

# Police pursue several leads in Floyd shooting death

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**SOUTH BEND** — City police are pursuing what are described as several strong leads in Wednesday's slaying of Wilbert Floyd.

"We have several leads that we are pursuing," said Sgt. Thomas Trenerry, homicide investigator, who declined to comment on possible suspects or motives in the shooting death.

Floyd, 21, died about 7:15 p.m. Wednesday in Memorial Hospital after being shot three times about

45 minutes earlier in the 100 block of South Chestnut Street, said police.

An autopsy revealed Floyd died of a gunshot wound that entered through his back and pierced his heart, said Dr. James McMeel, St. Joseph County coroner.

Floyd also was shot twice in his right forearm, shattering a bone in the arm, said McMeel.

It is unknown what type of gun was used in the slaying, said officials.

Police have obtained several

possible addresses for Floyd in South Bend and Mishawaka, but officials have been unable to confirm where he lived.

Police have determined that Floyd stopped to make a telephone call from a pay phone at Chestnut and West Washington streets, said Trenerry.

He apparently was shot several times after making that call, said Trenerry, who declined to say how many shots may have been fired.

Police are investigating two possible scenarios regarding the shoot-

ing.

In the first instance, Floyd was in his car and driving south on Chestnut when the shots were fired. After Floyd was shot, his car ran off the east side of Chestnut and crashed into a concrete retaining wall.

The other theory suggests Floyd was shot several times before getting into the car and that he drove away in a hail of gunfire, with the car finally crashing into the wall.

Trenerry declined to speculate about which theory seems more

plausible. **FEB 16 1990**

"At this point we can't say if he was shot before he got into the car," he said.

Officials have determined a shooting incident about 30 minutes earlier Wednesday is unrelated to Floyd's death, said Trenerry. The two are being investigated as separate incidents, he said.

In the earlier shooting, Booker Stokes, 19, of 2245 N. Johnson St., was shot once in the chest during an argument in front of 1742 N. Elmer St., said police.

Stokes was in fair condition

Thursday in St. Joseph's Medical Center, said a hospital spokesman.

Stokes reportedly told police he had gone to the Elmer address to retrieve some clothing. He apparently began to argue in the front yard with a male acquaintance who pulled a small-caliber handgun and shot Stokes, said police.

Following the shooting, the suspect ran from the area, said investigators. Police followed footprints in the snow believed to have been left by the gunman but lost the trail about three blocks away in the 1800 block of North Fremont Street, said officials.