

## "Shooting"

(Cont. from Front)

data that the shooters used to cover their faces when they attacked. Those items also are being analyzed for clues.

The shooting took place during the Lincoln-Rockcastle basketball game Friday. Reports of the death of Upton, a senior at Lincoln County High School, and Shangraw, a 2000 graduate, cut short the homecoming dance that followed the game and launched a weekend of disbelief and mourning around the county.

A shocked staff and student body

at the school spent the day Monday consoling each other while the school system and local ministers provided counseling to those who needed it.

Funeral services for Upton, a popular and gregarious athlete, were held in a packed LCHS gymnasium Monday afternoon. A memorial service for Shangraw, who was cremated, was held Tuesday at Freedom Baptist Church.

Sheriff Shelby Lakes said that the investigation into the double murder has produced several promising leads through clues at the scene and interviews with witnesses and friends of the victims.

Still, the motive remained a mystery at mid week. Drugs, robbery or revenge were high on the list of possible motives.

Speculation initially focused on drugs because of the age of the victims and suspicion the mobile home was used for drug sales. But police looking into the shooting found what one investigator called a "substantial" amount of cocaine still in the home. Police weren't saying whether they believe that any drugs were taken by the attackers.

A wallet containing cash also was in plain view in the mobile home when police arrived, but they weren't saying whether anything else was missing.

Lincoln County Coroner Biji Demrow, who was called to the scene Friday, said the mobile home didn't appear to have been ransacked by anyone looking for drugs or money, making motive all the more mysterious.

State police would say only that they are developing leads in the case and told the television station that the crime is "solvable."

Based on what the State Police would disclose about the case and interviews with others with first-hand knowledge of the incident, the shootings took place about 8:30 p.m. Friday.

Four black men, according to one of the teenage girls present, kicked in the door of Shangraw's mobile home at 2960 Hubble Road, which lies just north of the intersection of Hubble Road and Carman Lane.

"Whether there was any conversation between Shangraw, Upton and their assailants is not a detail police have made public."

Roger Sparkman, a neighbor and the owner of the mobile home, said both victims were in the front part of the mobile home; Upton in the living room and Shangraw in the adjacent kitchen. Both rooms, Sparkman said, are immediately visible to anyone coming in the front door.

Sparkman, whose home is near the mobile home, said he didn't hear the gunshots. His wife heard some-

thing but said it sounded like "someone beating on a metal garbage can. The mobile home has a partially enclosed porch, which muffled the sound of gunfire."

The Sparkmans didn't know anything about the shooting until the two teenage girls, a 16-year-old from Stanford and a 15-year-old from Crab Orchard, came to their home, clothing bloodied and told them. Police didn't identify the girls as a precaution against possible reprisals.

"They were all to pieces," Sparkman said. "They told me it was four black guys."

While Mrs. Sparkman called 911, Sparkman went to the mobile home

and found Upton already dead and Shangraw lying in the kitchen floor, still breathing with his eyes open but otherwise unresponsive.

Sheriff Lakes said at least a dozen shots were fired inside the mobile home, all by the attackers. He said there were rifles and handguns in the home. Shangraw was a hunting enthusiast - but none were close enough to the victims that they could use them to defend themselves.

Sparkman said that the attackers off a mounted deer head had fallen or were placed on Upton's face. He said he had to move them to check for a pulse.

Lincoln County Coroner Bill

Demrow said that Upton "suffered three wounds, two from the front and one from the back, and any of the three shots likely would have been fatal on their own. He said Upton likely died within seconds of the first shots that were fired."

Sparkman said that the wounds on both victims were in the upper left torso, indicating the shooters were shooting to kill.

Shangraw was flown to the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington and was pronounced dead there.

The teenage girls were treated and released Friday evening at Fort Logan Hospital in Stanford.



Lori Ann Miller, an eighth grade student at Rockcastle Middle won this year's county-wide Spelling Bee, which was held at the Central Office in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday. Miss Miller, the daughter of Jimmy and Annette Miller, is shown on the front row with Devin Davidson, a Mt. Vernon fourth grader, who placed second. He is the son of Leon and Janice Davidson. Third was Kyle Riddle, top right, a Broadhead fourth grader who placed third. He is the son of David and Sandy Riddle. Next to him is Jeffrey Isaacs, a Roundstone fifth grader, who finished fourth. He is the son of Jeff Isaacs and Amanda Dunn.

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