

## **Cops sweep W . Virginia for suspects in slayings - Police insist those responsible for the slayings of four teens are from Detroit.**

Detroit News, The (MI) - Thursday, May 26, 2005

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Investigators **in** what police are calling the "gruesome" **slaying** of four Huntington, **W .Va.**, teenagers said Wednesday they have developed strong leads and a list of "people of interest."

Police have identified "dozens of people we're trying to look **for** " **in** the broad investigation into the May 22 shootings, which occurred hours after a prom attended by two of the victims.

"We still believe that the people responsible **for** these murders were from Detroit," said Huntington Police Capt. Steven Hall. "It's well documented that Detroit is the major supplier of crack cocaine **in** Huntington."

Authorities on Wednesday gave the FBI **in** Detroit the "street nicknames" of several possible **suspects in** the shootings, but Hall couldn't comment on the reliability of the information.

Michael Dillon, 17, and Megan Poston, 16, his date to the prom Saturday night, were among the four killed.

Dillon was wearing dress pants and a sport coat when he was found shot to death **in** a driveway. Poston had changed out of her prom dress, Hall said. The couple was acquaintances of Dante Ward, 19, who was also killed, along with Eddrick Clark 18, of South Point, Ohio.

Hall said it still isn't clear exactly why the four had gone to Ward's apartment, where they were shot. "There's nothing to indicate that these were troubled individuals," Hall said. "They weren't people who were particularly known to law enforcement."

More than 20 members of a joint federal, state and local task force met Wednesday morning to discuss progress on the investigation and track down leads, Hall said. The FBI **in** Detroit and Detroit Police are also helping to run down leads.

Police **in** Huntington have reported a string of drug-related crimes connected to the Detroit drug trade. Last year, a suspected drug dealer kidnapped the brother of a local lawyer **in** Huntington, demanded a ransom from the family and led police on a high-speed chase.

Two Detroiters arrested **in** Detroit last month are charged with first-degree murder **in** the July 2004 shooting of a former West **Virginia** high school honors student, Wendy Morgan. Her death drew attention across West **Virginia** because a local TV station had interviewed her shortly before her death about her addiction to crack cocaine and her life as a prostitute.

Another Detroit man was sentenced to 10 years **in** U.S. District Court **in** West **Virginia** for selling drugs.

"There's no question we have a major problem with Detroit people selling drugs," said Cabell County Prosecutor Chris Chiles.

Drugs are more expensive **in** West **Virginia** , making it an attractive place **for** drug gangs to make money, **in** part because they are farther from major cities.

On Monday, police questioned and detained 16 people **in** the shooting, including 12 Detroiters. Of those, nine were charged with drug offenses, stolen property crimes or weapons charges, but Chiles said police don't believe any of those charged are linked to the deaths.

Police also were reviewing the arrest of a Detroit man Tuesday **in** Charleston, **W** .Va., **in** the robbery of a hotel, Hall said.

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Company Name: #keywords2#

Index Terms: POLICE ; MICHIGAN ; MURDER ; INVESTIGATION

Record Number: det19128680

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