

YOUTH IS SLAIN

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Detroit police Wednesday were trying to sort out details of the shooting death of a 17-year-old **youth** who was **slain** in front of an east side party store, allegedly by the storekeeper.

Thomas Dickow, 33, owner of the Bicentennial Party Store at 5222 Chene, was ordered held by Detroit District Court as police decide whether to request a warrant in the Tuesday night shooting of Albert Wilson

Wilson died of a gunshot wound in the chest after an incident Tuesday night in front of the party store. Witnesses said Dickow and a young employe chased Wilson with a gun and baseball bat after the windows in Dickow's car were smashed in front of the store.

The employe, 16, was being detained by juvenile authorities.

The shooting occurred at 7:15 p.m. and Wilson was dead at Detroit Receiving Hospital a half hour later.

POLICE FIRST said they believed Dickow was mistaken about Wilson being the vandal who threw a concrete block through the window of his 1972 Chevrolet.

"They (investigators) are not saying that anymore, that this **is** a case of mistaken identity," said Detroit homicide Inspector Gilbert Hill. "There **is** a chance he (Wilson) might have been the person who threw the brick through Dickow's car window.

"I still don't see why that would justify the killing. We will leave that up to the Prosecutor's Office."

Hill said investigators hope to have a case completed by this afternoon.

POLICE were not releasing many details, but Celia Barnes, 29, who lives across the street from Dickow's store, said Wednesday she gave this eyewitness account to polic:

"I saw A. C. (Wilson) and his brother walking down the (Chene) street. I seen Tom (Dickow) run up the street and another boy was with Tom and they was hitting on A. C. with a bat in the street. They was constantly hitting him.

"Then I seen Tom hit him with the gun. I seen Tom shoot down at his feet. A. C. got away, ran across the street in front of the church. Then they held him up against the building and Tom hit him a couple more times with the gun. And he walked about four or five paces, then he fell on the ground and I seen Tom shoot down to him -- while he was on the ground .

Barnes was at Wilson's home on Theodore Street, two blocks from the party store, Wednesday, consoling the **youth** 's mother, Ruby.

Mrs. Wilson said her son was getting a General Equivalency Diploma and was going to join the Job Corps.

"I hear he (Dickow) said it was a mistake," said Mrs. Wilson bitterly. "How could he make a mistake like that? It was cold- blooded murder."

AREA businessmen said that when Dickow brought video games into his store a year or two ago, youngsters came into the neighborhood from other areas to play, and his problems with vandalism increased.

Odell Batts , 50, who works at an auto bump shop next door said the shop replaced more than 20 windshields that youngsters had broken out of Dickow's cars.

"Last summer they burned up an El Dorado of his and burned up a pickup truck before that," Batts said.

Jimmy Harris, who owns a resale shop across the street from the Bicentennial, said Dickow was a good man, but he brought himself problems with "those video games."

"He gave some of us credit and sold cigarets cheaper," Harris said. "But it seemed like there was a thousand boys around here from all over the city."

Neighbors said Dickow lived in the back of the party store with his daughter, a fourth-grader.

Caption: Photo CRAIG PORTER

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