

2 TEENS CHARGED IN SCHOOLMATE'S RAPE 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL WAS REPORTEDLY LURED FROM CLASS

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The 15-year-old boy who allegedly raped a 12-year-old girl at Detroit's Hutchins Middle School last week had been suspended from two other Detroit middle schools for fighting and expelled from a third for bringing a knife to the school, court records show.

The boy, **Audi** Drew **Dawson**, and 15-year-old Dominique Brown were arraigned as adults Monday before 36th District Court Magistrate Steve Lockhart on charges of first-degree criminal sexual conduct involving a victim younger than 13.

Lockhart set a \$20,000 bond for **Dawson** and a \$15,000 bond for Brown, pending a May 21 preliminary examination. The youths can be released after posting 10 percent of the bond. If convicted, they face a possible life prison sentence.

Another girl, age 13, is in juvenile detention on the same charge. Officials have designated her for adult treatment in juvenile court -- meaning, if convicted, she could face up to life in prison or sentencing to a juvenile rehabilitation program until at least age 19.

A 14-year-old boy who allegedly helped lure the victim to a vacant area on the school's fourth floor also is expected to be charged, although he was not in custody Tuesday afternoon.

According to reports filed in adult and juvenile courts and an interview with the father of the 12-year-old who accused the youths, Brown had been involved in a running dispute with the girl. Both girls are seventh-graders at Hutchins, 8820 Woodrow Wilson, on the near west side.

In general, the Free Press does not identify victims of sex crimes.

At 11:15 a.m. May 1, the reports said, the 13-year-old girl and the 14-year-old boy went to the victim's class and took her out under the ruse that another teacher wanted to see her. The 14-year-old allegedly said he had forgotten something on the fourth floor.

Once upstairs, the victim was met by **Dawson** and Brown, according to the reports. **Dawson** grabbed her arm and told her she could not leave, the reports said.

The girl was then allegedly taken to a crawl space off an empty room. At one point, she broke free, but Brown and the 13-year-old girl grabbed her and brought her back, and **Dawson** then raped her, according to the reports.

Brown has no previous criminal record. However, **Dawson** has juvenile convictions for felonious assault in 1997 and probation violation in 1999.

Dawson entered the juvenile justice system after threatening his grandmother with a knife in 1997.

Dawson violated his probation by getting into several fights and being insubordinate at Longfellow and Durfee middle schools. In March 1999, when he was transferred to Winterhalter Middle School, he showed up the first day carrying a knife, the report said. **Dawson** was expelled.

Citing his repeated violation of school district rules, Anderson recommended that Juvenile Court Referee Richard Smart send **Dawson** to a facility under the supervision of the Family Independence Agency. Smart placed **Dawson** on intensive probation.

After a year, **Dawson** gained reinstatement to the Detroit Schools and enrolled at Hutchins. No behavior problems were cited until the rape allegation. Schools spokesman Stan Childress would not comment on **Dawson's** record.

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Caption: Photo PATRICIA BECK/Detroit Free Press

Dominique Brown, center, and **Audi** Drew **Dawson**, right, and their lawyers stand in court Monday as the teens are charged with first-degree criminal sexual conduct. A \$20,000 bond was set for **Dawson** and a \$15,000 bond set for Brown.

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