

# Police continue probe in coin store slaying

Livonia police are continuing an investigation into last week's coin store robbery-murder and the suspect's later suicide.

Police are still seeking a 1974 blue-and-white Oldsmobile Cutlass involved in at least four hit-and-run accidents following the murder-robbery at Coin

Investments, 10988 Middlebelt, Livonia about 4 p.m. last Tuesday. Police believe the Oldsmobile was the getaway vehicle.

Still missing from the \$30,000 robbery is a handgun and a small quantity of jewelry.

Killed by a shotgun blast in the robbery was Dale Bewersdorf, 28, of Garden City. A former Farmington resident, Bewersdorf was employed as a precious metals buyer at the Livonia store.

Found dead eight hours later in a Dearborn lock-up was Martin Belcher,

22, of Farmington Hills. Belcher was being held following a burglary at a Dearborn bike shop.

Dearborn police say Belcher was carrying nearly 75 pieces of precious metal jewelry and coins when he was arrested outside Jack's Bike Shop, 23408 Michigan Ave. The victim's

brother, Gary Bewersdorf, a co-owner of Coin Investments, later identified the goods found on Belcher as representing the bulk of what was missing from the store.

Belcher was buried Saturday in Parkview Cemetery in Livonia.

Police report that after the robbery the suspect headed north where he was involved in a series of minor traffic accidents between Six and Seven Mile roads in Livonia. Police report an acci-

dent at 4:45 p.m. at Long and Inkster in which the suspect apparently pleaded with a woman motorist to not call the police.

Other accidents occurred at 5:08 p.m. at Floral and Long, 5:10 p.m. at Fargo and Angling and 5:15 p.m. at Lathers west of Deering.

Police were called to the coin store scene by an employee in a nearby office after she saw a man flee after a series of loud noises.

## Brodhead fights tax loophole

Congressman William M. Brodhead (D-Detroit) has introduced a bill that would end the so-called 'tax straddle,' a scheme used by wealthy taxpayers to avoid paying billions of dollars of owed taxes.

The tax straddlers are attempting to convert ordinary income into capital gains which are taxed at only 28 percent, thereby avoiding their fair share of taxes.

"Second, the proliferation of these straddles distorts the future market and may disrupt its use by legitimate hedgers, such as farmers.

"Third, because they increase the

volume of trading, I believe the straddles drive up the price of commodities, thus increasing the cost to consumers of products made from these commodities."

Brodhead, whose 17th Congressional district includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield and Redford Township, called the scheme "a gross injustice to the average taxpayer, who has been forced to carry the burden for tax avoiders."

He was joined in introducing the bill by Congressman Benjamin Rosenblum (D-New York) and several other members from the Ways and Means and Government Operations Committees.

"The tax straddle benefits a wealthy tax in this way. The taxpayer purchases one contract to buy a commodity (of the silver) at a future date and another contract to sell the same commodity.

"Whether the price of silver rises or falls, the taxpayer approximately breaks even on the contracts.

"The loss on one part of the deal is deducted from income, thus decreasing tax liability. The gain on the other half of the deal should be treated as ordinary income which could be taxed at a maximum rate of 70 percent.

"DESPITE A 1977 IRS ruling denying tax straddle losses, an increasing number of high income individuals, often unwittingly enticed into the deals by their brokers, have attempted to reduce their tax liabilities by claiming such artificial losses," Brodhead said.

The Department of the Treasury estimates a tax loss of \$1.3 billion in 1982 alone and the revenue loss could triple in the next few years.

Brodhead called for immediate Congressional action to end the scheme because the IRS ruling is being contested in the courts and a final judicial determination could be years away.

"In the meantime, the abuse is growing by leaps and bounds and brokers are devising even more complicated straddles for their clients in order to avoid detection."

Brodhead listed three strong reasons for early action.

"First, the rich are able to shift their tax burden onto the backs of middle income taxpayers. This breeds contempt for our tax system.

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(Continued from Page 1A)

The song is described by its author as a soft-rock, mellow tune akin to something Dan Fogelberg might record.

"It's a positive statement," Pastor says. "I'm not political at all. I never have been. I come from an artistic point of view."

Still, he must have an opinion about the outcome of the hostage crisis.

"We (Americans) have always done our best," Pastor said. "Whether it be

Carter or Reagan the situation worked out pretty good. I think it was handled O.K. It's extremely hard to wait for 14 months and we and the hostages seem to have come out of it O.K."

**Meeting set**

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