

## SHOOTINGS NEAR CENTRAL LEAVE STUDENTS IN FEAR

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Fearing the same violence that put two of their classmates and three other youths **in** hospitals Monday, **students** at **Central** High School on Tuesday spoke guardedly of gunshots and of a mysterious blue Mercedes and its occupants who opened fire on five teenagers near the school.

"It's kind of dangerous around here to talk," said a 15-year- old ninth grader who refused to give his name. "You can get **in** a common fistfight and someone can come back with a gun. I can get a gun.

"I keep a gun," the youth continued, "for household use."

Police continued their search for two young men **in** a blue Mercedes who got out of the car, crouched and then fired on a group of youngsters near a candy store on Linwood, between Webb and Burlingame, about 2:45 p.m. Monday. Police believe the attack was motivated by an earlier incident **in** which someone threw a brick at the car.

INJURED **IN THE SHOOTING** attack were Tony Chambliss, 17, a **Central student** ; D'Andre Hemmitt, 16, also a **Central student** ; Kenneth Parker, 19, a **Central** graduate; Leon Aiken, 15, a **student** at St. Martin De Porres High School, and Isaac Epps, 16, a night **student** at Cass Tech.

Chambliss and Epps remained at Henry Ford Hospital Tuesday **in** "improved" condition, a hospital representative said. Aiken was released Tuesday. Hemmitt and Parker were treated at Metropolitan Hospital and released Monday night.

Sharon Davis, a clerk at the C & G Candy Store, near where the **shootings** took place, said she heard at least eight shots. She said store employes try to discourage youngsters from "hanging out," but "they are hardheaded and they like to hang out **in** front of the store."

**CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**, just east of where Monday's **shootings** occurred, is relatively safe, according to assistant principal Clarence Jackson. "We do a good job of patrolling the campus area, but we can't be responsible for Linwood and Dexter (another nearby street)," Jackson said.

"It's not safe to walk around Linwood," said Freda Mosley, a **Central** ninth grader. "Once you come on Linwood you are so scared. Everybody is upset; I know I am. You can't even stand at the bus stop," she said.

"Everybody's upset. It gives **Central** a bad name," said another.

Detroit police refused to say much about the **shooting** , but did say officers from the "gang squad" were tracking down several leads. Privately, however, some officers said the youth who purportedly threw the brick at the Mercedes had fought with the car's owner last week.

Officers said the blue Mercedes might be one of several driven by drug pushers who operate **in** the neighborhood.

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Caption: Pix CRAIG PORTER

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