

TEEN SHOT IN SCHOOL FOR JACKET

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A Finney High **School** sophomore was **shot in** a crowded **school** hallway Monday after a gunman stole the student's fur-trimmed **jacket** .

Ironically, the mother of Kevin Daniel Davis, the wounded youth, said she had warned Kevin earlier Monday to surrender the Max Julian **jacket** to anyone who tried to steal it. Police said the **jackets** have become a status symbol among some city youths and have led to other shootings.

Kevin, 15, who lives **in** the Gratiot-East Outer Drive area of northeast Detroit, was **shot in** the abdomen about 8:55 a.m. as he waited **in** a hallway **for** class. Witnesses told police that three men carrying guns approached Davis and demanded his **jacket** . Police said he surrendered the **jacket** and then was **shot in** the left abdomen by one of the gunmen.

There were as many as 300 students **in** the hallway when the shooting occurred, Finney principal Moses Petty said.

Because the youth had already given the gunman his **jacket** , "it was senseless **for** him to ever shoot," said Kevin's mother, Lutitia Davis. Mrs. Davis said she warned Kevin to not argue with anyone trying to steal his \$135 **jacket** because a neighbor had recently lost a similar coat at gunpoint near the high **school** .

KEVIN WAS **in** stable condition at St. John Hospital after surgery. The bullet, which ruptured his colon, was still lodged **in** the back of his abdomen , Mrs. Davis said.

Petty said he periodically warns students not to wear the fur-trimmed **jackets** or expensive jewelry and not to bring large sums of money to **school** . He said he made the last announcement Dec. 13.

"I tell them not to bring anything expensive to **school** ," Petty said.

Mrs. Davis said she bought the olive green nylon-type **jacket** with fox fur around the hood **in** October because her son needed another coat.

She described Kevin as "not a bad boy" who "doesn't hang out at night." She said he made the honor roll at Finney **for** the first time this year. A member of the junior varsity basketball team, he plans to attend college and study data processing, his mother said.

FINNEY, near the corner of Cadieux and Warren, has 2,344 students. All are required to wear photo identity cards so strangers can be readily identified, Petty said.

Witnesses told police the gunman's two companions also had weapons.

After the shooting, witnesses told police, the three fled the **school** and drove north on Bluehill **in** a maroon 1977 Oldsmobile 98. Police traced a license plate number provided by witnesses and said the car was reported stolen Sunday.

The gunman used a small -caliber blue steel revolver, police reports said. Mrs. Davis said her son thought the gunman was a student from another high **school** .

MANY STUDENTS were upset about the incident Monday, and some were allowed to go home, Petty said.

"That could have happened to anybody," said Levi Holton, 15, a friend of Davis'.

He said the Max Julian **jackets** are **in** demand because they are expensive and "they look sharp."

Petty described the **school** as relatively safe but said another student was **shot** there last spring.

Mrs. Davis termed the **school** "quite bad," and said she would try to take Kevin and another son, Fred, 16, out of the **school** next semester.

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