Oregon Police Say School Shooter Was 15-Year-Old Freshman

BY HASANI GITTENS

Oregon police on Wednesday identified the gunman in the Reynolds High School shooting as Jared Michael Padgett, a 15-year-old freshman.

They said he had no apparent connection to the fellow freshman he shot and killed before wounding a teacher and then eventually turning the gun on himself.

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Padgett arrived on the school bus on Tuesday, carrying a guitar case and a large duffel bag, Troutdale Police Chief Scott Anderson said at a press conference. One of those held an AR-15 rifle that the teen brought from home, the sheriff said.

"The weapons had been secured, but he defeated the security measures," Anderson said.
Jared Michael Padgett was identified by cops as the teenage gunman who killed a fellow freshman and wounded a teacher at Reynolds High School in Troutdale, Oregon, on Tuesday, June 10, 2014.

When the teen got off the bus, he entered school through the boys' locker room, housed in the building that holds the gym, Anderson said.

That's where Padgett encountered Emilio Hoffman, a 14-year-old fellow freshman, and shot him dead, the chief said.
Gym teacher Todd Rispler was shot in the hip but still managed to get to safety and initiate the school lockdown procedures, Anderson said.

"I cannot emphasize enough the role that Mr. Rispler and the responding officers played in saving many many lives yesterday," the sheriff said.

After shooting Rispler and fleeing the locker room, Padgett then encountered responding officers in a hallway and, after an exchange of gunfire, fled into a restroom, Anderson said. He was later found dead of a self-inflicted gunshot wound, police said.

Investigators found that Padgett had an unused handgun on him as well as a large knife, and was wearing a "non-ballistic" tactical vest, used to carry ammunition and a camouflage helmet.
Police also uncovered nine loaded magazines capable of holding hundreds of rounds of ammunition, Anderson said.

Students who knew Padgett told NBC News that the young man was in the JROTC and had an "unhealthy obsession with the military," often wearing Army fatigues.

Padgett's parents were not immediately available for comment, but at least one Oregon lawmaker was already casting blame on them.

Oregon State Senate President Pro Tempore Ginny Burdick told NBC News she regrets that the state currently has no law that bans assault-style weapons nor is there any law that holds parents criminally liable.

Oregon Shooter, 15, Carried Weapons Onto School Bus

Oregon State Senate President Pro Tempore Ginny Burdick told NBC News she regrets that the state currently has no law that bans assault-style weapons nor is there any law that holds parents criminally liable.
"This is a public health catastrophe we have on our hands," Burdick said of the epidemic of shootings. She said Padgett’s parents "are ultimately responsible."

Meanwhile, school officials said they were going to go forward with previously scheduled plans to hold graduation on Thursday. There will be a candlelight vigil next Tuesday on the school’s football field.

— with NBC News' Tony Freinberg and Andrew Blankstein

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HASANI GITTENS  

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Wisconsin Winds Damage Buildings, Cause Injuries

First responders from across Southwest Wisconsin offer help after a suspected tornado knocks out power and damages buildings in Platteville. KWWL's Becca Habegger reports.

Published June 17th 2014, 12:16 pm
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ONE STUDENT REMAINS CRITICALLY INJURED WITH STAB WOUNDS

(AWSER) - A student who was stabbed in the liver remains in critical condition following today's rampage at a high school in suburban Pittsburgh that left 23 others injured and a sophomore in custody. The suspect is 16-year-old Alex Hribal, and he has been charged as an adult with four counts... More »

Cops Shoot Teen in Wrist at Hawaii School

HE REPORTEDLY LUNGED AT OFFICER TRYING TO ARREST HIM

(AWSER) - A police officer shot a 17-year-old runaway in the wrist at a Hawaii high school after the teen cut one officer with a knife and punched two others, authorities said. The boy showed up this morning at Roosevelt High School, and officials there recognized him as a runaway who was... More »

School Violence Sends 90K Kids to ER Every Year

10% OF SCHOOL INJURIES ARE INTENTIONAL: STUDY

(AWSER) - "Intentional" injuries received at school send some 90,000 kids to the ER each year, a new study shows. There's only been a slight decrease in that figure over the past decade, in what researchers see as a disappointment. "With so much emphasis on school safety and... More »

Teen Stabbed to Death, 3 Hurt in Texas School Fight

IT MAY HAVE BEEN A KNIFE FIGHT

(AWSER) - A 17-year-old student was stabbed to death and three others injured during a fight at a Texas high school today. Three "persons of interest" are in custody, KHOU reports. All of the victims are students. One 16-year-old was airlifted to a nearby hospital in critical condition, though his parents... More »

5th-Graders Will Stand Trial in Murder Plot

JUDGE SAYS THE TWO BOYS KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING

(AWSER) - A judge in northeast Washington state has found two boys, ages 10 and 11, competent to stand trial in juvenile court on a murder conspiracy charge. Prosecutors say the fifth-graders had a handwritten plan listing seven steps leading up to the planned killing of a female classmate. A county judge... More »
Kid Brings BB Gun to School to Scare Bullies

BOY, 10, FACES CHARGES; TOLD COPS HE HAD BEEN PICKED ON

(NEWSER) - Police say a 10-year-old Ohio boy told them he brought a BB gun to school to intimidate students who bullied him because he wears ankle braces and is small for his age. The Cincinnati Enquirer reports he'll be charged in juvenile court with inducing panic for taking the BB... More »

Principal Shot Dead at Calif. School

JANITOR BUSTED, COPS SEEK MOTIVE

(NEWSER) - A popular elementary school principal was fatally shot in his Northern California office yesterday and a janitor has been arrested in the attack. No children were hurt, but one student may have witnessed the shooting of Sam LaCara, 50, a married dad of three. The school janitor was busted at... More »

Girls Arrested for Planning 'Attack a Teacher Day'

AND PLANNING IT ON FACEBOOK, NO LESS

(NEWSER) - Not a good idea: Inviting 100 of your friends to an event—planned on Facebook!—called “Attack a Teacher Day.” The student hosting the ill-advised event and five others who posted threats to teachers on the Facebook page were arrested last week and, not surprisingly, also suspended... More »

At One School, Better Food = Better Behavior

FINDING BOLSTERS ARGUMENT FOR HEALTHIER FOOD CHOICES IN SCHOOLS

(NEWSER) - Providing healthier food in schools is already becoming a trend — but educators might soon find a reason other than obesity to get rid of those vending machines. A school district in Wisconsin started replacing soda with water and junk food with fruits and vegetables 13 years ago, and something... More »

Aussie School War Games Under Fire

PAINTBALL FIRMS CALL SCHOOLS 'PERFECT BATTLEFIELDS'

(NEWSER) - Australian parents are furious that efforts to stamp out school violence are being undercut by paint-balling companies who advertise schools as perfect weekend “killing fields.” The head of a parents association in Queensland was “absolutely horrified” to see images of a high school overrun with adults and... More »

First-Grader With Camp Knife Back in School

BOARD SHORTENS PUNISHMENT FROM 45 DAYS TO 3

(NEWSER) - The Delaware first-grader suspended for bringing a camping knife to school is welcome to return after the school board amended its zero-tolerance policy. Zachary Christie was to spend 45 days at an alternative school; now, kindergartners and 1st-grade students with a “dangerous instrument”—a blade less than 3... More »

Family Sues School in NY Bully Battle

BOY POSTED VIDEO ON YOUTUBE URGING TEENS TO STOP VIOLENCE

(NEWSER) - Bullied at school, a Long Island teenager posted an anti-violence video on YouTube that racked up more than 15,000 hits. The 7-minute montage by Patrick Kohlmann, 13, urges kids to stop fighting, but it didn't solve his problem. Now Patrick's parents are suing the school for failing to help... More »

Third-Graders in Ga. Plotted to Kill Teacher

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