

Teen arrested in connection with murder

Springfield resident jailed on \$500,000 bail in Coleman death

By Cheryl Hehl
Staff Writer

Police arrested Springfield teen Keevin David late last week in connection with the January murder of Tyrell Coleman, 18, of Orange.

Coleman died of multiple gunshot wounds around noon on Jan. 25 after gunfire erupted on the 200 block of South Center Street. He was found in the lobby of his apartment building at 208 S. Center St. by his parents and pronounced dead a short time later at University Hospital in Newark.

Earlier this year, Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura offered a \$5,000 reward for information about Coleman's death, but it was not until May 5 that arrest warrants for the 19-year-old David were issued.

The Springfield resident, who lives along

Tudor Court, was taken into custody late May 5 by detectives from the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and the Orange Police Department.

The suspect is being held in the Essex County Correctional Facility on \$500,000 bail. His first court appearance is expected this week.

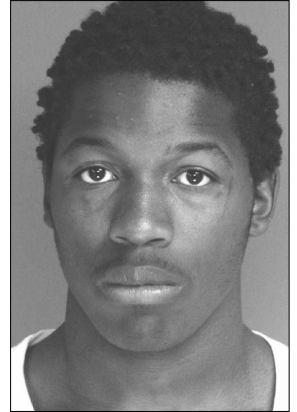
Police reacted strongly this week to the number of teens killed in the city since the beginning of the year and vowed to continue hunting down those who commit murder on the streets of Orange.

"I want to commend the Orange Police Department for their good detective work solving these murders," said Mayor Eldridge Hawkins Jr., also referring to the arrest May 3 of Derrick Cottle, 20, East Orange, for the Dec. 2 murder of Devione Jordan, 18, of Orange, who was shot four times near Chapman Street.

"Coming after last week's gun arrests in the Central Playground area, these arrests are evidence the focus on community policing and crackdown on gang violence by the Orange Police are getting results," the mayor added, stressing that "criminals are going to know that if you commit a crime in Orange, no matter who you are or how long it takes, we will catch you and jail will be your new home."

Police Director John Rappaport also commented on the latest arrests, pointing out that this weekend, officials such as himself will attend an anti-violence summit Saturday in Orange.

"Mayor Hawkins and I will discuss the details of the crackdown on gun violence and the stepped-up surveillance of crime hot spots by the Orange Police Department," he said.



Keevin David