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Victim in Saturday night shooting dies

Man was walking back from store

By **Matt Rocheleau** | GLOBE CORRESPONDENT NOVEMBER 14, 2011

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A 40-year-old man shot on a street near the Roxbury-Dorchester line Saturday was pronounced dead at Boston Medical Center, Boston Police said yesterday.

At about 9:45 p.m. Saturday, officers were called to the area of 21 Nazing St., where they found the man severely injured “from what appeared to be a gunshot wound,” according to a police statement.

He was pronounced dead at the hospital Saturday night, authorities said.

Mourners, including friends and area residents, stood before a memorial site yesterday evening at the spot where the man was found by police.

Flowers, stuffed animals, candles, and bottles of liquor were placed on the sidewalk between 21 and 19 Nazing St.

While police could not confirm the victim's name, he was identified last night as Charles Webb by his fiancée, 23-year-old Asia James, and his nephew, Develle Webb, 21,.

"He died instantly from one gunshot to the chest," James said, crying and pausing to compose herself as she stood among a small crowd near the memorial. "I ran down here to get to him. I couldn't get here fast enough."

James said Webb had picked up her 4-year-old son from a nearby birthday party Saturday night. Webb then dropped off the young boy at a home on Nazing Street where James lives and where Webb was often a guest.

Webb, who was unemployed but most recently worked as a fitness trainer, walked to a nearby store to pick up some basic household items, she said.

As he walked back from the store, Webb called her on his cellphone, she said.

"He told me to open up the door, that he was walking up the street, and that's when we heard the gunshots," James said.

She said she heard three shots.

Several moments later she went outside, where she found the man she has been dating for 3 1/2 years and became engaged to last summer. He was lying on the ground, "bleeding from his chest and mouth," she said.

James said emergency medical responders said Webb was dead at the scene.

She said she does not know why anyone would shoot Webb or who might have done it.

"He was at the wrong place at the wrong time," James said. "I just want anyone who has seen anything to speak out.

"He was a family man," she said. "He was trying to get his life together."

Smiling briefly, she recalled: "He loved apples, Heineken, and chicken."

Webb, who grew up in the area of the shooting but lived in Brockton, according to his nephew, had four children.

“His kids didn’t deserve this, and I didn’t deserve this,” James said.

No further details on the shooting were immediately available last night, said Officer James Kenneally, the police spokesman.

Police had originally reported that the address of the shooting was in Dorchester; 21 Nazing St. is in Roxbury, near the Dorchester line, according to the Boston city website.

Saturday night, police blocked off Nazing Street from Blue Hill Avenue to Maple Street as they searched for a possible suspect, described as average height, thin build, dark skinned, and wearing all-black clothes with some red showing around the collar.

Kenneally did not confirm whether police are still searching for a person fitting that description.

The death is being investigated by the Boston Police Homicide Unit.

Anyone with information can contact the Boston Police Homicide Unit at 617-343-4470, police said.

Anonymous information can be provided to police via the CrimeStoppers Tip Line at 800-494-TIPS or by texting the word ‘TIP’ to CRIME (27463).

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