
Charge Police Beat Youth

A concerned mother has charged members of the police department with having brutally beaten her son, a "B" student at Highland Park high school.

Terry Harshaw, 16, claims he was beaten by a policeman last Thursday evening while on his way home from a poolroom between Richton and Monterey. His mother, Mrs. Combs, told The Chronicle Friday, that

(See Sec. A, Page 4)

Beat Youth

(Continued from Page 1)

she intends not only to push for "full punishment" of the person or persons responsible for the beating of her son, but says she "wants all of Detroit to know how young people are being treated by police officers here."

Officials of the Detroit branch NAACP have agreed to help Mrs. Combs in calling for a full inquiry into the case in which it is also being charged that Terry received "indifferent" treatment at Highland Park General hospital after the beating.

Harshaw said that at about 5:45 he was walking up Monterey and noticed a police car following him. He said when he attempted to climb over a gate the integrated car stopped, and a white policeman pulled a gun and ordered him to climb the fence.

"Just when I came over the top of the fence and he could reach me, he grabbed me and threw me to the ground. I landed on one knee, hurting my leg. He lifted me bodily and slammed me on top of the hood of the car, and began to search me. Of course, I had nothing—not even a finger nail file."

Harshaw said he was forced to enter the police car and was then beaten repeatedly, particularly in the face. The policeman used his fists, he said.

After being taken to the station, Harshaw said he waited a long time in the halls before he was finally questioned and permitted to go home.

When he arrived home, according to his grandmother and guardian, Mrs. Lucille LaMarr, Terry was limping and bleeding profusely from the mouth. So, Mrs. LaMarr called Terry's mother, Mrs. Mildred Combs, and they took him to Highland Park General hospital.

Mrs. Combs and Mrs. LaMarr claim that Terry was given only a " cursory examination," and that the doctor refused to suture his wound, instead, recommending a "salt compound or something."

The scene was witnessed by Rev. Clarence Nelson, of Scott Methodist church, Terry's pastor. He said that even though the boy had lacerations of the mouth and two loosened front teeth, the doctor's attitude was one of "indifference."

Subsequently, the two women attempted to obtain information concerning Terry's detention at the police station concerning Terry's detention at the police station but were refused any information by police officers.

They contacted the N.A.A.C.P., which agreed to handle the case.

According to Mrs. Combs, there are witnesses to the beating, willing to testify, and this case will be pressed "to the limit to see that justice is done."