

## **DETROIT: BOYS ATTACK SPECIAL ED STUDENT - TROUBLE FOUND AT HIGH SCHOOL**

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Author: CHASTITY PRATT DAWSEY, FREE PRESS EDUCATION WRITER

A special education student at Henry Ford High in Detroit was badly beaten by several boys in what his mother suspects was a random attack.

The incident comes at a time when parents and one school board member have asked for an investigation into violence and suspected misuse of funds at the school, and just three months after a police mini-station was placed on the campus.

Freshman **Darious Bell**, 15, who has a shunt in his spine as well as a seizure disorder and other physical challenges, was stomped on by at least four boys, his mother, Tonya Norfolk, 37, said Monday.

"When he smiles, the left side of his face doesn't even move. ... He's been having real bad headaches, and I'm not sleeping because I have to watch him," Norfolk said as her son was having his damaged tooth and braces fixed at a dentist's office.

One boy was suspended in connection with the attack, a school official confirmed Monday. It was unclear whether charges would be brought.

While the ambulance was at the school Friday responding to the incident, Principal Terry Truvillion was reportedly monitoring a pep rally, an event some parents and school board member Annie Carter suspect may have been an unauthorized fund-raiser - students had to pay a fee to attend.

Truvillion could not be reached for comment Monday.

Carter said parents have contacted her about several problems at the school this year. She has requested proof that fund-raisers were authorized.

"I'm calling for an audit that needs to be done immediately," Carter said, adding that she wants to know why an outside accountant is doing the school's books. "I would love to see the books."

Carolyn Miller **Bell**, president of the Local School Community Organization at Ford, said central administration needs to weigh in on Ford's issues.

"Not all students, but a handful of the students are kind of out of control. The administration, the principal and the parents need to get together and put their foot down," she said.

Contact CHASTITY PRATT DAWSEY at 313-223-4537 or [cpratt@freepress.com](mailto:cpratt@freepress.com).

DISCLAIMER: THIS ELECTRONIC VERSION MAY DIFFER SLIGHTLY FROM THE PRINTED ARTICLE

Edition: METRO FINAL

Section: NWS; NEWS

Page: 3B

Index Terms: Henry Ford High School; student victim; special education; violence; high school

Record Number: dfp0000513008

Copyright (c) Detroit Free Press. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.