

**YOU'LL GET A \$50 VISA GIFT CARD
WITH YOUR NEW SUBSCRIPTION!**



KING COUNTY **Journal** *Online* **kingcountyjournal.com**

Opinion

Ordinances



[Archive](#) | [Mytown](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Home Delivery](#) | [Advertising](#) | [Contact Us](#)

[Home](#)
[Local News](#)
[Business](#)
[Prep Sports](#)
[Sports](#)
[Opinion](#)
[Obituaries](#)
[Paid](#)
[Obituaries](#)
[Milestones](#)
[Living](#)
[Entertain.](#)
[Women's](#)
[Journal](#)
[Site Map](#)
[Search](#)
[Archive](#)

[World News](#)
[MoneyWire](#)

[Mytown](#)
[Classifieds](#)
[Special](#)
[Features](#)

[Traffic](#)
[Weather](#)
[Lotto](#)
[Crossword](#)
[Dilbert](#)
[Horoscope](#)
[Movies](#)
[Komo TV](#)
[TV Listings](#)

[Home](#)
[Delivery](#)
[Advertising](#)
[Jobs with Us](#)
[Print with Us](#)
[About Us](#)
[Contact Us](#)

Sometimes there's no explaining the horror

2006-03-28

It wasn't 9/11, it wasn't a building-crumbling earthquake or even a devastating tidal wave that swept away a town on the other side of the world. It was a shooting barely a dozen miles from our suburban homes, yet the reverberations are as terrifying as anything we can imagine.

Six young people, barely ready to face the world, died when a deranged person sprayed bullets indiscriminately through a small Capitol Hill house Saturday morning, about the time many of us were just awaking.

How could this be? What would possess someone to kill people he barely knew? The reason is irrelevant. We can expect to hear about how the shooter grew up, who he was, conflicting recollections that already range from ``respectful" to ``moody" to ``extremely dangerous." We'll wring our hands and say we should've known, we should've recognized he needed help.

But sometimes there are no answers. No matter how much digging is done into the shooter's past, how many accounts we hear of the last moments inside that blue house ... there's no satisfactory answer to the random, horrific life-taking early Saturday morning.

At about 11:30 that night, a Jeep Cherokee broadsided a BMW in downtown Bellevue. Both vehicles were going fast, and the force of the impact was so great that the Jeep driver bent the steering wheel. The vehicles carried a total of 11 young people. Robert Vasen, a graduate of Bellevue High School and a student at the University of Washington, was in the BMW, sitting in the back seat behind the driver. He was initially kept alive on life support.

But that same afternoon, a man snatched a 2-year-old from her stroller in downtown Portland. He didn't get more than 10 steps away before being tackled by a small army of bystanders.

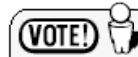
It was a small event, and the outcome was positive, a reminder that there is good news out there. It was enough to make us forget the weekend. Almost.

PulsePoll

Should cable-TV channels be offered in a package or a la carte?

- In a package.
 A la carte.

[view results](#)



Eastside:
King County Journal
11400 S.E. 8th St.
Suite 450
Bellevue, WA 98004
Phone: (425) 455-2222
Fax: (425) 453-4193

South County:
King County Journal
600 Washington Ave. South
Kent, WA 98032
Phone: 253-872-6600
Fax: 253-854-1006



All materials Copyright © 2006 Horvitz Newspapers, Inc.
Any questions? See our [contact page](#).