



DONALD H. GODFREY confers with reporters in the fifth-floor hallway of the Oakland County Jail about the events that led up to his son's confession to the murder of his mother, Godfrey, a licensed minister, said that he did not realize that Douglas could have been the sniper-slayer until Tuesday afternoon.

Oakland County Night Set for Pistons Game

Special reserve seat ticket rates will be in effect for Birmingham-area residents for the Detroit Pistons-Cincinnati Royals game at Cobo Arena on Saturday, Feb. 16. To be known as "Oakland County Night," arrangements for purchase of reserve seats at a reduced rate have been made possible by the Pistons in cooperation with The Eccentric. (See advertisement, page 2-E.)

Barring a meeting of the Pistons and Royals in the playoffs, the Feb. 16 game will mark the final appearance at the arena this season of Oscar (Big O) Robertson, who is rated by many experts as the best all-around cager in the world today.

THE PISTONS are striving to gain a playoff spot in the Western Division and have been locked in a month-long duel with San Francisco for third place in the West.

Cincinnati, which this season switched to the Eastern Division, already has a playoff spot all but clinched. The Royals, however, still are trying to nail down a second place in the East behind five-time champion Boston.

Killing

(Continued from 1-A)

mother when she stole the .22 cal. revolver sometime between Dec. 18 and 20 from a sporting goods store on N. Woodward in Royal Oak.

At the time of the theft he only wanted to establish a reputation as a sniper, he said. He told Taylor that he got the idea from reading about Gary Addison Taylor, Royal Oak's 1957 phantom sniper.

AFTER STEALING the gun, Douglas did not return home for three days, sleeping in garages and a church basement in Clawson where the family lived before moving into their \$35,000 ranch home at 983 Dursley, in the Eastover subdivision.

Taylor said the boy gave him these details of the night of the shooting:

"He was alone in the Godfrey sub-level family room watching television," Taylor said.

The rest of the family were scattered throughout the home except for Donald, Jr., 19, who was away at Alma College, and Deborah, 16, who was out for the evening.

He waited for over an hour for his mother to go into the kitchen to prepare a snack for the family. Taylor said the boy told him that his mother followed the same procedure almost every night.

"HE TOLD me he recognized her footsteps as she walked into the kitchen," Taylor said.

He got the gun and slipped out a side door and walked over to the kitchen window.

"The drapes were pulled," he told Taylor, but he said he could see his mother's shadow as she prepared the snack.

After shooting her, he then ran back into the home and resumed watching TV, Taylor said. He stayed in the family room until summoned by his father, who discovered the body when he went to investigate why his wife was taking so long in the kitchen.

DEHNKE SAID that Douglas acted strangely about the whole affair right from the night of the slaying. He appeared calm and had not reacted the way a boy normally would after the death of his mother.

"He showed no emotion at the funeral at all," Dehnke said.

Last Friday, police asked Mr. Godfrey if he would allow the boy to take a polygraph test but were told that "he would have to think about it."

DEHNKE SAID that, in addition to the boy's strange reactions, police believed that the slaying could have been done by someone in the family because of the lack of fingerprints in the snow around the Godfrey home.

Monday, police were informed by a schoolmate of Douglas' that the boy had tried to sell a gun. At no time, Taylor said, was the boy seen with the gun in his possession.

Wednesday morning, police were still trying to locate the murder weapon but were searching a large area 10 miles north of the Godfrey home.

DOUGLAS TOLD Taylor that he and a friend had gone for a ride the day after the funeral, and he had thrown the gun from the car but could not remember exactly where.

Taylor said the boy broke down and sobbed as he told the prosecutor about the slaying. The boy had first spent three hours talking with his father, and their attorney, Thomas Kavanagh, 32865 Faircrest Drive, Beverly Hills.

The father, dressed neatly in a green suit, looked tired and worn out as he faced reporters. On the advice of his attorney he refused to appear on television.

THE BOY's father told newspaper reporters that he first realized Tuesday afternoon that his son might have been guilty of the slaying.

He said Douglas had not wanted to go out the night of the murder. Although he had a high IQ, police said his marks had slipped considerably since being enrolled at Bloomfield Hills. While attending school in Clawson, Douglas received almost all A marks, Dehnke said.

"A very religious youth, Douglas attended the Fellowship Baptist Church in Clawson three or four times a week, police said. Mr. Godfrey is a licensed minister and usually preached at the church once a month.

Mrs. Godfrey was also very active in the church. She taught Sunday school and was a choir leader.

The family moved from Clawson about 18 months ago.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS Superintendent of Schools Eugene Johnson said that Douglas was a boy who showed average ability in his school work.

This semester Douglas was enrolled in history, biology, geometry, English and physical education classes and had received about average marks on his tests and daily work.

Johnson said the boy had only been enrolled in the Bloomfield

School District for the 8th and 10th grades and that he was not as familiar with the boy's history as he would have been had Douglas progressed through the school system.

The youth had no misconduct slips in his file and had not been tardy for school this semester, according to Johnson. He had been absent five times.

Douglas had not been given an IQ test since he came to Bloomfield Hills High, Johnson said.

SHERIFF IRONS said that this was one of the hardest cases he had been involved in for 30 years as a law enforcement officer.

Irons said that police from his office, the township police and the state police had worked 24 hours a day since the night of the murder. Irons and Taylor said that both the boy and his father had been most cooperative during the proceedings.

Stands Mute On Charges in Traffic Death

Bernard Wilson stood mute on a charge of negligent homicide when arraigned Monday before Judge Stanton Dondoro in Oakland County Circuit Court. No trial date has been set.

Wilson, 21, of Detroit, was involved in a four-car collision New Year's Day at Telegraph and Northwestern highways.

A Flint woman, Mrs. Delbert Brundage, died as a result of injuries she suffered in the accident. Southfield police said that apparently the Brundage car, heading south on Telegraph, was slowing

or had stopped for a red light at the intersection of Telegraph and Northwestern when a car driven by Wilson struck it from behind.

AS A result the Brundage car was knocked into the intersection where it collided with a station wagon, which in turn was thrown into the oncoming lane where it was struck by yet another car.

Mrs. Brundage's husband and two passengers in their car were hospitalized in William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak. They all have since been discharged.

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