

TEEN KILLER WANTED AGAIN - NOW 25, MAN'S CHARGED IN 3 DEATHS

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When 15-year-old **Damien Dorris** pleaded guilty in 1993 to second-degree murder in the robbery and slaying of a Detroit woman at an ATM, the victim's sister made a prediction.

"He's going to kill someone else, I'm sure of it," Stephanie Gadwell said a few months after her sister Elizabeth Alvarez was killed.

Informed Thursday that **Dorris**, who was released from a state training school in 1999, had been charged this week with the murders of three people last weekend, Gadwell gasped.

"All I can say is we all knew it was going to happen," Gadwell said. "We knew he was going to repeat it. We just knew it. He showed no remorse when he was younger."

Dorris, now 25, is charged with three counts of first-degree murder in last Sunday's fatal shootings of three people following an argument at a party on Puritan on Detroit's west side.

Three women involved in the argument left the party, returned later with two friends and drove past the house. According to police, **Dorris** saw the car and, armed with an AK47 semiautomatic rifle, began following the car in a late model Chevrolet.

Dorris allegedly followed the car to a home in the 14000 block of Chapel, blocked it in the driveway and began shooting.

Three people were killed: Dendra Dillard, 23, Chamise Washington, 21, and Vernon Baggette, 22. A fourth person was injured, and a fifth passenger was not harmed.

Officials issued an arrest warrant Thursday, charging **Dorris** with three counts of first-degree murder and felony firearm possession.

Detroit police are asking that anyone with knowledge of **Dorris**' whereabouts call the homicide section at 313-596-2260 anytime.

Of all the senseless violent crimes committed by youths during the juvenile crime wave of the early 1990s, perhaps none was more shocking than the Aug. 24, 1993, robbery and fatal shooting of Alvarez, a 33-year-old mother of three who was three months pregnant.

Alvarez, who had stopped at an ATM to withdraw \$80 for her daughter's birthday party, was shot in the head with a .22-caliber handgun after she was surrounded by four boys ages 8 to 14.

The daylight killing was seen by several witnesses and captured by the ATM's camera.

Dorris , then 14, confessed to having the gun and killing the woman. He divided the \$80 among the group, giving \$3 to the 8-year-old called Little Bit, \$20 to a 10-year-old named Jacob and \$5 to an 11-year-old named Chris.

Dorris , nicknamed Red for the tint of his hair, told police he spent \$10 on food and then had his head shaved in an effort to disguise his identity.

He told police he needed to rob somebody to come up with \$430 that he owed to a drug dealer. **Dorris** had no prior criminal record at the time.

The case drew widespread publicity from news organizations. The Free Press broke a long-standing tradition of not publishing the names of juvenile delinquents by identifying **Dorris** and Jacob by name. The New York Times wrote a front-page article about Jacob, who was too young to be locked up. He was placed in foster care by a judge.

Jacob, who reformed after being removed from his drug-addicted mother and their southwest Detroit neighborhood, graduated from high school in the Saginaw area, court officials said.

Dorris "aged out" of the juvenile system when he turned 21 in 1999 and was released from the Maxey Training School in Green Oak Township.

Since 1993, state laws have been changed, allowing prosecutors to try juveniles as young as 14 in adult court if they are charged with serious felonies such as rape, robbery and murder, and to seek adult sentences for youths of any age from a juvenile court judge.

Contact JACK KRESNAK at 313-223-4544. Contact NANCY A. YOUSSEF at 313-222-6672.

Caption: Photo

Anyone who knows where **DamienDorris** is can call 313-596-2260.

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