




Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire

THE DENVER POST

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017  SUNNY AND COOL ▲56° ▼40° »16A • © THE DENVER POST • \$2 PRICE MAY VARY OUTSIDE METRO DENVER

★★★

Las Vegas Shooting » Coverage on Pages 6-8A | Updates online at denverpost.com

Grief, confusion

“Act of pure evil”: At least 59 are killed and more than 500 injured in the deadliest mass shooting in U.S.

The victims: Family, friends share stories about those slain and the hundreds who were injured. »7A

The gunman: Motive a mystery as officials find dozens of weapons in his hotel room and his home. »6A



A man tries to protect a woman as other concertgoers flee from the Route 91 Harvest country music festival grounds after a gunman, identified as 64-year-old Stephen Paddock of Mesquite, Nev., opened fire Sunday night on the Las Vegas Strip. The gunman killed at least 59 people and injured more than 500 before killing himself in his hotel room at Mandalay Bay. The man shielding the woman in this photograph eventually helped her stand and they walked away. David Becker, Getty Images

Heroics emerge from chaos

By Lindsey Bever
and Wesley Lowery
The Washington Post

LAS VEGAS» Seconds after the pop-pop-pops started echoing through the Las Vegas Strip on Sunday night, the music stopped and concertgoers tried to decide what had happened. “That’s gunshots,” one person

said. “That’s gunshots.” “Get down,” another person shouted. “Stay down.” People started to scream as bullets sprayed into a crowd of thousands of attendees at the three-day Route 91 Harvest country music festival in Las Vegas. Some people started to scatter and search for cover. But some people stayed behind

— or even made their way to the chaotic and deadly scene — to help the victims of the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history. Former minor-league baseball player Todd Blyleven, who had traveled with family and friends from Dallas for the concert, said

Gunman a wealthy investor. Public records on Stephen Paddock offer no hint of criminal history or financial distress. »6A

Staying safe. Security experts share tips. »6A

More stories about survivors and victims. »7A

RESCUE »8A

By Sally Ho
and Regina Garcia Cano
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS» The rapid-fire popping sounded like firecrackers at first, and many in the crowd of 22,000 country music fans didn’t understand what was happening when the band stopped playing and singer Jason Aldean hustled off the stage. “That’s gunshots,” a man could be heard saying emphatically on a cellphone video in the nearly half minute of silence and confusion that followed. A woman pleaded with others: “Get down! Get down! Stay down!” Then the pop-pop-pop noise resumed. And pure terror set in. “People start screaming and yelling, and we start running,” said Andrew Akiyoshi, who provided the cellphone video to The Associated Press. “You could feel the panic. You could feel like the bullets were flying above us. Everybody’s ducking down, running low to the ground.” While some concertgoers hit the ground Sunday night, others pushed for the crowded exits, shoving through narrow gates and climbing over fences as 40- to 50-round bursts of automatic weapons fire rained down on them from the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay casino and hotel. By Monday afternoon, 59 victims were dead and 527 injured in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history. “You just didn’t know what to do,” Akiyoshi said. “Your heart is racing, and you’re thinking, ‘I’m going to die.’” The gunman, identified as Stephen Craig Paddock, a 64-year-old retired accountant from Mesquite, Nev., killed himself before officers stormed Room 135 in the gold-colored glass skyscraper. The avid gambler who, according

SHOOTING »8A

DENVER & THE WEST FIRST DAY OF SPECIAL SESSION ENDS WITH ONE OF TWO BILLS VOTED DOWN

Republicans and Democrats are at an impasse over a marijuana tax error, signaling what’s likely to be a fruitless attempt to address the problem during a rare special legislative session. »2A

Overhaul of the 16th Street Mall. Three bus-alignment changes are unveiled. »2A

BUSINESS CRESTED BUTTE FAMILY ON MISSION OF MEMORY OF SON

Megan and Scott Reamer, founders of Jackson’s Honest chips, receive a \$1.25 million boost from an investor on “Shark Tank.” The company started as a way of finding a perfect diet for their late son, who suffered from a rare disease. »10A

NATION & WORLD ROCK ‘N’ ROLL GREAT TOM PETTY DIES AT 66



The superstar, backed by his band the Heartbreakers, was known for such hits as “Free Fallin’,” “Refugee” and “American Girl.” »13A

Nobel Prize in medicine. Three Americans win the award for discovering the key genetic “gears” of the body’s 24-hour clock. »14A

Interior secretary. A federal watchdog begins an investigation into Ryan Zinke’s travel during his months in office. »15A

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