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LOCAL NEWS



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Wednesday, December 29, 2004

Pair held in connection with thefts from vehicles

By LAUREN LONG

Times Staff Writer

ROMULUS — State police arrested two 19-year-old Romulus residents Monday evening for breaking into several vehicles earlier in the day.

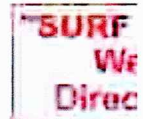
Police said owners of two different vehicles were goose hunting when Jason M. Borisoff, of 5177 Kings Corners Road, and Ross T. Cali, of 5655 Route 96, broke through the windows and took various items, including a loaded .357 handgun.

One of the hunters, David P. Mancini, of 5125 County Road 41, Beaver Dams, in Steuben County, notified troopers of the missing items around 10 a.m., when he returned to his car on South Town Line Road.

"They took my bag for work that I carried all my work stuff in. I had a paycheck in there. They rifled through the glove box, must have been looking for spare cash," said Mancini, who immediately called and canceled the credit cards that were inside his missing wallet.

Soon after, he learned that an attempt had been made at the Community Bank in Waterloo to cash one of his payroll checks. Employees of the bank said payment was refused because the suspects lacked proper identification.

The second break-in, on Iron Bridge Road, was reported around 10:30 a.m. by Paul J. Westervelt, of 1720 N. Miller Road, Lodi. He said he recalled seeing a vehicle stop alongside his own while he was hunting.

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Troopers obtained still photographs of the suspects and their vehicle from the bank, informed local car dealerships of the vehicle's make and model and interviewed area residents.

The state Department of Motor Vehicles in Albany was contacted to help identify vehicles in Seneca County of a similar description. Officials there determined that the suspect vehicle was registered to a relative of one of the teenagers.

Both men were charged with second-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument, fourth-degree criminal mischief, petty larceny, and two counts fourth-degree grand larceny. Both are being held at Seneca County Jail in lieu of \$5,000 bail.

They admitted to entering various vehicles in Seneca County and removing property from four of them.

Police said the two men sold the handgun to Geneva resident Richard F. Holmes, 20, of 343 Castle St., who was subsequently charged with fourth-degree criminal possession of stolen property.

The stolen property was recovered.

State police are requesting that anyone who may have parked at Dean's Cove State Park on Route 89 yesterday call them at 539-9238 if any property is discovered missing.

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