## HOLIDAYS WON'T HALT SEARCH FOR BOY POLICE CHECK TIPS, CONDUCT SEARCHES

Detroit Free Press (MI) - Friday, December 23, 1994 Author: DENNIS NIEMIEC AND CECIL ANGEL, Free Press Staff Writer, Staff Writer DAVID McHUGH contributed to this report.

The investigation into the disappearance of 4-year-old **D'Wan Sims** -- now in its 12th day -- will not stall over the holiday weekend.

"We have canceled a lot of leave days and furloughs," Livonia Police Detective Lt. Pete Kunst said Thursday. "We will make attempts to let some officers have some time off with their families . . . but there will be detectives working straight through the holidays."

About 50 police officers -- 40 from Livonia -- spent Thursday checking tips and conducting interviews.

"We've spent a lot of energy and man hours finding out where **D'Wan** wasn't," said Kunst. "Now we're about the task of finding out where **D'Wan** was."

Police say the version **D'Wan**'s mother, Dwanna Harris, gave of what happened Dec. 11, the day her son was reported missing, is not checking out. She said he disappeared from the Wonderland Mall in Livonia, but police say he was never at the mall. And no one can confirm the other places Harris said she and **D'Wan** visited that day.

Harris' mother, Beverly Harris, said Thursday that her daughter told her a version of what she did Dec. 11 that differed from what Dwanna Harris told the Free Press.

Dwanna Harris was not available for comment Thursday.

"She said for the life of her, with all this confusion, it's hard for her to pin her times down," Beverly Harris said Thursday.

Here is the version Beverly Harris said her daughter told her:

She was at the laundromat between 11 and 11:30 a.m. Between 12:30 and 1 p.m., she picked up the vacuum cleaner at Beverly Harris' home on Fielding street. No one saw Dwanna Harris or **D'Wan** at the house but someone upstairs thought she heard **D'Wan** 's voice. Dwanna Harris also looked for a snow shovel in her mother's garage.

She arrived at her own house on Vaughn between 1 and 1:15 p.m. and then headed to the mall.

Although random searches for **D'Wan** have stopped, police searched two more areas Thursday, on Civic Center Drive west of Evergreen in Southfield and at Wixom Road and Pontiac Trail in Wixom. No clues turned up at either place, Kunst said.

Kunst said police still need help from anyone who may have seen Dwanna Harris in a red 1991 Ford Thunderbird between noon and 3 p.m. Dec. 11.

Anyone with information is asked to call 1-313-421-1920. Livonia police have gotten about 800 tips.

CUTLINE:

## **D'Wan Sims**

\*\*\* Edition: METRO FINAL Section: NWS Page: 2B Record Number: 9402150794 Copyright (c) 1994 Detroit Free Press