

Football 201

Chapter 201 Worlds Attention

CNN News with Anderson Cooper:

Anderson Cooper, "Good evening, we begin tonight with a breaking and tragic story out of Red Oak Prep, a prestigious private school known for its academic and athletic excellence. Earlier today, a shooting occurred on campus, leaving multiple students injured and traumatized."

Anderson Cooper continued, "I'm told that there has been a confirmed death count of three students and one teacher. Two students are in critical condition and are undergoing surgery. One of the critically injured is Rakim Rex, a sophomore and a Soccer prodigy who has garnered national and international attention."

Cooper turned to his co-host, Erin Burnett. "Erin, this incident has shaken the community. Can you tell us more about the situation at the school and the reaction from the community?"

Erin Burnett nodded, her expression sombre. "Anderson, Red Oak Prep is known for its academic programs and outstanding athletic achievements. This shooting has devastated not just the school but the entire community. Parents, students, and faculty members are in shock. The local authorities are working tirelessly to provide support and counselling for those affected. The school's crisis management team has been activated, and additional security measures are being put in place."

Anderson Cooper added, "We have our correspondent Sara Sidner on the scene. Sara, what can you tell us about the latest developments?"

Sara Sidner, standing in front of the school gates, reported, "Anderson, it's a heartbreaking scene here at Red Oak Prep. The school has been cordoned off as investigators continue to gather evidence. We've seen a steady stream of parents arriving, desperate for information about their children. The community is rallying together, offering support and comfort to one another in this incredibly difficult time. We'll continue to provide updates as more information becomes available."

NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt:

"Good evening. We begin tonight with a tragic incident at Red Oak Prep, a school known for its academic excellence, now shattered by a school shooting. Rakim Rex, a sophomore and football prodigy who has garnered national and international, is among the wounded and is currently undergoing surgery. Our correspondent, Kate Snow, is at the school with more details."

Lester Holt turned to his co-host, Savannah Guthrie. "Savannah, this tragedy has left a deep impact on the community. What more can you share about the victims and the ongoing situation?"

Savannah Guthrie responded, "Lester, the victims of this tragic event include three students and one teacher who have lost their lives. Two students remain in critical condition, including the fermentation Rakim Rex. The school has been closed until further notice, and grief counsellors are being brought in to support the students and staff."

Lester Holt added, "Kate Snow is on the ground at Red Oak Prep. Kate, what can you tell us?"

Kate Snow reported, "Lester, it's a sombre atmosphere here. The shock is palpable. I've spoken to several parents and students who are pretty shaken up by the situation. The authorities are continuing their investigation, and we expect more details to emerge in the coming hours."

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[Next day]

ESPN

Toni Collins's figure appeared on the screen sitting behind the ESPN desk as she addressed the camera. "In breaking news, yesterday a shooting in Florida at Red Oak Prep has caught the attention of soccer teams all around the world. This horrific incident with a confirmed death total of 4 left multiple students injured, including Rakim Rex, a young soccer prodigy who recently shone in the under-17 World Cup."

At this moment David Lloyd who had been sitting next to her took the chance to speak. "his exceptional performance in various international tournaments has him linked with a move to Europe and quite a few prominent. Now however that move might be in limbo as we are told he received a GSW to the chest and lost quite a lot of blood on arrival."

Sports Illustrated: The hope of American Soccer shot during a school shooting. Tragedy struck Red Oak Prep with a school shooting that has left 4 dead and several injured. Among them is Rakim Rex the young wunderkind out of Orlando Florida. Our thoughts are with all those affected by this senseless act of violence. We will be following Rakim's recovery closely, given his significant impact on the sports world."

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Hundreds of news outlets were covering this shooting both within the states and internationally. Most of them talked briefly about the tragedy calling into question America's loose gun laws before turning their attention to Rakim. Since he had already been somewhat of a celebrity in the football world it was expected.

However, the boy himself wasn't aware of any of the turbulent information spreading across the internet. Ever since he passed out after subduing Toby he had been in a coma due to severe blood loss. The police managed to rush him to the nearby St Joseph hospital where they promptly established his condition.

They wanted to perform surgery on him but his family refused, Lisa was too distraught to make a decision. Tears seemed to be her default setting to deal with the tumultuous emotions she was feeling. Ben on the other hand didn't trust the surgeons there and called up a favour to fly in a specialist from New York.

The surgery performed by Doctor Shepperd a cardiovascular surgeon specialising in athletes went great. His prognosis was for Rakim to make a full recovery with minimal nerve damage to his right arm. However, despite the surgery taking place on Tuesday evening just a day after the shooting Rakim shows no signs of waking up.

Brain damage was ruled out after thorough testing indicating brain activity by the head of neurosurgery. It was concluded that although his brain was active his body had undergone a massive shock and was taking its time to recover. They were hopeful he would wake up in 10 days before they would have to worry.

Thus the entire Rex Family spent their days and nights in the hospital trying to be there just in case he woke up. Emma and May were also admitted to the hospital, the latter for the graze and mental factor. Emma was held on purely mental concerns by the psychiatrist not that they could have made her leave in the first place.

She was practically glued to the bedside of her brother and later May who joined him. If not for one of her parents taking her home so she could freshen up once a day she wouldn't have left. Later having May as the company helped as the two girls bonded over the experience of seeking comfort in one another.

On the first day, it was just their family and May who's family was out of town at her brother's baseball game. They had to reassure the Parkers over the phone that their daughter was okay and would be taken care of till they got here. On day two Lex joined the group with her mother who finally agreed to let her out of the house.

She didn't feel safe outside either but she wanted to be there for her friend who had saved her during the single most horrible incident in her life. She wasn't the only one to join them as May's family arrived followed by Liv who came to be with her two friends. They continued to receive support and visitors as more days passed from friends and family who flew out to be with them.

However, what Lisa especially didn't appreciate was the hounding of reporters. Every time she left the hospital to get some fresh air so that she could think someone was there asking her questions about her son. Not only that some of the more daring ones even snuck into the hospital in hopes of getting a scoop.

Her son's battle on the brink of death was seen as nothing more than explosive news to these vultures. she had never liked the attention her son got from them when he started shining but understood it was part of the sports. However, experiencing the ugly side of it first hand all her fears about how harmful the media can be became true.