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CRIME WATCH

Article Text:

Man fatally shot by Baltimore officer

A Baltimore police officer shot and killed a man who apparently tried to rob him and his girlfriend early yesterday outside a North Baltimore apartment building, a city police spokesman said. Sterling Clifford, a police spokesman, said a preliminary investigation revealed that the officer and a woman were sitting in his car in the 900 block of Belgian Ave. in the Pen Lucy neighborhood when a man approached about 4 a.m.

The man, whose face was partially covered with a bandanna, came up to the passenger side of the car and pointed a handgun, first at the woman, next at the officer, and then again at the woman, Clifford said.

The officer pulled his service weapon and shot the man twice, Clifford said. The man died at Johns Hopkins Hospital, police said. Clifford said detectives are investigating whether the man tried to rob or carjack the officer.

Police identified the officer as Lawrence Armwood, a nine-year veteran of the department who works in the Western District. Police officials said that Armwood was waiting for the woman's boyfriend to escort her from his car when the incident occurred.

Yesterday's police-involved shooting was the 25th time that a city officer has shot someone this year. Ten of those people have died.

"When bad guys point guns at cops, I vote for the bad guy to lose that fight every time," said acting police Commissioner Frederick H. Bealefeld III. "People shouldn't be carrying guns in this city. That's a fact. I'll say it a million times: Do not carry guns in this city."

In February 1999, Armwood was seriously injured when he rushed into a burning building in West Baltimore and saved the life of an elderly woman, The Sun reported at the time. He suffered severe smoke inhalation.

Gus G. Sentementes

Teen killed in robbery attempt

Glen Burnie teenager killed in robbery attempt in Severn

A Glen Burnie teenager was fatally shot during an attempted robbery, Anne Arundel police said yesterday.

Bryan Clinton D. Edwards Jr., 18, was sitting in a car with another person on a parking lot in the 8200 block of Dunfield Court in Severn shortly before 5 a.m. Sunday when two men, one with a handgun, approached the car and tried to rob them, police said.

The passenger in Edwards' 2004 orange Chevrolet Cavalier fled but returned to find Edwards lying on the ground, suffering from gunshot wounds. Edwards and the passenger were in the area visiting friends, police said.

Edwards, of the 7800 block of Parke West Drive, was taken to Baltimore Washington Medical

Center, where he died. Police said he was a student at Anne Arundel Community College. No arrests had been made.

Police ask anyone with information about the shooting to call the homicide unit at 410-222-3460 or the homicide tip line at 410-923-4543, where callers can remain anonymous.

The shooting is the 11th homicide this year in the county.

Nicole Fuller

Man convicted in shooting

A Laurel man was convicted yesterday in the shooting of a convenience store clerk in what prosecutors say was a botched robbery captured on a security video.

Jurors watched a video showing a man on March 15 exchanging words with and shooting the clerk, wounding him in the neck. The man fled, stealing nothing, said Anne Arundel County Deputy State's Attorney William D. Roessler. A car was stopped 20 minutes later, and clothing seen on the store video was found in the trunk, Roessler said. The jury deliberated about 4 1/2 hours before convicting Brandon J. Thomas, 22, of attempted second-degree murder and other charges.

Andrea F. Siegel

Man killed by hit-run driver

Baltimore County police are seeking the driver in a fatal hit-and-run accident last night that killed a pedestrian near Edmondson Heights Elementary School.

About 8:30 p.m., a 53-year-old man, whose identity was not released, was struck by a burgundy sport utility vehicle at Ingleside Avenue and Charles Street between the communities of Catonsville Manor and West Hills.

He died at St. Agnes Hospital soon afterward, police said.

Witnesses told police that the driver got out of the SUV after hitting the man, then drove off. The driver is described as a white man, 6 feet to 6 feet 5 inches tall, with blond hair and glasses. He wore jeans and a red T-shirt with a white collar.

Anyone with information is urged to call the county police crash team at 410-887-5396.

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