

Cops link car to coin caper

Livonia police Saturday recovered the car they believe was used in a robbery and killing Tuesday, Jan. 27, at Coin Investments on Middlebelt at Plymouth Road.

The car, a 1981 blue-and-white Oldsmobile Cutlass, was found abandoned on Norborne Street in Redford Township.

A resident reported an abandoned vehicle to Redford Township Police. The car apparently had been parked there since the evening of Jan. 27.

Police said the car was damaged from at least four hit-and-run accidents which occurred after a \$30,000 robbery at the coin store. In the robbery, Dale Bewersdorf, a coin shop employee, was

killed. The man who allegedly shot Bewersdorf during the robbery, Martin Belcher, 22, of Farmington Hills, hanged himself to death some seven or eight hours later in a Dearborn lock-up.

Police said they found the keys to the Cutlass on the car floor along with a rifle cartridge. The car is being examined at the Michigan State Police crime lab.

Witnesses identified Belcher as being the driver of the car when it was involved in a series of collisions between Six and Seven Mile roads in Livonia, apparently as Belcher was fleeing the robbery-murder.

Police believe Belcher robbed the store at 10988 Middlebelt and shot Bewersdorf, 28, a precious metals buyer for Coin Investments. Police are still searching for the handgun taken from the store which was used to kill Bewersdorf and a shotgun which was used to blast open the front store. Another handgun and rifle which belong to the store owner were untouched.

Police are still waiting for ballistic tests on a slug taken from a display case in the store and the victim.

Police theorize that Belcher posed as a customer to enter the Livonia store sometime last Tuesday afternoon. The door of the store is barred and equipped with an electronic lock.

Police believe the suspect fled but returned to the store a second time because he felt something important but might link him to the crime.



Police promoted

Farmington Hills Police Chief John Nichols (center) recently introduced two of his newest sergeants to the public. They are Dennis Rochford (left) and Joseph Rebb. (Staff photo)

Wendy Randal is honored

Wendy Dawn Randal, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Randal, Lytle Road, Farmington, has been named to the dean's list at Wheaton College for the first quarter of the 1980-81 academic year.

Dean's list honors are earned by students who carry 12 or more hours and average 3.4 grade points per quarter.

Wheaton College is a coeducational Christian liberal arts college, 25 miles west of Chicago.

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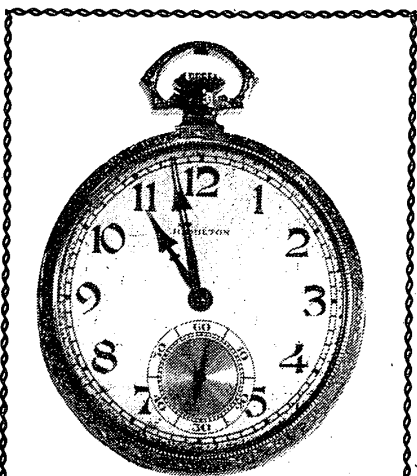
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