

MAY 26, 2000

Lake Worth, Fla.

Nathaniel Brazill, 13, was sent home for throwing water balloons. Police say he returned with a .25-cal. semiautomatic handgun, went into an English class and shot and killed teacher Barry Grunow, 35.

WARNING SIGNS.—Brazill had apparently shown others the gun and talked about hit lists. In his bedroom, police say they found a letter he had written saying, "I think I might commit suicide."

FEB. 11, 2001—FOILED

Palm Harbor, Fla.

Scott McClain, a 14-year-old eighth-grader, reportedly wrote a detailed e-mail to at least one friend describing his plans to make a bomb and possibly target a specific teacher at Palm Harbor Middle School. The friend's mother alerted sheriff's deputies, who said they found a partly assembled bomb in McClain's bedroom that would have had a "kill radius" of 15 ft.

FEB. 14, 2001—FOILED

Elmira, N.Y.

Jeremy Getman, an 18-year-old senior, passed a disturbing note to a friend, who alerted authorities. A police officer found Getman in Southside High School's cafeteria, reportedly with a .22-cal. Ruger semiautomatic and a duffel bag containing 18 bombs and a sawed-off shotgun. An additional eight bombs were allegedly found in his home.

MARCH 5, 2001

Santee, Calif.

Charles Andrew Williams, 15, allegedly opened fire from a bathroom at Santana High, killing two and wounding 13.

WARNING SIGNS.—Williams was bullied, a pot smoker, trying to fit in. He told at least a dozen people, including one adult that there would be a shoot-out. When he later said he was joking, they believed him.

MARCH 7, 2001

Williamsport, Pa.

Elizabeth Catherine Bush, 14, was threatened and teased mercilessly at her old school in Jersey Shore and transferred last spring to Bishop Neumann, a small Roman Catholic school. There she allegedly took her father's revolver into the cafeteria and shot Kimberly Marchese in the shoulder.

WARNING SIGNS.—Bush was reportedly still being teased and was depressed. As she fired the gun, she allegedly said, "No one thought I would go through with this." It is unclear whether she had told anyone of her intentions.

MARCH 7, 2001—FOILED

Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Cori Aragon, left, with her mother, was one of 16 students at Monument High School in the Mojave Desert to discover that their names were allegedly on the hit list of two 17-year-old boys arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to commit murder and civil rights violations. Tipped off by a female student who overheard the boys' plans, police said they found a rifle in one home, the list in the other. The boys' names were not released. This was the most serious case to follow the Santee shootings. But 14 other California children were either arrested or under observation for making threats. Around the U.S., dozens more copycat threats were reported.

OFFERING OF AMENDMENTS TO SENATE RULES

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, pursuant to the Senate Rules, I am giv-

ing notice that I plan to offer amendments to the Senate rules that would (a) require Senators to report allegations of corruption to the Select Committee on Ethics, and (b) make the Senate rules applicable to an individual after he or she is officially and legally certified as the winner of the Senate election in his or her state.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Thursday, March 22, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,732,049,780,656.46. Five trillion, seven hundred thirty-two billion, forty-nine million, seven hundred eighty thousand, six hundred fifty-six dollars and forty-six cents.

One year ago, March 22, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,727,734,000,000. Five trillion, seven hundred twenty-seven billion, seven hundred thirty-four million.

Five years ago, March 22, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,062,405,000,000. Five trillion, sixty-two billion, four hundred five million.

Ten years ago, March 22, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,449,090,000,000. Three trillion, four hundred forty-nine billion, ninety million.

Twenty-five years ago, March 22, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$599,264,000,000. Five hundred ninety-nine billion, two hundred sixty-four million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,132,785,780,656.46. Five trillion, one hundred thirty-two billion, seven hundred eighty-five million, seven hundred eighty thousand, six hundred fifty-six dollars and forty-six cents, during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SCHOOL VIOLENCE

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, tomorrow, March 24, is the third anniversary of the tragic episode of school violence which occurred at Westside Middle School in Jonesboro, AR. I want the families and friends of Natalie Brooks, Paige Ann Herring, Stephanie Johnson, Britthney Varner, and Shannon Wright to know that I will never forget their terrible loss and that my heart continues to ache for and with them. They are, and will continue to be, in my thoughts and prayers as I proceed with my efforts to make our schools the safe havens of learning that they should and must be.●

HONORING GODFREY "BUDGE" SPERLING

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. I rise today to congratulate Godfrey "Budge" Sperling, a man who has spent the last 35 years satisfying the appetites of re-

porters hungry for both a good meal and a good story. On more than 3,100 mornings, Budge has invited members of the Washington press corps to join him for breakfast and conversation with political news makers. He has hosted everyone from Members of Congress to presidential nominees to sitting presidents, as well as luminaries such as the Dalai Lama. Along the way, the Sperling Breakfasts have become more than an informal gathering of journalists and news makers, they have become a prominent part of Washington's political culture. In fact, they have become a brand name.

Today, I would like to take a few moments to pay tribute to this institution by sharing with my colleagues a little bit about its founder. Budge Sperling was born in Long Beach, California, in 1915, but grew up in Urbana, Illinois. In 1937 he graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Journalism. He continued his studies at the University of Oklahoma, receiving a law degree in 1940.

In 1946, after serving for five years in the United States Air Force during World War II, Budge joined the staff of the Christian Science Monitor, working his way through a variety of national bureaus until he and his breakfast became a brand name. Throughout a career that has spanned over 50 years, Budge has served as Chief of the Monitor's Midwest Bureau, New York Bureau, and Washington Bureau. He currently serves as the Monitor's Senior Washington Columnist.

The Sperling breakfasts began, ironically, over lunch. On February 8, 1966, Budge decided to invite some of his colleagues to join him for a midday meal at the National Press Club with Charles H. Percy, the eventual senator from Illinois, whom he had met on the campaign trail. After the successful meeting, Budge was urged by his fellow reporters to host another gathering. Budge invited New York Mayor John Lindsay, but was unable to book a room at the National Press Club for lunch. He decided to have the meeting over breakfast instead, and a tradition was born.

Since that time, the Sperling Breakfast, or "Breakfast with Godfrey," as it has been known, has served as the source of many news stories. One of the most well-known breakfasts occurred when Budge invited Senator Robert F. Kennedy to speak the day after the New Hampshire primary in 1968. While Kennedy was addressing the assembled reporters, news of the Tet offensive in Vietnam broke and Kennedy, who had repeatedly denied presidential aspirations, struggled visibly to reconcile this new information with his denials. As Budge recently recalled that morning he said, "we felt we'd seen history in the making."

This is only one example of the many memorable breakfasts Budge has