

Source: Spinal Column Newsweekly

Suspect faces murder charge following melee

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September 09, 2009

A trail of angry and taunting text messages instigated a melee between two groups of teens in the city of Wixom, resulting in the death of one teenager on Tuesday, Sept. 1, and the incarceration of one as a homicide suspect.

Recent Walled Lake Western graduate Justin Hussin, 18, was killed by a single blow to the back of his head by a golf club, according to an autopsy and Wixom police.

Hussin and 18-year-old Robert Lowry, a White Lake Township man currently in custody, had met, accompanied by their comrades, in an industrial field off Bell Coney Road north of Potter at about 3 a.m. to settle their differences after angry text messaging was exchanged between members of the two groups.

Lowry is being charged with second-degree murder with an alternative charge of involuntary manslaughter, and was arraigned on Thursday, Sept. 3 in 52-1 District Court in Novi. Judge Dennis Powers ordered Lowry to be held in the Oakland County Jail in lieu of a \$250,000 cash bond, no 10 percent. Powers scheduled a preliminary examination on Lowry's charge for today, Wednesday, Sept. 9.

According to Wixom Sgt. Charlie Yon, four suspects were initially apprehended, but police released all but one.

"One suspect was an eyewitness to the clubbing, but also was one who was allegedly swinging a bat," Yon said.

That man may face felonious assault charges. Others present during the fight could face similar charges.

"We are currently securing search warrants for cell phones due to the alleged threats being texted," Yon said.

Police arrived on the scene at about 3:15 a.m., after a neighbor reported yelling from a crowd gathered in the street. Officers found several teens milling around, with some trying to administer first-aid to Hussin, who was found on his back in a grassy area. Hussin's 16-year-old brother was visibly distraught.

According to police, an armory of baseball bats and golf clubs were found on the ground at the scene.

The brawl stopped suddenly after the incident, and several of the participants fled the scene in cars.

According to Yon, White Lake Township police and Oakland County Sheriff's Department deputies assisted in rounding up three suspects. One tried to flee but was captured shortly after with the use of a K-9 officer and other officers setting up a perimeter in a White Lake Township subdivision near Union Lake and Elizabeth Lake Roads.

Hussin never regained consciousness and was pronounced dead at the scene, according to Goodlein.