

## LOCAL TODAY

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DETROIT

### **Eliza Howell Park rapist , robber found guilty**

A Detroit man prosecutors have dubbed the **Eliza Howell Park** serial **rapist** and **robber** has been convicted of terrorizing couples as they visited the **park** this summer.

A Wayne County jury **found** Garnal Hilton, 22, **guilty** of all 17 charges against him. The jury deliberated for half days on Friday and Monday before reaching the verdict.

In a span of 48 hours in June, Hilton victimized at least three couples as they visited the west-side **park** -- robbing them and then raping the women. A masked Hilton used a gun on June 28 and 29 to force the couples to lie on the ground. He then searched them and their cars before raping the women.

He was convicted on seven counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, three counts of armed robbery, three counts of assault with intent to rob while armed, three counts of using a firearm to commit a felony and one count of receiving and concealing stolen merchandise.

Hilton, who lived near the **park** with his wife and 2-year-old daughter, is to be sentenced by Judge Gregory Bill on Jan. 7. He faces up to life in prison.

By Suzette Hackney

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