



Murder suspect, 17, still being sought

Authorities continued their search Saturday for a 17-year-old suspect in two slayings who escaped Thursday from a Tampa juvenile detention center.

Michael Harvis apparently scaled a fence to escape from the Hillsborough Regional Juvenile Detention Center, 4000 W Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Tampa police thought Harvis might try to link up with James Baker, a friend also wanted in one of the killings, but that didn't happen. Police arrested Baker, 16, of Tampa, late Friday. He was being held Saturday night in the Hillsborough County Jail, said police spokesman Steve Cole.

Cole said detectives went to Baker's home and persuaded his parents to get the teen to surrender. He was arrested at a relative's home, Cole said.

Harvis has been charged with murder in two killings, and prosecutors plan to seek indictments against him next week, even if he isn't captured by then.

One was the killing of 17-year-old Isaac Velazquez, who was shot to death Jan. 22 outside a home at 8302 22nd St. Two of Velazquez's friends were shot in the buttocks in that incident, police said.

A month earlier, 41-year-old Robert Coleman was shot three times during a robbery at E Wilder Avenue and 39th Street. He bled to death at the scene. Baker is a suspect in that slaying.

Still, Cole said, "Harvis is really the one we're concerned about."

Source:

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