

## EX-YBI LIEUTENANT TELLS TALES OF BRUTAL AMBITION

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Hunched forward in the witness chair, the outline **of** a bulletproof vest straining against his T-shirt, Kevin (Lughead) Wilson doesn't look like a gold mine.

But Wilson, who doesn't walk across a room without a convoy **of** police guards, is a treasure for prosecutors eager to seal the leaders **of** Young Boys Inc. in prison forever.

Once a top YBI **lieutenant**, Wilson has in recent testimony revealed the inner workings **of** a criminal machine and identified the people he says ran it with ruthless efficiency.

Wilson is the highest-ranking member **of** the once-powerful organization to become a government witness, local and federal officials said.

His testimony is crucial to a series **of** murder charges against the gang's hierarchy, including YBI leader Milton David (Butchie) Jones and his aides Curtis (Kirk McGurk) Napier, Keith (Keithon or The Terrible T) Green, Maurice (Mohart or Mohawk) Gibbs and brothers Richard (Richie Rich) and Curtis Daniels.

Many **of** them already are serving lengthy prison terms for drug trafficking or assault -- such as Jones' 12-year federal drug sentence or Napier's 20-to-40-year state assault sentence -- but murder convictions would mean life with no parole under Michigan law.

Wilson, according to his testimony and federal documents on the YBI investigation, was a "top dog" in the gang with responsibility for drug distribution, marketing, sales and discipline. He has testified that he had people beaten and shot, but said: "I never shot anybody myself."

Wilson agreed to become a witness while serving a federal drug sentence because he thought his enemies or former associates had targeted him for murder, prosecutors said.

Federal and local authorities have at least one bodyguard at his side at all times, even when he is waiting in a locked courthouse witness room with an armed officer outside the door.

Wilson and some **of** his family members have been given new identities and relocated in another state as part **of** the federal witness protection program.

After Wilson's testimony last month before Detroit 36th District Judge R. Partick Donahue, Green, Gibbs and the Daniels' brothers were ordered to stand trial on murder charges in Recorder's Court.

The preliminary examinations **of** Jones and Napier are expected to be held later this month. The hearings were adjourned when Wilson's congenital heart condition flared and there were delays in getting Jones brought back to Detroit from federal prison.

The story **of** YBI, as revealed in Wilson's testimony heard last month in 36th District Court and related federal documents, is one **of brutal ambition** to establish feudal control over Detroit's drug trade in the early and mid-1980s.

The high-risk venture apparently was matched by the stakes.

YBI's nightly gross ranged from \$70,000 to \$100,000 and competition or incompetence often meant a bullet in the head, Wilson said.

Teenagers, some too young to get a driver's license, provided most **of** the manpower for YBI because then-existing juvenile laws were less severe than the adult penalties. The youngsters, often living on the edge **of** poverty, were easily lured by the prospect **of** cash, gold jewelry and cars.

Although YBI's power was largely curbed by two series **of** federal indictments in 1982 and 1987, it provided a model for later organizations such as Pony Down, a heroin ring also broken by federal authorities, and more recently the alleged cocaine operation **of** the Chambers brothers.

It also gave teenagers a road map to criminal wealth if they had the nerve.

As with most companies, YBI developed its own corporate structure, jargon and style.

At the top was Jones, who was supplied by Sylvester (Seal) Murray, according to a broad outline reconstructed from Wilson's testimony, documents and federal indictments.

Immediately below Jones were trusted members responsible for "hooking up." Hookups were apartments or houses where raw heroin was cut, diluted and packaged in coin envelopes stamped with brand names such as Murder One, Rolls-Royce, Whipcracker and CBS.

The envelopes, which sold for \$10, were packed in bundles **of** tens for distribution around the city.

The bundles were delivered around the city by drivers to neighborhood locations called spots, which were run by "top dogs." Drivers, paid about \$70 a day, made their deliveries between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. when police patrols were least active.

From their spots -- such as an abandoned house or sublet apartment -- top dogs, earning a base \$700 a week plus bonuses, oversaw the street sales force, called runners.

Runners were paid about \$300 a week plus a commission **of** \$1 to \$2.50 on each envelope they rolled, or sold.

Top dogs were expected to maintain control **of** their territory, keeping out independent operators and being prepared to stave off challenges, protect their runners from robberies and, **of** course, turn in their proceeds.

Wilson, who defense lawyers and law enforcement officials agreed was a chief aide in almost daily contact with Jones, ran a spot at Dexter and Richton and described his other duties rather loosely.

"Either I was responsible for a spot or hooked up or just whatever I had to do," he testified, admitting that he once got a disciplinary pistol-whipping from Jones.

In his testimony last month, Wilson recounted how Duane Davis, an east side gang leader, tried to move into a Napier spot on Lawton and Hogarth. Wilson said when Napier tried to warn Davis off, Davis answered that Jones didn't own the whole town.

Wilson said Napier reported to Jones, who "took it serious . . . took it personally," and began making plans "to blow his brains out."

Davis returned the next day, backed by his own crew, Wilson said.

But Wilson testified that Napier told him the situation was in hand: Jones had been called and some guys were on the way. Minutes later Davis was dead on the sidewalk and his companions were fleeing for their lives.

Wilson, while testifying about another murder, said the nightly take from all the YBI spots was "a nice piece **of** money."

Pressed for a more definitive answer by defense lawyer Jay Nolan, Wilson scratched his head and said: "A real nice piece **of** money. Maybe \$70,000 -- from all the spots. . . . Yes, it could have been as much as \$100,000, too."

It was, Wilson said, serious business.

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