babb Jr. in November in a

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The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

OUTER SPACES

Langston Aerospace and Environmental Studies Magnet School student Devin Sherman, 11, adds finishing touches to a mural in the school's entryway on Wednesday. Using oil paints, students created an outer-space scene where astronauts appear to enter the building through a hole in the wall. Learning many new skills, the after-school program offered art as a subject for the first time this year.

Quote of the day

“Never one thing and seldom one person can make for a success. It takes a number of them merging into one perfect whole. - Marie Dressler, Canadian actress (1869-1934).”

MOSTLY SUNNY.
HIGHS IN THE MID-70S. LOWS IN THE UPPER 40S.
SUNRISE: 6:36 A.M.
SUNSET: 7:47 P.M.



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FRIDAY:
HIGH 77° LOW 53°
SATURDAY:
HIGH 84° LOW 58°

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