

The New York Times

*Video Rant, Then Deadly
Rampage in California*

**Santa Barbara
Independent**

**Report Details Long Struggle with Mental Illness
It Also Describes His Penchant for Nazis and Knives**

BBC

How misogynist killer
became 'incel hero'



California mass killer
thought plan was
over during April visit
by deputies

Los Angeles Times

Killer meticulously planned
Isla Vista rampage, report says



Isla Vista Mass Murder Claims Lives of Six UCSB Students, 13 Injured

The Bottom Line - May 26, 2014

(The killer's name has been redacted so as not to give him the attention he sought)



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Isla Vista Beat Reporter

Photos by Lorenzo Basilio and Mark Brocher, Staff Photographer

Isla Vista resident and Santa Barbara City College student [REDACTED], 22, engaged in what Santa Barbara Sheriff's officials have labeled "a premeditated mass murder" on Friday, May 23, around 9:30 p.m. After killing three individuals in his apartment, [REDACTED] drove his tinted-window black BMW in a winding loop through Isla Vista, and in the span of about 10 minutes, killed three more students and injured 13 before taking his own life on the 6500 block of Del Playa.

"It's obviously a heartbreaking situation to see this happening in a community that is an adjacent community to our world class university," said Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown at a late-night press conference a few hours after the incident. "But I think the problem with an incident like this is it's obviously the work of a madman."

The names of the student victims have been positively identified and are as follows: Cheng Yuan (James) Hong of San Jose, Calif., 19; George Chen of San Jose, Calif., 19; Weihan Wang of Fremont, Calif., 20; Katherine (Katie) Breann Cooper of Chino Hills, Calif., 22; Veronika Elizabeth Weiss of Westlake Village, Calif., 19; and Christopher (Chris) Ross Michaels-Martinez of Los Osos, Calif., 20. All of the student victims were Isla Vista residents attending University of California, Santa Barbara.

Stephen Kaminski, Trauma Director for Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital, spoke at a second Sheriff's Press Conference on Saturday, May 24, indicating that the identities of the 13 wounded could not yet be released. Though Kaminski could not characterize the specific injuries of the hospitalized victims, he did say that four patients had been treated and released. Of the seven people still hospitalized, two are in good condition, three are in fair condition, and two are in serious condition, he said. A Sheriff's Office News Release notes additionally, four "were apparently injured by the suspect's vehicle, eight sustained gunshot wounds and one sustained a minor injury from an unknown origin."

As the Isla Vista community grieves for those lost, it has also confronted and denounced the hateful, misogynist, and homicidal rhetoric found in [REDACTED]'s multiple manifestos.

In "[REDACTED] [REDACTED]'s Retribution," a disturbing YouTube video posted immediately before the shooting, the killer calls himself "the supreme gentleman" and claims humanity deserves destruction, "just for the crime of living a better life than me."

A 141-page semi-autobiographical manifesto has also surfaced, in which the killer details a personal history of "misery, rejection, loneliness, and pain." Rife with misogyny, racism, entitlement, and a deranged plan to exact vengeance, he declared, "I will punish everyone."

At the May 24 Press Conference, Sheriff Brown spoke on three reported contacts between Santa Barbara officers and the killer.

On July 21, 2013, [REDACTED] sustained a broken leg and beating, and claimed to officers to be the victim of assault. The case was suspended, however, when IV Foot Patrol officers believed [REDACTED] might have been the aggressor. His manifesto details the incident, in which he pretended to shoot partygoers and eventually attempted to throw female attendees off a balcony.

One of the killer's neighbors, who wished to remain anonymous, recalled [REDACTED] returning on that date to the Capri apartment complex bruised and beaten, screaming about killing his attackers and killing himself. The neighbor said he was able to calm the weeping [REDACTED] down, but the two had few conversations beyond that time.

"There was nothing I could've done," the neighbor said. "Maybe I could've postponed it, but he was a troubled kid."

On January 15, 2014, [REDACTED] accused his roommate of stealing three candles from him, with a total value of the items set at \$22. [REDACTED] performed a citizen's arrest on his roommate, who was booked into jail and cited.

Lastly, on April 30, Sheriff's deputies conducted a welfare check of the shooter at his residence, following a request from a family member. Brown said deputies found [REDACTED] to be "courteous and polite... timid and shy" as he "expressed difficulties with his social life." They ultimately "determined that he did not meet the criteria for an involuntary mental health pull."

In his manifesto, [REDACTED] related fear that his pre-meditated plan would have been uncovered. "[If] they demanded to search my room... That would have ended everything," he wrote.

A previous neighbor said [REDACTED] lashed out at him and his friends on one occasion, claiming he was a "God," and saying, "I'm better than you guys. I'm better than all you guys."

"When I heard that he did this, it wasn't a surprise to me," the previous neighbor said. "I wish that I could have done something about it."

At a press conference on the day following the shooting, Sheriff Brown characterized the incident as "chaotic, rapidly unfolding, and convoluted," with 12 crime scenes spread across 10 locations.

[REDACTED] began his rampage by reportedly stabbing repeatedly Hong and Chen, his roommates, as well as Wang, who was either a third roommate or a visitor to the residence. Sheriff Brown described the scene as "horrific."

It is unclear how [REDACTED] was able to murder his roommates while also avoiding detection. His current neighbor noted, "I couldn't hear a single thing."

After killing the three victims at his residence, [REDACTED] drove to the Alpha Phi sorority house where residents reported “loud and aggressive knocking” at the front of the building. “Fortunately, no one opened the door,” Sheriff Brown said.

[REDACTED] then left the scene, and witnesses reported seeing him shoot three female victims across the street. Cooper and Weiss died from their injuries, and a third female victim, who also received several gunshot wounds, was transported to the hospital.

During the shooting, [REDACTED] was in possession of three 9mm semi-automatic handguns—two Sig-Sauer P226 models, and one Glock 34 long-slide—as well as 34 loaded 10-round magazines for the Sig-Sauer, and seven 10-round magazines for the Glock. Sheriff Brown confirmed that all three weapons had been legally purchased prior to [REDACTED]’s residential contact.

“If the person has not been institutionalized or has not been taken against their will and put on a hold, then that information is not entered into a database and is not disqualifying information for purchasing a firearm legally,” he said.

Next, [REDACTED] drove to the IV Deli Mart on Pardall Road, where he reportedly exited his vehicle, entered the building, and sprayed multiple shots throughout the shop. Michael-Martinez received multiple gunshot wounds at this location, and died at the scene.

Alyssa Hopper, a second-year philosophy major, was inside IV Deli Mart preparing for her transaction when the first shots were fired.

“It’s such a blur,” she said, remembering that though she first felt confusion at what was occurring, she was “just scared” at the realization that someone was firing a weapon. Video footage from the shooting shows the glass windows of a refrigerator shattering behind her before she pulls out her cell phone to call the police.

While Hopper was calling 911, “2 or 3” sheriffs arrived at IV Deli, where it became apparent that Michael-Martinez had sustained at least two wounds on his abdomen. They administered CPR to the victim before leaving the scene.

“As they arrived,” the press release indicates, “deputies witnessed the subject, who they didn’t know at the time was the shooter, flee eastbound in his black BMW.”

Sheriff Brown spoke generally on the police presence for Isla Vista that night.

“We would have had what we call a normal deployment for Isla Vista on a Friday evening, and typically those are deployments that are beefed up from our other time periods,” he said.

Hopper, who has been trained as a CPR first responder, administered CPR to the victim with another individual for “10 or 15 minutes” until an ambulance arrived.

"I don't know where the sheriffs went at that point—they left," she said. "Some people say wrong place at the wrong time but, you know, it was just literally the wrong time to be out in IV in general. I did all I could to save him and I can't believe that he didn't make it."

XXXXXX, driving his vehicle on the wrong side of the road, continued to the top of the Loop near Pizza My Heart and 7/11, where he fired multiple rounds at two people on the sidewalk, according to the news release. Then, moving eastbound to the 6500 block of Del Playa, he brandished his firearm at a female victim and fired additional rounds before turning westbound down DP.

XXXXXX fired at a lone Sheriff's deputy responding to the area by foot, but as the deputy returned fire, XXXXXX fled down DP, striking and injuring a bicyclist within the 6600 block. Traveling to the corner of Sabado Tarde and Camino Del Sur, XXXXXX "fired multiple shots at pedestrians," injuring three. Turning eastward again, he shot another victim at the corner of Camino Pescadero before being confronted by "four Sheriff's deputies running across Acorn Park in response to the shootings."

Three of the four officers exchanged gunfire with XXXXXX as he accelerated past them in his BMW, "striking the vehicle and shooting the suspect in his left hip area."

After striking another bicyclist and colliding with several parked cars, the vehicle came to a stop. "Responding deputies immediately removed XXXXXX from the car and handcuffed him," the press release notes, but XXXXXX was dead by an apparently self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head. Upon searching the vehicle, deputies uncovered an additional 400 rounds of ammunition in his possession.

"I want to commend the deputy sheriffs who engaged very resolutely this suspect very shortly after we were notified of this incident," said Sheriff Brown hours after the attack. "There's no question in my mind at this point that their resolute actions and valor in doing so very well may have prevented further loss of life and injury."

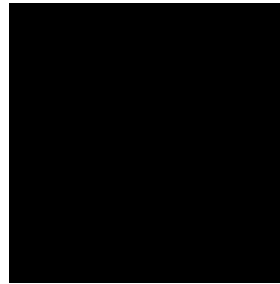
Sheriff Brown also thanked the "allied agencies assisting in the investigation," including UCPD, California Highway Patrol, District Attorney investigators, and criminalists from the Department of Justice Crime Lab.

That same night, at around 12:30 a.m., around 12 heavily armed officers could be seen entering the Capri Apartments on Seville Road. This is presumably where first entry to XXXXXX's residence was made, and his first three victims were discovered.

"I think it's really important to recognize that this type of incident could have occurred anywhere, that this is not does not appear to be tied to the community," said Sheriff Brown. "In the days and weeks that follow there will be a very clearer picture of something that has turned out to be an all too common occurrence in our country, where someone who is obviously severely mentally disturbed resorts to extreme violence, and in the process, murders a significant number of innocent victims."



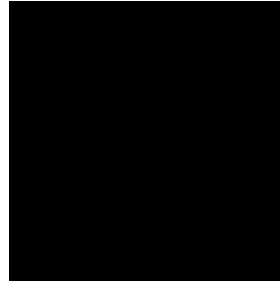
The guns registered to [REDACTED].
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



A body is removed from the killer's apartment at Capri complex on Seville Road on May 24.
[warning - image is graphic] (Photo by Mark Brocher)



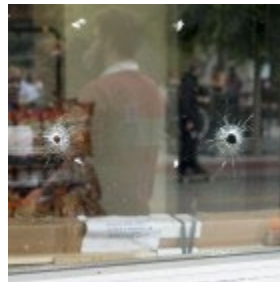
Sheriff Bill Brown speaks at a press conference on May 24 at the Sheriff's Headquarters.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Blood in IV Deli Mart the morning after the shootings on May 24.
[warning - image is graphic] (Photo by Mark Brocher)



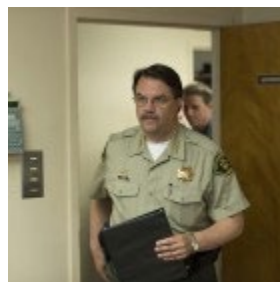
Richard Martinez (center), father of Christopher Michael-Martinez, is joined by his brother Alan Martinez to speak before the sheriff's press conference on May 24.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Bullet holes in the 7-Eleven window on Trigo Road.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Richard Martinez, father of Christopher Michael-Martinez, speaks before the sheriff's press conference on May 24.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Sheriff Bill Brown enters the conference room at the Sheriff's Headquarters a few hours after the shootings, early morning on May 24, to address the press.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



An Isla Vista resident is interviewed by a news crew the night of the shootings.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Paramedics and police at one of the nine crime scenes in Isla Vista on May 23.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



A broken window in the open space between Pizza My Heart and Crushcakes on Trigo Road.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)

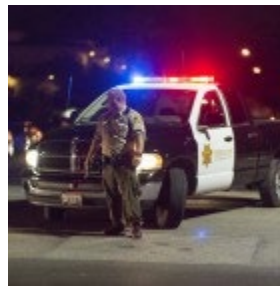


Image Courtesy of the Bottom Line Archive



Paramedics in front of IV Deli Mart on May 23.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



An injured victim is put into an ambulance by paramedics on May 23.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Paramedics talk at one of the nine crime scenes in Isla Vista on May 23.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



XXXXXX's car is towed on the morning of May 24.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



XXXX's car.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



One of nine crime scenes in Isla Vista.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



Police officers at the crime scenes on May 24.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



A police officer on the night of the shootings on May 23.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Isla Vista residents examine the bullet holes in the IV Deli Mart window on May 24.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)



Sheriff Bill Brown at the Sheriff's Headquarters a few hours after the shootings, early morning on May 24, addresses the press.
(Photo by Mark Brocher)



Bullet holes in the IV Deli Mart window on Pardall Road.
(Photo by Lorenzo Basilio)