

STUDENT SLAIN AT FORD HIGH

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Author: TIM BELKNAP and SANDY McCLURE , e Press Staff Writers

A teenager was fatally shot Monday outside Henry Ford High School in Detroit in what was apparently a gang-related argument, police said.

The victim was identified as **Marco Hardaway** , believed to be 16, of the 19800 block of Grandville.

Witnesses told police the shooting occurred about 8:45 a.m. after **Hardaway** and another student got into a fistfight.

About nine hours later, a 16-year-old youth sought in the shooting turned himself in at Police Headquarters. He was being held at the Wayne County Youth Home.

THE FIGHT broke out near the main entrance of the high school, on Evergreen near Eight Mile on the city's west side. About 30 students on a break between first- and second-period classes were outside and witnessed the fight.

They said that after a short exchange of blows, **Hardaway** , who was 5 feet 11 and about 230 pounds, grabbed the other youth from behind in a bear hug. The other youth twisted around and pulled out a small-caliber semiautomatic handgun and fired one shot into **Hardaway** 's chest, the witnesses said.

APPARENTLY seeking help, **Hardaway** ran into the school and was headed toward the office when he collapsed in a corridor, leaving a trail of blood along the hallway.

He was pronounced dead on arrival at 9:18 a.m. at Mt. Carmel Mercy Hospital.

The suspect fled south on Evergreen on foot, witnesses said.

Witnesses said the cause of the fight was unclear. No adults were around, they said.

"I was at the other end of the hall and didn't hear the shot, but I heard one of the students yell, 'He's shot,' and I could see he was down," said Officer Charles Meyers, the 16th (Grand River) Precinct officer who is permanently assigned to the school.

Meyers , who said he believed the shooting was gang-related, said there had been gang trouble at the school since classes started Thursday.

"There have been three fights at the school since Thursday, and **Hardaway** was at all three," Meyers said.

Because gang members keep a rule of silence, and others are afraid to talk, Meyers said it is difficult for police to learn which youths belong to which gangs and the reasons for their confrontations.

HOWEVER, he said **Hardaway** was believed to be a member of either the Pony, Puma or Gucci gangs.

There will "be trouble and we'll have witnesses tell us **Hardaway** was involved. Then, before you get your case together, the witness gets a sudden case of amnesia," Meyers said.

He said the young man believed to have shot **Hardaway** had just transferred to Ford and was not well known to officers there. "He may be part of a gang, or he might not," Meyers said. "We just don't know yet."

He said officials believed that the school fighting was related to gangs jockeying for position and staking out territory for the new school year.

Hardaway was described as an easygoing youth who was a lackluster student. The husky youth had tried to get on the football team but was never eligible because of poor grades and attendance, said coach Joe Hoskins.

A teacher said there had been no other shootings at the 3,000-student school in the 12 years he taught there.

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